



# The PSWD Network

Newsletter of the Pacific Southwest District of the UUA

Issue 131

Summer 2010

## Ken's Corral



It has been an amazing few of weeks. On Friday April 23 as our District Assembly began, the governor of Arizona signed into law SB 1070; in my opinion the most horrendous anti-immigrant legislation since the placing of Japanese Americans in concentration camps during World War II. There was much discussion during the weekend about this law. Then in the business meeting, amidst the reports and budget approvals, the delegates passed a resolution calling for Unitarian Universalists to oppose SB 1070 and to ask the Unitarian Universalist Association Board to revisit the plan to hold the 2012 General Assembly in Phoenix.

Our nation has a history of supporting anti-immigrant legislation going back to the "Alien and Sedition Acts" of 1798 signed into law by President John Adams. Like with the current legislation, there was no agreement then among Unitarian Universalists as to how to deal with immigration. Adams was a Unitarian. President Millard Fillmore, also a Unitarian, signed the Fugitive Slave Act in 1850, and I have heard from folks who disagree with my characterization of SB 1070.

Yet I believe strongly that now is the time for those UUs in agreement that this is a wrong-minded piece of legislation to speak out, to march, to pledge non-compliance. After the PSWD District Assembly resolution, the UUA Board passed a resolution to place on the UUA General Assembly agenda a vote to pull the 2012 GA from Phoenix. At the meeting of the religious professionals (ministers, religious educators, musicians, and administrators) in the

Arizona/Nevada cluster they took a vote to oppose the cancelling of GA in Phoenix. The discussion has begun. For the great majority of Unitarian Universalists who oppose SB 1070 the debate seems to be about the best tactics. For UU leaders in Arizona a call for demonstrations, lawsuits against SB 1070, and a whole range of actions to stand with those most impacted by the legislation is the way to proceed.

Further, this is not just an issue for Arizona or the Pacific Southwest District and other border areas but it is a national issue that calls for civil discourse and maybe even civil disobedience. Several states are rushing to pass similar legislation, while still other states and municipalities are pushing for a boycott of Arizona. We are at a time in history when we have an opportunity to act on our core Unitarian Universalist values and beliefs. It is a time when we can have an impact working with our sisters and brothers in a broad coalition calling for more just immigration laws.

As I write this column, Unitarian Universalists from around the country are planning to converge in Phoenix on May 29 for a march that opposes SB 1070. I hope that as many as possible can join us. (Check our web site - [www.pswduua.org](http://www.pswduua.org) - for updates on the march.) If you are joining us at the site of the rally and march look for the large "Standing on the Side of Love" banner.

If you cannot come to Phoenix, please consider creating or joining a local rally in solidarity with those in Phoenix.

Pax,

Ken

ps: I will be at General Assembly in June, and hope to see many of you there. Except for GA, however, I will be taking vacation and sabbatical time for the rest of June and all of July.



# REjoice

RE News for the  
PSWD

This year's District Assembly was absolutely fabulous! Beautiful weather, gracious hosts, lots of good workshops and an opening celebra-

tion that was energetic and soul-filled. I came away singing a great big YES!

It is powerful when we are all together, isn't it? Hearing our voices raised together in common song, sending out the same prayers for hope and healing, laughing together, learning together – it feels good to be in religious community. It's a reminder that there is something greater than any one of us is alone.

Summer offers a unique opportunity for our children, youth, and families to experience that same sense of awesome religious community. It's called PSWD Summer Camps.

While at camp, children and adults are immersed in an intentional Unitarian Universalist community for an entire week. For many children, this means more hours steeped in UUism in this one week than is spent in religious education classrooms the entire year.

At Camp, we are equipping strong leaders who are learning how to make decisions based on Unitarian Universalist values. We believe our method is our message at camp, and we strive to make every aspect of the camp experience one that is born out of our Unitarian Universalist faith, whether it is worship, canoeing, fort building, creating art, doing science experiments, hiking, swimming, or taking a few minutes for self-reflection.

We run four consecutive weeks of camps in the

- summer at our mountain retreat, Camp de Benn-ville Pines.
- July 11-17 PSWD Elementary Camp
- July 18-24 PSWD Jr. High Camp
- July 25-31 PSWD Sr. High Camp
- August 1-7 PSWD Family Camp

In addition, we have two special leadership oppor-tunities this summer:

- July 11-17 Counselor in Training Program
- July 18-24 Youth & Adult Leadership School

You can register for these events on the de Benn-ville webpage: [www.uucamp.org](http://www.uucamp.org).

