

# The Flame



415 Young's Mill Lane Newport News, VA 23609  Phone: 757-249-0215	To Question Is The Answer  <a href="http://www.uufp.org">www.uufp.org</a>	March 2008  Reverend Beverly "Buffy" Boke
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## Ministerious Musings

From my perch at the end of February I think I can see March coming down the road, bearing with it blossoms and sunshine and the transition to spring from dreary winter. Easter comes early this year – March 23 – and Ms. Joanne and I have a rabbit in our hat – a Velveteen Rabbit, which you'll get to see on Easter morning.

March is also traditionally the month when UU churches celebrate Justice Sunday. This year the focus of this Unitarian Universalist Service Committee program is the true cost of war: who really pays, and who profits? On March 30 we'll examine those issues and Executive Director of L.I.N.K. Lynn Finding will share with us how our contributions have helped ease some of the burdens the poor of our community shoulder. The Social Concerns Committee will help me with the service.

March is the time when we wrap up our Annual Budget Drive, and see where we stand with respect to our Dream Budget. Will we stretch ourselves to reach that extra mile? The Finance Committee adjusts the budget to reflect the results of the budget drive; let's hope they have very little tweaking to do!

Back in Vermont, March is Maple Syrup and Mud Season. I don't miss the snow or the mud, both up to your keester, but I do miss looking out for the veils of steam rising from the sugarhouse at Wood's Cider Mill, and I miss standing around the big evaporator at Wood's Cider Mill, watching the slow work of sugaring. It takes 40 gallons of sap to make a gallon of syrup.

Try to remember that when things seem a little slow to come about. Nature herself is slow, but she's steady. In time, she gets it all done.

Blessings, Buffy

## Committee Reports and Announcements

### RE NEWS by Joanne Dingus

The YUUth Group met for laser tag in Kiln Creek recently and returned to the fellowship afterward for Mexican food and games. They also went roller skating in Hampton. If you are interested in the YUUth group or have ideas for new things to do, please contact Joanne Dingus, Patti Calkins Hunter or Ashley Dernovich. Ashley's been doing a great job keeping the youth informed on upcoming events.

The children's choir is held during our 9:30 service each week. Dan Moore is leading the group in rhythm and song. If you like to sing or just like music, come share your voice in this creative, fun, learning environment. The children's offertory began three weeks ago. So far it seems to be going smoothly and I think in a few more weeks it will become part of the routine. If you would like to contribute to the offering, just bring your money with you when you come up for children's focus.

The Lewis and Clark Adventure is set to hit the trail April 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>. Campers ages 6-13

are welcome to join us as we learn about and experience the art, games, food, music, science, geography and drama of Jefferson's Corps of Discovery, 1804. We'll explore the differences in tribes from the Nez Perce to the Osage people. Meet with a professional guide dog and learn the songs of the day.

We will play games, learn to survive in the wild, and make our own medicines.

Registration forms are available from Brandy and Joanne or at the UUFP website.

Thanks to all who contributed to our annual Guest at Your Table program that provides funds to be used by the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee. This year we raised \$922.63 of which \$700 will be matched by the Shelter Rock Church, making a total contribution of \$1,622.63.

The next RE Committee meeting will be held Sunday, March 2, 2008, after second service.

See you in the RE!

### March Sunday Services

**(TWO SERVICES: 9:30 and 11:00)**

March 2 "Is Religion Good for Us?" (Jim Sanderson)

Religion has played a large role in Western history. Has it been benign or not? What about for each of us personally, is our religion a positive part of our human hood?

March 9 "Marriage Equality" (Robyn Ochs)

Robyn shares her own experience of marrying in Massachusetts on the first day it was legal for same-sex couples to do so, and explains why marriage matters. (Please see the article on the March 8<sup>th</sup> workshop for more information.)

March 16 "Enter Jerusalem" (Rev. Buffy Boke)

A closer look at the man, Jesus of Nazareth, and what happened to him in Jerusalem.

March 23 Easter Sunday

"The Velveteen Rabbit"

An intergenerational program for Easter having to do with being real and transformation.

March 30 "Who Pays?" (Rev. Buffy Boke) UUSC Justice Sunday

A look at the cost and burden of war... and who bears the greatest burden.

## Membership Matters

### Attendance

Date	Attendance		Visitors
Jan 27	41	77	6/
Feb. 3	29	71	4/8
Feb. 10	22	76	0/5
Feb. 17	35	62	4/3

### New Member and Directory

Welcome to our newest member: **Craig Minson**

His contact information is in the newest directory, which is sent out by email every 6 weeks or so. One was sent out recently. If you didn't get one, contact Judy Remsberg and she will add you to the update list. [remsberg2@msn.com](mailto:remsberg2@msn.com)

### **CAN YOU GUESS WHO THIS IS?**

We need your help! The Membership Committee is introducing a new feature to The Flame. All you have to do is submit a picture of yourself as a baby or young child. Readers will get a chance to "guess who it is". The name will be revealed in the next issue. If you want to show off what a cute kid you were, submit your photograph along with your age (in the photo) to Jonathan Garner at [jonathangarner@gmail.com](mailto:jonathangarner@gmail.com).

