

PROGRAM OF THE 142nd ANNUAL MEETING
MAY MEMORIAL UNITARIAN SOCIETY OF SYRACUSE

June 1, 1980

8:00 p.m.

Presiding: Howard Gartner, President of the Society

Call to Order

Approval of Minutes, 1979 Annual Meeting

Treasurer's Report

R.E. Council Chairwoman's Message

Minister's Message

President's Message

Presentation of Budget 1980-81

Presentation of Annual Award

Presentation of Evelyn White Award

Election of Officers & Trustees

Election of Religious Education Council Members

Installation of Caretakers

Adjournment

ANNUAL AWARD RECIPIENTS

1955 Mrs. H. W. Jordan
1956 Miss Elizabeth Lewis
Dr. Marion Dooley
1957 Dr. and Mrs. Reginald Marwell
Dr. William Yerington
1958 Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Vincent
Miss Helen Hackton
1959 Mrs. James Tracy
Mr. Ernest Bowden
Mrs. Walter Slagle
1960 Mrs. Clarence Bull
1961 Mrs. Lawrence Gould
Mr. Frank Macomber
1962 Mrs. William Eager
Mr. and Mrs. William McLennan
1963 Mrs. Laurance Siegfried
Mrs. Howard Viets
Mr. and Mrs. H. Brainard Fancher
1964 Dr. and Mrs. Warren Walsh
1965 Mr. and Mrs. Carlyle Ashley
1966 Dr. and Mrs. Ralph Kharas
1967 Mrs. Helen MacKnight
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Beadel
1968 Mr. and Mrs. John Chamberlin
Dr. Lawrence Gould
1969 Mr. and Mrs. Richard Johnson
The May Memorial Choir
1970 Miss Mary Cooper
1971 Prof. and Mrs. Montague Charman
1972 Mr. and Mrs. Robert Burdick
1973 Mrs. Albert Wertheimer
Mr. Charles White
1974 Mrs. Betty Moore
1975 Mrs. Mary Margaret Kuhlen
1976 Mrs. Joyce Ball
1977 Mr. and Mrs. Carl Aronson
1978 Gerald Lanier
Kathryn Lanier
1979 Beverly and Malcolm Clark
1980 Alfred Obrist

EVELYN WHITE AWARD RECIPIENTS

1978 Mr. Alfred Obrist
1979 Miss Harriette Robinson
1980 Daisy Fuller

MAY MEMORIAL UNITARIAN SOCIETY

Budget 1979-1980

<u>INCOME</u>	<u>Budget '79/80</u>	<u>Budget '80/81</u>
Pledges	\$59,640	\$71,752
Prior Pledges	3,500	1,500
Plate	2,500	2,500
Rentals	7,040	1,000
Contributions	2,000	3,400
Investments	2,450	2,500
Major Fund Raising	4,000	4,000
Other Income	900	1,000
Total Income	<u>\$82,030</u>	<u>\$87,652</u>
 <u>EXPENSES</u>		
Parsonage: Taxes	\$ 90	\$ 90
Utilities	1,500	1,650
Maintenance	500	600
Total Parsonage	<u>\$ 2,090</u>	<u>\$ 2,340</u>
Church: Taxes	\$ 400	\$ 400
Utilities	7,200	7,920
Maintenance	600	750
Housekeeping	1,100	1,200
Snow Removal	600	650
Insurance	5,200	5,720
Mortgage	11,200	11,200
Total Church	<u>\$26,300</u>	<u>\$27,840</u>
Program: Religious Education	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,400
Music	600	600
Special Program		400
Organ Cleaning	350	-
Publicity	500	500
Adult Program	300	300
General Program	300	300
Total Program	<u>\$ 3,250</u>	<u>\$ 3,500</u>
Denominational: District	\$ 50	\$ 50
UUA	2,000	2,660
Chaplaincy	1,000	1,000
Total Denominational	<u>\$ 3,050</u>	<u>\$ 3,710</u>
General Church: Office (mail)	\$ 900	\$ 1,000
Office (supplies)	1,400	1,540
Canvass	500	500
Total General Church	<u>\$ 2,800</u>	<u>\$ 3,040</u>
 <u>PERSONNEL</u>		
Minister	\$20,215	\$21,630
UUA Pension	2,230	2,386
Hare Pension	1,000	1,000
Treasurer	1,925	1,925
Secretary	4,600	5,000
Music Director	4,600	4,922
R.E. Coordinator	3,420	3,659
Custodian	4,500	4,500
Indirect Salary Expense	2,000	2,200
Total Personnel Expenses	<u>\$44,540</u>	<u>\$47,222</u>
Total Expenses	<u>\$82,030</u>	<u>\$87,652</u>

MAY MEMORIAL UNITARIAN SOCIETY

Annual Reports

June 1, 1980

ADULT PROGRAM COUNCIL ... Sheila Rorke

Adult Education - John Dopyera

Sunday Adult Potlucks were well attended throughout the year. At least 20 different individuals shared the responsibility of hosting each week.