So don't delay. Sign up YOUR camper, or your en-tire family, for a week of camp this summer. Camp isn't just a week, it's a lifetime.

See you at Camp!

With peace and hope,  
Tera Little

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## Kick-start Your General Assembly 2010!

For all you PSWDers going to General Assembly, do not miss out on the best way to kick-start your GA experience – the all-new Pacific Western Region Ingathering!!!

Look forward to an action-packed 45 minutes on Wednesday night from 6:45 – 7:30. You'll have the opportunity to not only hobnob with your friends from PSWD, but also meet new friends from the other three districts in our region: Mountain Desert, Pacific Central, and Pacific Northwest.

Get ready to share your best District Spirit!

See you in Minneapolis.

– Ken & Tera



### General Assembly

The yearly meeting of the Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations

# From the President

Those of you who have attended a business meeting of the PSWD will know that they are most often routine affairs, minutes are approved, budgets adopted, leaders elected and reports heard. Occasionally there is contention over the budget, but most years a few questions are asked and the meeting proceeds.



This year the State of Arizona, which is wholly within our district, took actions that called for a response from those who speak and stand on the side of love. In a move that will undoubtedly be challenged as unconstitutional, Arizona now requires immigrants to carry proof of identification, or face fines or imprisonment.

Mean-spirited is an oft-used characterization. For Unitarian Universalists, it is an affront to our first principle, the inherent worth and dignity of every person. When news of the Arizona governor signing the bill making it law reached Tom Loughrey, our UUA Trustee, he approached me expressing his intention to draft a response insisting, “We can’t let this opportunity, when we are all gathered here, go by without saying something.”

Another conference participant, who was listening to our conversation, wondered about how this might affect Phoenix as the site of the General Assembly in 2012. “I remember the last time we tried to host DA in Phoenix and it was cancelled over Arizona’s boycott of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday.”

I encouraged Tom to draft language, but I missed an opportunity to be an ally to people of color. I did not urge him to confer with people of color, Latino/a, Hispanic and multicultural delegates, the persons most likely to be affected by Arizona’s attack on our principles.

Tom did consult the National Council of La Raza website and from there selected language for his resolution. The first sentence of second whereas included the phrase, “persons of Hispanic origin.” The first few amendments to the proposed resolu-

tion were moved by Angela Henderson and Bruce Celiz-Hagen, who proposed expanding the language to be more inclusive, by adding identities and phrases such as “Native American,” “Latina/Latino,” “persons of color,” “based on the color of their skin,” and “perceived identity.”

It became somewhat muddled when I realized I had allowed amendments without seconds to be debated. Ultimately, all amendments to the second paragraph were defeated. From the perspective of the chair, it seemed to me an argument that swayed the body was, as one delegated stated, ‘because La Raza is the source of Tom’s wording, to be in support, we should stick with that language.’ I believe there is a fatal flaw in this argument. It presumes that we are a white denomination and that to be in solidarity with people of color we can only look outside our organization for guidance.

In fact, while we are predominately non-Hispanic whites, we do have in our midst people of color, Latino/Latina, Hispanic and multicultural persons and they were the ones proposing changes. It may have been complicated by the fact that even though Angela’s father is Blackfoot Native American, she presents as white; but Bruce, who suggested “Latina/Latino,” clearly holds that identity. My sad belief is that we did not really see Angela or Bruce. I can only say that with confidence, because I have been so blind myself at times.

Another subject of debate was the second resolve that called on the UUA President “to re-examine the decision to hold the” 2012 GA in Phoenix. The body considered whether to remove it completely. The delegates voted to preserve the final resolve and the resolution was adopted as presented.

Having another day to reflect on the final resolve, I believe with greater certainty we acted in accordance with our highest principles and the language should have been even stronger. I find it difficult to imagine how I could ask the Latina/o, Hispanic (or those who might be perceived to be immigrants based on the color of their skin) members of our faith community to gather with the rest of us in Arizona. The rest of us would be asking them to risk being challenged by an over-zealous police officer or vigilante in order to join us in worship, learning, celebration, deliberation or just being in communion with fellow Unitarian Universalists. I do not see how I could ever ask that. ►

◀ There is much to be learned from what happened during our deliberations, and it shows how far we have to go to reach the beloved community. I do not know how we will get there, but heaven knows we will get there.

living my faith,  
Michael Sallwasser

p.s. Since I wrote this piece, the UUA Board voted to ask the General Assembly delegates to move the site of the 2012 General Assembly out of Arizona. I believe the action of our district presaged those of the association. For that we can be proud.