### **HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES FOR MARCH:**

- |                      |                                |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|
| 2 Alan Sheeler       | 16 Courtney Coirin             |
| 4 Ann Taylor         | 17 Tristess Junkins            |
| 9 Susan Schneider    | 18 Cynthia French              |
| 10 Lisa Woodman      | 19 Daniel Moore                |
| 11 Alan Hirsch       | 23 Parker Stokes               |
| 11 Lois Winter       | 24 Mike Ream                   |
| 12 Maggie Fureymoore | 25 Jerry Dingus, Jr. (the son) |
| 13 Pat Millspaw      |                                |

### **Workshop on March 8 With Robyn Ochs**

On Saturday, March 8, Robyn Ochs, long-time activist and the editor of the Bisexual Resource Guide and the new anthology Getting Bi: Voices of Bisexuals Around the World, will conduct an afternoon workshop, "Beyond Binaries: Identity and the Sexuality Spectrum," at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of the Peninsula (UUFPP) in

Newport News, VA, from 2PM to 5 PM. And on Sunday, March 9, Ms. Ochs will speak at the 9:30AM and 11:00AM services on the subject of marriage equality.

The Workshop, titled "Beyond Binaries: Identity and the Sexuality Spectrum," addresses the question of how we assign

labels to our complicated and unique experiences?

Robyn Ochs has taught courses on topics including Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender history & politics in the United States, the politics of sexual orientation, and the experiences of those of us who transgress the binary categories of gay/straight, masculine/feminine, black/white and/or male/female. Her writings have been published in numerous anthologies. She is a professional speaker and workshop leader. Ms. Ochs lives in Massachusetts, and on May 17th, 2004, on the first day it was legal, she married Peg

Preble, her long-time partner. Their wedding was covered on page 1 of The Washington Post.

The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of the Peninsula, located at 415 Young's Mill Lane, is a welcoming, open and affirming congregation. People of all ages, races, ethnic and/or national backgrounds, genders and orientations are warmly welcomed. Sunday services begin at 9:30 and 11:00, with engaging religious education classes for children of all ages. Child-care is provided. For more information, visit us at <http://www.uufp.org>, or call 757-249-0215.

## Who's Who in UU

By Steve Kadar

Many of you know Mason Moseley as one of the more outgoing personalities of UUFPP. He has been a long time member with a wide range of UU activities and experiences within our community and beyond. Let us take a moment and learn about one of the most experienced (and people-oriented) members of UUFPP!

**A local guy:** Mason was born and raised in the Wards Corner neighborhood in Norfolk. He graduated from Randolph-Macon College in Ashland, VA with a major in Political Science and (in his words) "two minors in Frisbee and Bridge"!

**Variety of careers:** Mason served 3 years in the Navy, then he was the mailman for Seaford, VA, for almost 14 years. Since then he has had worked as an auctioneer, in home remodeling/sales, and currently he is a Customer Service Manager for AAMCO on Mercury Boulevard in Hampton.

**Joining UUFPP and getting very involved:** Mason joined the church in 1986 when he and his wife Patricia were invited to UUFPP by Lois Winter to hear guest speaker Bill Tangy, a long-time journalist and editor of The Yorktown

Crier. Once Mason joined, he became active on many levels. He held positions on the Board, including President of the Congregation during the last building expansion (and Mason says this is when the President was also the weekly Lay Leader). He recently served as the chair of The Planning Team, which led to the current committees looking at ways to enhance our church facilities. Currently Mason puts his efforts in RE, the Social Concerns committee, and the Peninsula Peace Project.

**UU activities beyond our walls:** Mason has completed Leadership School at The Mountain and served for six years on the Thomas Jefferson District Board, including two years as President.

**"What do you like best about the UUFPP"** For five years, Mason and Patricia traveled the US. As they traveled the country he noticed how much "we missed community...and that is what UUFPP offers".

**Anything else you would want us to know?** Mason says that while he is proud of what he has done for our community, he also recognizes what the community has done for him.

# March 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<i>1</i>
<b>2</b> “Is Religion Good for Us?” Jim Sanderson  RE Committee 12 noon	<b>3</b>  Belly dance Class 5:30 pm	<b>4</b>  Nominating Committee 7 pm	<b>5</b>  Building Committee	<b>6</b>  Meditation 5:30 pm	<b>7</b>  Earth Rising 7 pm  PAHS	<b>8</b>  Workshop with Robyn Ochs 2 pm
<b>9</b> “Marriage Equality” Robyn Ochs	<b>10</b>  Belly dance Class 5:30  FBC 7-8 pm	<b>11</b>  Nominating Committee 7 pm	<b>12</b>  Fellowship Circle Committee 7 pm	<b>13</b>  Meditation 5:30 pm  Council of Committees 7 pm	<b>14</b>  PAHS	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> “Enter Jerusalem” Rev. Buffy Boke	<b>17</b>  Belly dance Class 5:30  Sunday Services Committee 7 pm	<b>18</b>  Nominating Committee 7 pm  Membership Committee	<b>19</b>  Policy Board 7 pm	<b>20</b>  Meditation 5:30 pm	<b>21</b>  Earth Rising 7 pm	<b>22</b>  Women’s Drumming 7 pm
<b>23</b> “The Velveteen Rabbit” Rev. Buffy Boke  EASTER SUNDAY	<b>24</b>  Belly dance Class 5:30  Social Concern Committee 7 pm	<b>25</b>  Nominating Committee 7 pm	<b>26</b>  Fellowship Circle Committee 7 pm	<b>27</b>  Meditation 5:30 pm	<b>28</b>  PAHS	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> “Who Pays” Rev. Buffy Boke	<b>31</b>  Belly dance Class 5:30					