Dinners for 8 moved to the Membership Council.

The emphasis was on self-generated programs rather than committee-offered selections. Groups included Great Decisions, Evenings Beyond Eve, Belly Dance, Cross-Country Skiing, Financial Survival, Yoga, Calligraphy.

Public Affairs - Ellie Young

Presented forums on group homes for the developmentally disabled and draft registration.

Nick Cardell will do counseling for C.O. status.

Denominational Affairs - Shirley DiMatteo

Had MMUS representation at SLUUD conferences in Williamsville, N.Y. and Scarborough, Ontario.

No representation at UU General Assembly in Albuquerque, New Mexico (lay rep.).

UU Service Committee - Dick Cressey/Gloria Reid

Showed film on multi-national operations.

Posted articles on joint bulletin board (UUSC and Public Affairs)

Sold T-shirts & holiday cards.

Collected \$152 through Guest-At-Our-Table Program.

Publicity - Nancy Goodman/Pauline Murray

Obtained coverage for Tom Maley concert, Energy series & some internal committee activities.

Have had sabbatic news coverage in Saturday Herald-Journal edition.

Library - Donna Moutier/Judy Hoak

Processed 150 new books picked up at rummage sale.

Xeroxed articles and stories on non-bias role models for use in R.E. program.

Campus Chaplain - Dick Pearson/Malcolm Schlusberg

Provided program guidance for Chaplain Intern, Ben Tousley.

Maintained visibility on campus with brown bag lunches, potluck dinner, World Hunger CROP Fast, Poetry Writing Group and a Support Group for New Students.

Recruited Jeffrey Drutches from Harvard Divinity School for 1980-81.

Have recommended increasing committee membership.

Gay Caucus - Earl Colvin

The most successful evenings of The Magic Lantern Potluck Dinner/Theatre series included a theme with floor show. Next year's efforts will concentrate on 2 such offerings.

Women's Morning Group - Ann Brown

Held approximately 6 meetings with a range of 13-20 in attendance.

Prepared items for the Boutique & Holiday Cookie Tins.

Sold stationery and conducted a kitchen inventory.

Unirondack - Jack Osborne

Focus has been on construction & interior completion of Lodge.

Work weekends have been held continuously during fall and spring.

MMUS contributed \$1000 in addition to sponsoring several fund-raising events.

Veatch Match Grant dollar for dollar still in effect.

Annual Meeting was held at camp on May 30, 1980.

MMUS/FUSS - Shirley DiMatteo

Program exchanges have occurred informally through R.E. Council, Potluck/
Square Dances and Unirondack.

Appreciation is extended to all of the chairpersons for their efforts. The following chairs are now vacant: Adult Education, Public Affairs, Denominational Affairs, Publicity, Library, Women's Group and MMUS/FUSS.

BUILDING & GROUNDS COUNCIL ... Charlie White

Building - Nate Zeppetello

Grounds - Paul Golus

Gallery - Bob & Norma Coye

Housekeeper - Ken Perry

Nate Zeppetello, Paul Golus, and myself have completed numerous small repair and maintenance jobs. I made a special report to the board about a serious disciplinary problem with children, in and outside the building, such as food being thrown about on the living room floor, furniture, walls, etc.; also, damage to an electrical conduit in this room, it being torn from the wall. A Committee was formed to address itself to this problem. The committee changed the problem, i.e. children's vandalism to children's needs, and to my knowledge, the problem has died a quiet death, without any corrective measures being taken.

The art gallery has been ably managed by Bob & Norma Coye. I finally got a housekeeper in February, Ken Perry, who has proceeded to do an excellent job.

The county made an error in testing the new sewer line, and the west end of our first floor was flooded, resulting in about 200-300 loose tiles. They settled for \$550.00 and after considerable effort by Howard Gartner and myself, a man was found to repair the damage, and this has been done for \$200.00.