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## Summer Camp for Adults

The UU-oriented nonprofit Pacific SouthWest Institute of Religious Liberals (PSWIRL) welcomes you to their annual summer camp for grown-ups event at beautiful Camp deBenneville Pines in Angelus Oaks, California. Relax, swim, or take part in a wide variety of workshops and activities -- it's up to you! The 2010 PSWIRL Week is from Sunday, August 22 through Friday, August 27.



In 2010, per person costs (unchanged from 2009) range from \$335 to \$450 depending on the type of accommodation you select, and include all meals and a rich selection of workshops for the week. Please ask about partial scholarships.

The rich program (including a list of workshops and their facilitators) is available at <http://pswirl.org/Flyers/PSWIRL2010.htm> with an associated registration form and detailed program information. Photos and other information from past years available at <http://pswirl.org>. Information about Camp deBenneville Pines is available at <http://www.uucamp.org>. Alternatively, for registration information, contact Registrar Marcia Taylor at 909-597-1037. For program information, write to [Come2PSWIRL@yahoo.com](mailto:Come2PSWIRL@yahoo.com).

Join us in our beautiful mountain camp as we welcome newcomers and greet old friends! Experience for yourself the varied offerings of PSWIRL week.

## UU Church Wins Two Excellence Awards

The Unitarian Universalist Community Church of Santa Monica won the Excellence Award for Social Responsibility and Stewardship of the Natural Environment. Here are some of the reasons the church was honored by the City of Santa Monica, Sustainable Works and the Chamber of Commerce for these Sustainable Quality Awards.

The UU Church had So. Calif. Edison perform an energy audit in 2007 and completed Sustainable Works Business Greening Program in 2008. They installed reflective film on the office windows and replaced more than 50 incandescent bulbs with compact fluorescent lights. Their energy bill decreased from 2,166 KWh per month to 1980 kWh - a 9% decrease. To prevent pollutive runoff into the ocean, they installed 3 cisterns on their patio. UUC performs remodels using Santa Monica's Green Building Guidelines. They are reusing materials such as floors, doors and built-in furniture. They post weekly green tips in their announcements and offer a range of adult education classes throughout the year. Additionally, they hosted three Green Living Workshops funded by the City of Santa Monica and provided by Sustainable Works. A portion of the Sunday Service collection plate goes to a different charity each week. UUCSSM donated \$250 to TreePeople for a grove of 20 trees and members attended a tree planting event in the Santa Monica Mountains.



Members of the UU Church of Santa Monica at Awards Luncheon. L to R: Sandra Trutt, Helen Brown, Melinda Ewen, Melanie Sharp, Victor Paddock.

# From Your Annual Program Fund Representative



The end of the church year is upon us. As we rush about to recognize our leaders and volunteers and put the finishing touches on our programs for the church year please take a moment to check to see that your fair share commitment to the UUA and PSWD is taken care of. Every year, one of our churches shows up at General Assembly in June only to discover that their final pledge payment to the UUA was not received in time for them to receive their “ribbon” recognizing their fair share achievement. Don’t let this happen to you! Take the time now to check to be sure your final pledge payment has been made to the UUA and the PSWD!

If you were unable to be a fair share this church year, please know that we stand in solidarity with you during these difficult times. Even if you couldn’t meet your fair share obligation, please try to pay what you can by the first week of June. Like all our congregations, the Association and the District are facing difficult financial decisions. Every little bit adds up to helping us keep programs and staffing alive.

Looking ahead, we are hopeful. The economic recovery has begun albeit slowly. Hopefully, many of your congregations will begin to see an increase in giving in the coming year. If this has been a difficult year, take hope that next year will be better. And when it is, please remember our larger covenant with each other. Look ahead to fully funding your congregation’s fair share to the UUA and PSWD.

Please contact me at any time should you have concerns or questions.

