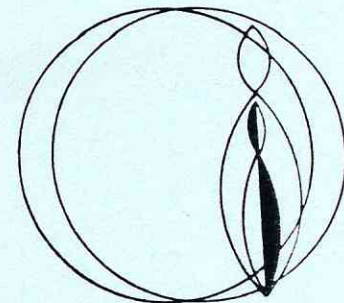


W&RTF NEWSLETTER

PCD



February, 1988

Volume I, No. 4

Co-Convener - Liz Fisher (415) 548-1619
Co-Convener - Betty Ortez (408) 736-4816

Editor - Cathy Martin (408) 739-1602
1058 Westchester Dr. S'vale 94087

FEBRUARY W&RTF MEETING

When? 2/20 - 10:30 a.m. Business meeting
Where? San Francisco Church* - 1187 Franklin,
San Francisco - (415) 776 - 4580
Lunch - 12:30 - Pot Luck
Program - 1:00 - 3:00 Lucille Schuck Longview
from Lexington, Mass. She drafted the first
W&R Resolution which was passed unanimously
by the UU General Assembly in 1977, and
continues to pioneer in W&R. She also
originated the water ceremony. She will
share what's going on in the rest of the
country and help us look at how our District
is relating to other districts in this area.

MARCH W&RTF MEETING

When? 3/19 - 11:00 a.m. Business meeting
Where? Berkeley Fellowship*(315) 841-4824
1606 Bonita Street, Berkeley
Lunch: Pot Luck
Program: Kathy Vahsen and Marilyn Gentile
Kathy is affiliated with the Center for
Women and Religion at the Pacific School
of Religion (of which Starr King is a
member.) She will talk about the center,
its structure and activities.
Marilyn is on the Continental Committee
made up of women who have been appointed
by the UUA Board. They meet several times
a year to evaluate progress in implementation
of W&R Resolutions and suggest other activities
designed to further the goals of the W&R
Resolution.

CIRCLING AROUND

Co-Convener Liz Fisher has been promoted
to Acquisitions Editor at Osborne/McGraw Hill
located in Berkeley.

Rosemary Matson suggests a book you might
enjoy; The Creation of Patriarchy by Gerda
Lerner. Her husband Howard's comment was,
"They didn't teach us that at Harvard!"

ENCLOSED LETTER

Please read the enclosed letter, which was
sent to the W&RTF and respond to Boston as is
appropriate for your church or fellowship.

SERVICES AND PROGRAMS OF INTEREST ABOUT WOMEN

Berkeley Fellowship will be offering Cakes
for the Queen of Heaven as an 8 part series for
both women and men. Please contact Liz Fisher
at (415) 548-1619 for additional information
or registration.

Unitarian Church of Fresno is offering a
lecture and workshop Feb. 6 on "Our Glorious
Past - Women and Goddess in Ancient Religion"
presented by Rev. Emily Champagne. A Cakes
program will be started shortly after that. If
you are interested contact Patti Wright (209)
255-3176 - 4624 E. Cornell Ave. Fresno, 93703.

First Unitarian Church of San Jose has several
programs planned. Feb. 13 - 6 p.m. "Status of
Women in China" presented by some of the women
who went to China last summer followed by an all
church Chinese New Years dinner and DRAGON!!
March 7 - 11 a.m. at the Student Union at San
Jose State University as part of Women's Week
Celebration, "Seneca Falls - 1848". Meg Bowman
will be the featured author.
March 20 - Sunday church program 11:00 a.m.
"Famous Unitarian-Universalist Women" This lay-
led service is available from W&RTF - Box 21506
San Jose 95151 for a \$5 donation.

Sunnyvale UU Fellowship March 6, 10:00 a.m.
"Goddesses, Witches and the Paradigm Shift"

State NOW Conference May 13-15, 1988 Le Baron
Hotel, San Jose. Rev Karla Hansen will do a
workshop on "Women's Spirituality" Sunday a.m.
Charlotte Suskind will address ageism. Call
Meg Bowman, (408) 292-1172 for information.

* Handicapped Accessibility- Restrooms- partial
Meeting rooms- full

Co-Convener Betty Ortez went to Nicaragua in January and shares her observations with us.

WOMEN IN NICARAGUA

Women's rights and emancipation are important issues under the Sandinista government (FSIN). The minister of Health is a woman and 25% of those in the National Assembly are women. I learned this on a recent trip to Nicaragua where I spoke with representatives of AMNLAE (The Nicaraguan Women's Association).

Amnlae was formed in 1979 when it was committed to help overthrow the Somoza dictatorship. Women were already involved in revolutionary activities as collaborators and soldiers. They were and continue to be active in the country's crucial education and health campaigns. Since the U.S. sponsored Contra war, a considerable amount of AMNLAE's efforts has gone towards the defense of the country. Women are mobilized as mothers of the young draftees and later of the fallen soldiers. They are called "Mothers of Heros and Marters".

Other issues being dealt with more recently are abortion and domestic violence. The Ministry of Health has a contraceptive program available and legal offices are opening to deal with problems of child support payments, domestic abuse and other legal matters affecting women. The equitable sharing of child care is a problem in Nicaragua. (Sound Familiar?) Some excellent child development facilities exist, but many more are needed.

Since the Revolution women have become

visible in Nicaraguan society, and for the first time they are taking an active part in public life. Think what they could do if over 50% of the Nicaraguan budget did not go toward defending their country! Again and again I heard, "Tell your government to stop all Contra aid"!

PCD WINTER MEETING

Alice Wallace and Margaret Pierce represented W&RTF 1/15 at the PCD Winter Meeting to present some of our accomplishments and objectives, as did all PCD committees and task forces. It was expected some mutual benefit would result by calling on each other for expertise.

! ! ! RETREAT! ! !

Hope we'll see you April 8, 9, and 10 at the Ralston White Retreat in Marin County. For more information see the attached yellow form.

After the January Task Force meeting several members of the group visited Monte Toyon Retreat as a possibility for future retreats, as it is more handicapped accessible. This will be a consideration in all future plans. More on this later.

FOR THE NEWSLETTER

Please send news of activities in your church or fellowship that would be of interest to the Task Force members and readers of the newsletter so we can publicize them. We are especially interested in knowing about future events, but also in programs you have had.

Pacific Central District
Unitarian Universalist Assn.
2441 Le Conte Ave.
Berkeley, CA 94709

Non Profit Org.
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 604
Berkeley, Calif.

KAREN CRONEIS
3220 Duval Rd., Apt. 1905
Austin, TX 78759