The repair and upkeep of the building has become nearly a full time job. It is my opinion that we have come to the point where we now cannot afford not to stain the building outside and fix a leaky roof. I have presented a plan to the Board which calls for volunteer material & labor to stain the outside of the building this year. If successful, this plan could be carried out with little cost to the individual. The board requested figures which I will have for the June meeting.

Kitchen Report (Housekeeping) - Ken Perry

Recommend turning off pilot lights to save gas.

Recommend covering stove top with aluminum foil for easier cleaning and additional heat reflection.

Have noticed a presence of carpenter ants, esp. toward the balcony end of building - probably exists elsewhere in building also.

Articles left over (cooking utensils) from potlucks & kitchen use events continue to be a problem spot.

No present recommendations on kitchen purchases. Inventories & clean-ups are planned for June closeout of year.

COORDINATOR'S REPORT ... Pauline J. Murray

I communicated and received communication, by writing, by word of mouth, by signal.

I tried to prevent snafus; I tried to undo snafus.

Sunday everyone's contributions came together in the morning service; that was my favorite day!

It was fun, I learned a lot. Most of all, all of you special people made the job a pleasure ... Thanks a lot.

CANVASS DIRECTOR'S REPORT ... Bev Clark

The 1979-80 Canvass consisted of several events, beginning in January with a questionnaire to determine the financial priorities of the congregation, as well as their financial means and their expectations as far as May Memorial was concerned. The results were published in March. There was a series of newsletter items outlining the various budget needs. We held a canvass dinner with the diners paying part of the cost of the food. The menu planning and food preparation was under the direction of Carol Decker. Paul deLima administered the recruitment & management of the canvassers. We did not have canvass teams or captains this year. The result of the canvass was about \$72,000 in pledged income.

FINANCE COUNCIL REPORT ... Ray Corson

Year of July 1979 to June 1980

The Society is in satisfactory financial condition as far as operating expenses are concerned. There is a serious need for major upkeep items and the money to pay for them. Perhaps the means will be found in the next year or two to proceed with the major repairs (roof, wall, etc.).

We started the year with a balance of \$16,206 and ended in May with a balance of \$23,466. In September we lost the expected rental income from the "Children's School" and were unable to obtain a new tenant for the downstairs rooms. A special appeal to make up an expected shortfall of \$12,000 to \$13,000 resulted in increases in pledges of \$12,609.

Our heating expenses were kept down by Rich Hammer's efforts in organizing and carrying out the insulation of all upstairs windows.

FINANCE COUNCIL (Cont.)

Bev Clark's superb efforts in leading our 1980-81 canvass resulted in an expected pledge income in excess of \$72,000; which allows us to present a very realistic budget for the coming year.

Treasurer Pat Corson resigned in December and our new Treasurer Melanie deLima took over in January.

HOSPITALITY COUNCIL ... Ignacy Kuczminski

Through the efforts of many people and the able direction & coordination of Warren Marsula, Mike Kirchoff, Jack Osborne and Martha Golus, the three committees comprising the Council provided social activities that created an atmosphere of fellowship enjoyed by members & friends throughout the church year.

Social Affairs Committee - Warren Marsula

This committee had the major task of assuring that varied social group activities were presented. Some of the social activities were: Thanksgiving Dinner; a great Fasching (German Mardi Gras) with help from Irene Baros-Johnson, Jack Moskal (our master chef), with assistance from Pat Hoertdoerner & family; and the second annual Cross Country Ski Weekend in Old Forge -- were only a small number of the many activities of this committee.

Friday Night Pub - Mike Kirchoff & Jack Osborne

This Friday night social is a nice way to finish the workweek. The committee was successful in providing some variety -- Irish Coffee St. Paddy's Party; a cabaret with Julie Yoder & Cliff Chapman, are two examples.

Coffee Hour - Martha Golus

The importance of volunteers is especially noticeable in the functioning of Sunday morning coffee hour... Without our coffee volunteers, there wouldn't be any refreshments during the second hour on Sunday, nor would there be a time which provides members/friends with opportunity to meet with others - as well as newcomers - who, with their easily recognizable yellow cups can be known & made welcome.

MEMBERSHIP COUNCIL - Elma BoykoMembership Committee - Dennis & Dottie Stelzner

Dennis & Dottie have held seven Sunday evening Newcomers' meetings. To encourage attendance, they have called prospects to specifically invite them to attend these gatherings; feedback on these efforts has indicated that this is a worthwhile practice.