Yours in our larger faith,  
Rev. John Morehouse  
APF Representative for the UUA  
[minister@pacificunitarian.org](mailto:minister@pacificunitarian.org)

# From The Mountain Top!

This summer is action packed with a full line up of extraordinary activities for kids and families, as well as mature adults.

Camp Bravo, a theater arts camp for ages 10 – 18, is gearing up for 4 weeks of magical theater in the woods. If you have a future STAR in your family, Camp Bravo has something special in store for them. Young people interested in the performing arts, in a safe non-competitive environment, immerse themselves in the thrill of performing. This weeklong intensive course of study combines the excitement of creative arts education with the fun of outdoor recreational activities. Taught by professionals from the entertainment industry, the goal is to bring together young people from diverse backgrounds and provide them with an environment where they can explore and discover new talents. Camp Bravo is a creative week filled with movement, voice, dance, singing and expression. Four week-long sessions are offered. You can access all dates and information about the Camp Bravo summer season by logging onto their website [www.campbravo.org](http://www.campbravo.org).

The PSWD is offering an incredible line up of kid and family fun this summer. Elementary Camp, July 11 – 17: Interdependence. Junior High Camp, July 18 - 24: Race to Justice. Senior High Camp, July 25 – 31: Growing UUup and Growing OUUt. All youth camp details and pricing can be found on our website [www.uucamp.org](http://www.uucamp.org). Click on Come To Camp.

Calling all PSWD families to come and “BE INSPIRED!” the week of August 1 – 7. We are in search of new families to join us on a summer adventure of exploration and sharing. Come to camp for a week and share your stories and explore our UU values. “We may live in a broken world, but today we are afforded an unprecedented opportunity to heal it. Let’s gather our families; share our stories, recognizing our common concerns. How do we teach our children meaningful values when world values seem to conflict with our individual family principles? What can be accomplished when families gather together to explore questions of equity and justice? How can each of us contribute to our wider community to heal it?” Come spend a week in the mountains sharing, reflecting being inspired! ►

◀ Enjoy hiking, crafts, playing, singing, dancing, swimming and canoeing. Access information and pricing on our website, [www.uucamp.org](http://www.uucamp.org). Come spend a fun filled family week with Rev. Matthew Crary of the UU Riverside Church and Dean Amy Brunell with other talented district volunteers.

August 22 – 27 will be a busy week at Camp for GROWNUPS! Yes, adults get to play at camp too during a sunny summer week that is set aside just for them. This is a week to celebrate growth and creativity for adults. The Pacific South West Institute for Religious Liberals has been offering camps at de Benneville Pines since 1961. Theme speaker: Rev. Stefanie Etzbach-Dale, Verdugo Hills UU Church, will speak on “There But For The Grace Of.....” She writes, “With so much pain in the world, how can we move from gratitude or guilt at our own good fortune, to generous engagement with justice making? If you recognize the first step as not turning away, please join me for this inspiring healing and empowering exploration of some of the harsher realities of our shared existence.” PSWIRL offers a wide assortment of activities and workshops. Details and pricing can be found on their website [www.pswirl.org](http://www.pswirl.org).

One of the courses offered at Camp for Grownups! is Photo Camp: Landscape Photography, August 22 – 27. Come learn to take great photographs, instead of snapshots, with your digital camera! Led by professional landscape painter and photographer Greg Zook, Photo Camp participants will learn about composition, lighting, contrast, focus and depth of field. Log onto [www.uucamp.org](http://www.uucamp.org), click on Come To Camp to download a brochure with the description of the course and the pricing.

For those who have always dreamed of being an artist, ART CAMP 4, is back by popular demand, August 22 - 27. What is Art Camp all about? It is an intense six-day camp which covers Life Drawing, Drawing and Painting in the forest, art related lectures, and an exhibition of work produced during the week. Beginners, intermediate and advanced artists will all find something to challenge their creative juices. Art Camp is limited to 16 participants. Log onto [www.uucamp.org](http://www.uucamp.org), click on Come To Camp to download a brochure with pricing.

