



# UUMAC Newsletter

Unitarian Universalist Mid-Atlantic Community

Spring 2005

## A peek at UUMAC '05 July 17- 23

- There will be two worship services during our UUMAC day. Morning worship (8:30 – 9:15) includes the entire community, and children leave with their teachers at 8:45 AM for their classes, enabling us to start our day together as an intergenerational activity.
- The group photo is on Thursday.
- The theme talk-back is at 4:30 PM rather than 4:00 PM (dinner starts at 5:30 PM now)

### Informal Workshops to Increase this Year

At the request of the community, we will be trying to revive the one-time informal workshops this year. If you have something that you would like to share with others, please contact Abby Crowley at [acrowley@comcast.net](mailto:acrowley@comcast.net) and she will make sure that there is a time and place for your offering. In the past, we have used these sessions for everything from learning how to play the harmonica to knitting to learning a new card game.

**You should have received your 2005 brochure by now. If you have not, here's what you can do:**

1. Check the literature rack at your society/fellowship/ church.
2. Go to the website, [www.uumac.org](http://www.uumac.org), where you can download a copy of the brochure.
3. Contact the UUMAC registrar:  
Josie Dubsky  
(410) 386-9858 or [uumacregistrar "at" aol.com](mailto:uumacregistrar@aol.com)

**Brochure correction:** One off-campus activity for Friday, the North Summit Climbing Gym, is lacking a number, which should be #16.

*Reminder:* Minister of the Week Carol S. Haag has invited the UUMAC community to share with her your hopes for worship, community issues that you care about, and some of what makes UUMAC special to you. She can be contacted by e-mail at: [RevCarolH "at" aol.com](mailto:RevCarolH@aol.com).



## Spring Reunion: March 19

All are invited to a UUMAC reunion at the home of **Noel and Carla Monardes** on Saturday, March 19. Their address is **6702 41st Ave., University Park, MD 20782**. (See page 4 for directions.)

Earlier that day, the Board of Trustees will be meeting at the Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church, 3215 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi, Maryland. Phone: (301) 937-3666

The meeting is open to all members of UUMAC.

At 5:00 p.m., everyone will reunite at the Monardes home for food, and fun, and fellowship. Please bring some food to share. Noel and Carla will provide beverages. It would be appreciated if you would RSVP to let them know your plans.

Noel says e-mail is best, but phone is fine too:  
[noel.carla "at" verizon.net](mailto:noel.carla@verizon.net) or **301 - 699 - 8276**.

Right, clockwise:  
Noel, Carla,  
Montana, and Milan  
back in 2002.





## From the Director

The stage for UUMAC '05 is set. We've finished planning the workshops and off-campus activities, filled almost all of the staff positions, booked the entertainment, published the brochure, and begun working with DeSales to optimize our use of their space and to improve the food service. The framework is in place. **All that's missing is you!**

To help keep UUMAC vibrant and growing, we need to bring in some new folks. It's not just keeping our numbers up. New people bring fresh ideas and creative energy, essential to the health of our community.

**Please invite a friend to attend!** It's not easy to describe our community. The brochure and the web site are great resources, but the feeling is carried by each of you. Tell our story; it's captivating!

Bill Stratton  
UUMAC '05 Director  
[wmcstratton "at" comcast.net](mailto:wmcstratton@comcast.net)

## Board Calendar

Since our last newsletter, Rik Fire, Anna-Sara Lofquist, and Allyson Diane Hamm have been added to the teen staff.

Here is the board schedule for the rest of the year:

**March 19 - Board meeting at the Paint Branch UU church in Adelphi, MD, followed by the spring reunion, to be hosted by the Monardes family.**

**June 25 - Board/staff meeting onsite at the DeSales University campus. This meeting traditionally includes a board portion of the day and a walk-through of the facility with both board and staff members to plan logistical details.**

**UUMAC '05: July 17- 23**

## Night Owls



What do you do at UUMAC when you just can't bear for the day to end yet? Go to Night Owls; play checkers, do a puzzle, dance, eat, drink and be merry!

This past year at UUMAC, after the sun went down, we congregated in McShea to enjoy Night Owls. While many small groups formed around game boards and popcorn, others danced the night away. Truly an intergenerational event, different members of the UUMAC community contributed a diverse selection of music -- some rock, some Grateful Dead, some hip-hop, and always the traditional UUMAC favorites. Both new UUMACers and veterans joined in the circular dances the Rock Lobster and the Time Warp and the edgy line dance the Booty Drop.