In an attempt to integrate the efforts of this committee with other committees, the names of newcomers have been given by the Stelznerns to the church secretary who has forwarded them to appropriate committee chairs.

Newcomers are present virtually every Sunday at the worship service. Reminders in the order of service and from the pulpit and the use of yellow mugs for coffee have elicited a better response to newcomers, but this is an area which needs continued and increased attention.

David Williamson and Joanne Howland have provided special help to the committee this year; their efforts are appreciated.

MEMBERSHIP COUNCIL (Cont.)Greeters - Dorothy Jorgensen

Dorothy Jorgensen has chaired this committee this year and extends her thanks to all those who served as greeters. Twenty-seven different individuals or families (as of 5/14/80) have greeted members and friends of MMUS on Sunday mornings.

A highlight of the greeting process occurred when Henry and Sally Manwell dressed in appropriate costume for the old-time Universalist service.

Registrar - June Card

Since the last Annual Meeting 31 new members have been welcomed and 2 members have been reinstated. 13 members have left Syracuse ... 3 have resigned or transferred membership and 2 have died. Present voting membership is 325.

Dinners for 8 - Marie Sidoti

Midway in our church year, this activity became a part of the Membership Council's responsibility. Marie Sidoti became chair of this committee. Three dinners were held.

Historian-Scrapbook - Doug Venable

The scrapbook has been updated by Doug Venable through 1979, with the exception that the appropriate portion of 1980 entries will be completed by the end of our fiscal year.

Visiting Committee - Melanie deLima

Melanie deLima had the assistance of Charles White, Diane Hainsworth, Hildegard VanderSluis, Joanne Ashley, Gratia Deane and Norma Coye in maintaining personal/phone contact with shut-ins. At Christmas time, Robin Sibert recruited our teenagers during Pub time to make holiday centerpieces. These centerpieces & cookies prepared by the Women's Morning Group, were taken to nine shut-ins. The Jiggle Bell Chorus also has given performances for those shut-ins who have made requests.

Mini-Fellowships

During the first half of the church year, mini-fellowships were arranged on a regular basis by the minister. During the minister's sabbatical, Irene Baros-Johnson and Pauline Murray have attended to the details of having mini-fellowships in each area. Four persons - Karen Winkler, Jonny Prins, Joyce Droege and Sunni Buck, volunteered to serve as contacts for newcomers in their respective areas.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES COUNCIL ... Dolores MitaDecoration Committee - Roberta Braen

A sign-up sheet was posted throughout the year and people were encouraged to volunteer to decorate the sanctuary every Sunday morning. This system worked very well, and is recommended for the future.

Ushers - Leo Boyko

Many members of May Memorial were contacted and "employed" as ushers. Leo has been very attentive to his role as head usher, and the events of Sunday mornings progressed smoothly.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES COUNCIL (Cont.)Music - Ernie Sibert

The music program for the past year has been exceptionally full and varied. The choir presented special programs during three Sunday services; a service with expanded music during the Christmas-Hannukah season including the Sweelink Hodie and two complete music services in the spring. The first of these consisted of performances of J.S. Bach's Cantata No. 140 (with orchestra) and the Haydn Missa Brevis. The second, on Easter Sunday, was a performance of the Brahms Deutches Requiem.

The Messiah "sing-in", held just before Christmas, was a noteworthy event of a different sort. The choir loft was filled beyond normal capacity with singers both from within MMUS and from the community. The enthusiastic reception leads us to plan making this an annual event.

Several recitals were given with the cooperation of the committee and the music director, Rob Kerner. These included a benefit performance by jazz pianist Tom Maley, a vocal program by Cliff Chapman, baritone-soloist with the choir, a recital by cellist Marywnn Kuwashima of the Syracuse Symphony Orchestra, and the now-traditional Bach's birthday program, this year an organ recital featuring several area organists, including Rob Kerner.

At the end of last summer the pipe-work of the organ was cleaned thoroughly by the firm of Kerner and Merchant, something which had not been done since the organ was installed about fourteen years ago. The result was a significant improvement in the intonation of the instrument, which should continue for a number of years.

It should be noted that membership in the choir has increased substantially over previous years. We usually have about 24 voices on ordinary Sundays, and muster upwards of 30 on special occasions. This number includes some half dozen very capable soloists, remarkable for a purely volunteer choir of this size. The result is that we have not enough copies of most anthems to go around, despite the fact that we purchased additional copies of several compositions only last summer. The increased membership has made it feasible to perform major choral works unaided, works which in previous years we would have attempted only in conjunction with another choir.