The Small Group Ministry Institute Network is sponsoring the SMALL GROUP MINISTRY INSTITUTE 2010 at camp this summer. August 31 – September

ber 3, you can find out how SGM will enhance your congregation and Unitarian Universalism. SGM (also known as Covenant Groups) are intentional lay-led small groups that deepen and expand the ministry of a congregation. Through regular meetings to share each participant’s spiritual journey in trust and confidentiality, SGM helps build community, and provides opportunities for deeper relationships. The 4-day workshop will explore the powerful impact that SGM is having in congregations; build the skills of new facilitators and enhance skills in problem resolution; create and select effective sessions in art, music and movement; and show you how to lead SGM at your church. To register: visit [www.smallgroupministry.net](http://www.smallgroupministry.net). Or, log onto the camp’s website [www.uucamp.org](http://www.uucamp.org), and click on Come To Camp to download the brochure for all details.

Fan the Flame, a UU retreat for young adults, ages 18 – 35. What better way to keep the faith alive with our young adults than to offer a long weekend of recreation, faith centering, committing to justice and community building. The PSWD offers a great program for young adults over the Labor Day weekend, September 3 – 6. For details, log onto [www.connectuu.com](http://www.connectuu.com).

AHHHHHH. Take a deep breath! A weekend of yoga, relaxation and healing is a great way to round out the summer season and quiet down for a relaxing fall. Fill Up With Breath and Fill Up the Well Within! There are many names for it: happiness, enlightenment, meaning, inner peace, joy, bliss, self-realization, enjoyment, love, well-being... Fill up with breath and fill up the well within. Take time out to remember the fullness through yoga, breath work, meditation, hiking, dance, wellness, massage, fellowship and much more. Beginning, intermediate and multi-level Yoga instruction. September 10 – 12. For pricing and details, log onto [www.uucamp.org](http://www.uucamp.org), and click on Come To Camp to download the brochure. Not interested in yoga but want to come relax.....sure, you are invited too!

Hope you have a wonderful summer, and I hope to see you around the campfire!

Happy Trails,

Janet James  
Executive Director  
Camp de Benneville Pines

# UUA Trustee Report: Tom Loughrey

As I write this the Board is actively preparing for General Assembly in Minneapolis, MN from June 23 – 27. The format this year is slightly different from previous years. This year most of the workshop sessions will be scheduled on Thursday and Friday with the business sessions, or plenary sessions as they are called, grouped between Friday and Sunday. There are no competing workshops scheduled during the plenary sessions so delegates and participants should be able to do both.



Much of my focus will be on the plenary sessions and a few workshops that I am involved with. We will be dealing with several resolutions and amendments to the bylaws and it is my hope that delegates arrive at GA both informed and authorized to speak for their congregations. This can be difficult given that very few congregations provide financial support for their delegates and give them any direction in voting. Here are some of the key amendments and resolutions:

- Delegates at the 2010 General Assembly will vote on a new method of selecting the UUA's president and moderator. In 2009, the Board of Trustees drafted new procedures for the election of the UUA president and moderator, which will be voted on by the 2010 General Assembly. The new bylaws would replace the current elections system of self-selected candidates for president and moderator with a committee-nominated slate of candidates. An elected presidential search committee would choose two candidates, who would be announced one year prior to the presidential election. The board would nominate at least one candidate for moderator. Other candidates could still run by petition.
- Trustees plan to discuss possible changes to the General Assembly and district structures at the 2010 GA, but its first concrete propos-

al will be to reduce the size of the board itself in a resolution the board will bring to the 2011 GA. This will appear on the 2011 agenda as an amendment.

- There will be a resolution proposed to delegates instructing the GA Planning Committee to recommend a GA site outside of Arizona for GA 2012. This is because of Arizona's recent adoption of legislation requiring police to stop and question persons they believe may have questionable legal status. The Board is recommending a vote to move GA. It will take a 2/3 vote for ratification.

More detail on this is available from <http://www.uu-world.org/news/articles/162496.shtml> and <http://www.uuworld.org/news/articles/162796.shtml>. You can also see an article by Gini Courter and myself at <http://www.uuworld.org/ideas/articles/162464.shtml> that goes into more detail.

As always, I am available to meet with your congregation at your invitation,

In faith and trust,

Tom Loughrey  
PSWD Trustee to the UUA Board  
[tloughrey@uua.org](mailto:tloughrey@uua.org)



## The PSWD NetwUDrk

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### DEADLINES:

Fall issue - September 5  
Winter issue - November 5  
Spring issue - February 5  
Summer issue - May 5

The NetwUDrk on the Web: [www.pswduua.org](http://www.pswduua.org)  
to view current or archival issues.

# Community Ministry Update from Ventura County, California, 05 May 2010

My main focus for the foreseeable future continues to be working in support of our New Sanctuary Movement family still living at the United Church of Christ in Simi Valley. It has been three years now, since Liliana Santuario first fled with her infant son Pablito to a series of several sanctuary churches in southern California. My home congregation, the Conejo Valley UU Fellowship (in Newbury Park, near Thousand Oaks) and our minister (the Rev. Dr. Betty Stapleford, who retires from our full-time parish ministry at the end of June this year) have been longtime supporters and companions to Liliana and family on their journey toward some positive reconciliation of her immigration status. Hopefully, the dreadful situation in Arizona will spur the US Congress to at last begin the process of humane and comprehensive immigration reform, and that will help to improve Liliana's continuing precarious situation.

And in early August, our sanctuary family will welcome a new little member ~ Liliana and spouse Gerardo are expecting a baby boy (to be named Jesus, for her dad) to join big brother Jerry, now 10, big sister Susy, now 7, and Pablito, now three years old! My now nearly-three-year ministry to this

little family has morphed some from simple southern California by advocating publicly for fair wages and other issues of equality and justice such as safe and affordable housing, and support for Spanish-speaking/Latino/a children and their teachers in our public schools. Some of the organizations I work closely with are the United Farm Workers, the League of United Latin American Citizens, Central Coast Alliance United for a Sustainable Economy, and the National Farm Worker Ministry.

On March 21st, the CVUUF held a special service in honor of the birth of Cesar Chavez, who lived in Ventura County briefly and worked in our fields as a child. My sermon was joined by testimony from Katerina Friesen (Mennonite) who spoke of her own recent experience living and working in local fields, and our mutual efforts on behalf of worker justice. There's enormous joy for me to work in support of these people whose contributions to our society are so often overlooked and ignored, sometimes to their detriment. I would gently like to encourage others to join this ministry to an essential population whose honest and hard work is so under-appreciated. After all, without their help, how would our fresh food get to the grocery stores? In the words of Cesar Chavez.... ¡Si, se puede!

Blessings do indeed abound ~ often despite all indications to the contrary!

Theadora Davitt-Cornyn/MDiv/SKSM2007  
Unitarian Universalist Ministerial Candidate  
For Community Ministry



On Sunday, May 2, Valley Unitarian Universalist Church and the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Phoenix combined to perform Mozart's Requiem with orchestra and soloists at Valley UU; Kellie Walker, Director of Music Ministries at VUU conducting. The performance was repeated on May 9 at UUCP.

# Building Bridges Workshop

Bridge-building Workshop for UU, Arab, Muslim, and South-Asian Activists on June 5, 2010.

Since 2001, civil liberties in this country have been eroded in the name of national security. While we have suffered this loss collectively, Muslims, Arabs, and South Asians have been singled out for more scrutiny, facing invasive interrogation practices, racial and religious profiling, invasion of privacy, and restrictions on their due-process rights.

How have communities in Southern California been affected? And how can UU, Muslim, Arab, and South-Asian communities come together as allies to create a more just and supportive society?

Join us to discuss these questions and more in a day-long bridge-building workshop with the Neighborhood UU Church of Pasadena, the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC), local and national interfaith, civil-liberties, and human-rights activists, and your fellow UU, Arab, South-Asian, and Muslim-American community members.

As President Obama has said, "America's relationship with the Muslim community, the Muslim world, cannot, and will not, just be based upon opposition to terrorism. The United States has been enriched by Muslim Americans." Let's continue this push toward greater solidarity and understanding.

When: Saturday, June 5, 2010, 9:00 am - 4:30 pm.

Where: New Horizon School, 651 N. Orange Grove Blvd., Pasadena, CA 91103

What: A day of discussion, learning, and relationship building on critical civil-liberties issues affecting Muslim and Arab Americans – and all Americans. We will hear from local activists about current civil-liberties challenges, as well as the advocacy efforts and activism now underway to confront them. Later in the workshop, we will work together to develop an action plan for how to address these issues locally, in a shared community.

Cost: Free. Lunch provided.

RSVP: To register for this event and for more information, contact Rev. Hannah Petrie of Neighborhood UU Church by e-mail at [hpetrie@uuneighborhood.org](mailto:hpetrie@uuneighborhood.org) or phone at 626-449-3470, ext. 14.