Worship Committee - Jim Napierski

The Worship Committee sponsored 20 services during the sabbatic period from January 13 to May 25. Fifteen guest speakers participated in the services; there were two music services, one family celebration, and one service conducted by the teen group. Each service was hosted by a facilitator chosen from the membership.

Members of the Worship Committee were involved in the selection of guests, the writing of invitations and the choosing of a facilitator. Ultimately the coordinator, Pauline Murray, compiled all the information, wrote up newsletter articles, helped choose the readings when necessary, and, generally speaking, tied it all together.

An honararium of \$75.00 was paid to each guest speaker.

STUDENT MINISTER ... Irene Baros-Johnson

Beginning in September, a major part of my internship was gaining a sense of the day-to-day life rhythms of our May Memorial Unitarian Society. I was able to be in the office on Tuesdays and Wednesdays and remember Cathy Cardell writing encouraging notes and answering streams of questions. I remember staff meeting program writing with Pat Hoertdoerfer and Nick Cardell, and later calling on shut-ins with Nick.

These experiences of the "dailiness" of congregational life were an integral part of the planning I did for my participation (meditations, readings & responsive readings) in the order of service on Sunday mornings. I am told that my speaking skill improved and appreciate your guidance. I know I feel more assured at the pulpit - of course, the story of Frederick the Poet was a high point.

I remember Worship Committee Meetings, many Board Meetings, and several R.E. Committee Meetings. I also remember three Sunday mornings at the end of November/beginning of December offering background on Judeo-Christian heritage in the Growing Up Year Curriculum, after meeting with the adult advisors.

It was a pleasure to work with Doug Aird, Joyce Ball, and Jane McArthur in offering my version of Harriet Beecher Stowe's stories for the Christmas Candlelight Service, "Relight the Questioning Song."

Since my 40 hour a week work schedule at the Syracuse Developmental Center (SDC) changed at about the time Nick's sabbatic leave began, my involvement at MMUS was confined to evening gatherings and meetings. I enjoyed working with Dottie and Dennis Stelzner on new member coffees. In coordinating planning for the Fasching, I encountered the subtle strengths of our informal traditions. The event was an artistic and financial success because of the efforts of many of us. I entered into the savoring of food and of life of the Sunday potlucks; and grew to recognize Pub as a wonderful Thank-God-Its-Friday release and energizer, with its abundance of momentary humor as well as in-depth conversations, and ah, dance and more dance.

Coordinating the first round of Mini-Fellowships, I asked two questions ("What is the earliest memory you have of yourself in a 'religious setting'?" and "What is an experience you would call religious whether or not it happened in a religious setting?"), evoked memories and reflections that were as religiously diverse as we individually are, and yet prompted an overall sense of our common concerns. Regretfully, when my work schedule at SDC again changed, I had to give up that responsibility.

The sermon I presented on January 28th, "Holy Men, Unholy Veils," was rewritten and published in the March 15 Kyriokos insert of the UU World. The music I coordinated for Rev. Leslie Westbrook's service was well received.

Since January, I've contributed time to developing several community events. Leading a hymn sing for the second meeting of the new professional organization, Women in Religion in Syracuse, led to my writing the initial text for an inter-religious worship service entitled, "From Sensitive Chaos: Creation," it was presented as part of the city-wide Women In The Arts Festival at Hendricks Chapel on April 13th. I also spoke at S.U. on "Women In the '80's" and at the Center for Spiritual Renewal.

On the district level, Cathy Cardell and I conducted a workshop on Evenings Beyond Eve as a thought & imagination freeing study/support group for our St. Lawrence Annual Meeting in Toronto. See your St. Lawrence Lines for a write-up on it! We also voted for ministers and R.E. directors to have the same separate delegate status as at G.A., a position which was in the minority.

STUDENT MINISTER (Cont.)

As I end this year of learning as your intern, I would like you to know that I have enjoyed working and being with you, and will continue to be a member of this growth promoting community during the coming year.

I would like to leave you with words of faith that I have read, and received, and hopefully communicated the meaning of, this year ... By George Eliot, they hang above Nick's desk,

"Friendship is the comfort,
the inexpressible comfort
of feeling safe with a person
having neither to weigh thoughts
nor measure words
but pouring all right out
just as they are,
chaff & grain together,
certain that a faithful friendly hand
will take and sift them,
keep what is worth keeping,
and with a breath of comfort,
blow the rest away."