# “BUDDHIST-ORIENTED RECOVERY FROM ADDICTION” EXPLORED AT DISTRICT ASSEMBLY

Addiction is expressed in a variety of ways. Therefore, the path to recovery may not be the same for every person. This is why the Pacific Southwest District Addictions & Recovery Ministry (“PSWARM”) offered the “Buddhist-Oriented Recovery from Addiction” workshop at the April 2010 District Assembly in Santa Barbara.

The panelists, Tom Moritz, Rev. Ann Schranz and Julie Sullwold, discussed resonances and dissonances between Buddhism and the most easily recognized recovery model, the 12 Steps, the Buddhist Recovery Network seminar held last fall in Los Angeles, the concept of harm reduction, and recent developments in addictions and recovery work within the PSWD.

Tom is a longtime meditator and Buddhist practitioner, currently affiliated with the Thai Forest Tradition (Ajahn Chah). He is also on the Board of Directors of Buddhist Global Relief. With 23 years of sobriety, he proved to be a great resource on a non-theistic approach to recovery. Rev. Ann serves the Monte Vista UU Congregation in Montclair, CA, and is a member of the PSWARM. Julie is a member of both PSWARM and the UUA Addictions Ministry.

There are many ways to address addiction and recovery – if one path doesn't “speak” to you, another will; or tweaking a method you don't particularly care for might open the door to greater health and happiness. PSWARM offers resources and support to Unitarian Universalist congregations and individuals seeking to foster health, hope, and wholeness for themselves or others affected by addiction.

PSWARM has a fledgling website (<http://pswdaddictions.org/>), but it needs technical help. If you are interested in helping with the website, please contact Julie Sullwold at [Jules1950@gmail.com](mailto:Jules1950@gmail.com). If you have questions or concerns about addiction or recovery or are interested in starting an addictions ministry at your congregation, please contact the Rev. Beth Johnson at 909-730-0711 or [minister@vistauu.org](mailto:minister@vistauu.org).

– Julie Sullwold

# Eleven 90- to 100-year-old Members Honored at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Laguna Beach

On May 2nd a Big Birthday Bash took place at UUFLB for eleven members, all of whom were either turning 90 this year or were already in their 90's and one, Art Slobod, celebrated his 100th birthday this year.

Some highlights of each honoree's life were read to the gathered group of over 80 people. Each one had experienced and or accomplished something extraordinary in their lives. All are members of the UU Fellowship of Laguna Beach, some for over 40 years. UUFLB celebrated its 65th anniversary last year, one of the oldest Fellowships in the United States and the oldest in California. The honorees have experienced wars, some serving in them, one in the WAACs. One at 96 still teaches dance and exercise classes and has just finished a book. Another started painting at 74 and at 90 is in a local art show. Art Slobod, at 100 years old, worked on the Manhattan Project as well as in the Apollo Space Program. He is now learning to play the violin.

Each honoree received a fresh flower lei to wear for the occasion. Refreshments were served. All present then stood and sang to these special people who have given the Fellowship so many years and are examples of what a truly full life can be.



Front Row L to R: Norma Young, Loraine Barr, Alice Hefferlin, Ruth Meskin, Barbara Wright, Eva Garnet Rosen, Lorna Ingram, Charles Moore. Back L-R: Kurt Topik, Charlotte Decker. Not pictured: Art Slobod

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## PSWD DISTRICT CALENDAR

Send additions/changes to [PSWD@aol.com](mailto:PSWD@aol.com)

### MAY 2010

28-30 YRUU Elections Con, Valley UU Church, Chandler, AZ

### JUNE 2010

12-20 Young Adult Water Justice Road Trip  
23-27 UUA General Assembly, Minneapolis, MN

### JULY 2010

11-17 PSWD Elementary Camp, de Benneville Pines  
11-17 Counselor-in-Training, de Benneville Pines  
18-24 PSWD Jr. High Camp, de Benneville Pines

### JULY 2010

18-24 Youth & Adult Leadership School, de Benneville Pines  
25-31 PSWD Sr. High Camp, de Benneville Pines

### AUGUST 2010

1-7 PSWD Family Camp, de Benneville Pines  
13-15 PSWD Board Retreat, TBD

### SEPTEMBER 2010

3-6 PSWD Young Adult Camp, de Benneville Pines

### OCTOBER 2010

1-3 Our Whole Lives Jr./Sr. High Facilitator Training, Valley UU Church, Chandler, AZ

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