Brenda Lovette, one of our wonderful young adults who has virtually grown up at UUMAC, did a wonderful job of keeping things moving in the music, entertainment and ambience department, with assistance from some of her cohorts. Laura Barrows handled the job of keeping the refreshments flowing with her usual unflappable aplomb. Or was it flappable aplomb?

Join us again next year, after hours in McShea, and groove to the music, old and new. Never done "the Rock Lobster" before? You can make a friend by asking someone to teach you; the young adults are always eager for a student. Not a dancer? Be a spectator and watch your friends cut the rug. All night owls, remember to bring your favorite music to share with the community next summer.

Editor's Note: When using the e-mail addresses that appear in this newsletter, please substitute the "at" for the symbol @ without any spaces. We are doing this because the newsletter is being posted online.

## The President's Corner

Now that all the bills are in from UUMAC 2004, the board is faced with the fact that we have been operating too deeply in the red. In order for UUMAC to continue as a viable ongoing institution, we need to depend more on the volunteerism of the community.

Where we have always done well is in raising scholarship money and helping those who need help. Where we haven't done so well is in curbing our growing operating expenses.

We'll be reigning in some expenses for UUMAC 2005, but don't expect any radical changes. What you can expect, though, is a thorough discussion at our annual meeting on how we might proceed, starting with UUMAC 2006, to bring our spending in line with our revenue. And one part of that, certainly, will mean creating more opportunities for volunteer labor.

### The Zoë Falkenberg Fund

Don't forget the Zoë Falkenberg Fund. If you know a grandparent who wants to bring a grandchild to UUMAC or a child who wants to bring a grandparent, let them know that we have scholarship money specifically set aside to help them.

### Themes Looking Forward

Most of you know that the theme for UUMAC 2005 is *Creating Green Sanctuaries: the Search for Hope and Healing the Earth*, and our theme speaker is the Rev. Katherine Jesch, Director of Environmental Ministry for the Seventh Principle Project. Our Minister of the Week is the Rev. Carol Haag, who retired in 2003 as Minister of Religious Education of the Unitarian Church in Summit, NJ. Our Wednesday night concert will be performed by the highly acclaimed UU guitarist, singer and composer Jim Scott.

The board has received some exciting proposals from ministers for the theme for UUMAC 2006 and hopes to decide on one of them at its March 19 meeting. By coming to the reunion that evening you may be one of the first to hear what our theme will be for 2006. I hope to see you there.



Mel Harkrader Pine  
UUMAC President

## How Can You Help Spread the Word?

**Tara Stephenson**, our Publicity Director, has sent the following to a contact person within each congregation in our database, along with an appropriate number of brochures.

She suggests "making a to-do" in your congregation on March 13 or thereabouts (perhaps with a recording of Rock Lobster, wearing shorts, use your imagination!). In addition, please use the article, edited as you like, and submit to your congregation's newsletter.

**Hear ye! Hear ye!**

**I hereby declare March 13 (or 20) to be Unitarian Universalist Camps and Conferences Day.**

**The Unitarian Universalist Mid-Atlantic Community, affectionately known as UUMAC, will be held this year on the campus of De Sales University in Center Valley, Pennsylvania (near Allentown and Bethlehem).**

**UUMAC is a sort of combination family camp, spiritual retreat, and party for those kindly disposed towards liberal religion, ultimate Frisbee, and some of the most wonderful people on the Atlantic seaboard.**

**This year, we meet from July 17 to July 23. Our theme speaker will be the Rev. Katherine Jesch, the director of the Environmental Ministry of the Seventh Principle Project. She will speak on *Creating Green Sanctuary: The Search For Hope and Healing The World*.**

**Noted UU musician Jim Scott will give a concert on Wednesday night.**

**We have a choir, a contra dance night, a drumming circle, adult workshops in the morning, your choice of 2 worship services, a bookstore, special programming for children, youth, and young adults, and a minister of the week. This year it's the Rev. Carol S. Haag, minister of religious education emerita from Summit, N.J.**

**UUMAC is many things to many people. It's fun, it's community, it's reflection, it's learning, it's something I wouldn't miss for anything!**

**For more information, and a registration brochure, speak to . . .**

**[fill in your name here with your contact information]**

## Wednesday Night Concert



Jim Scott will be the special guest performer at UUMAC '05! He's a wonderful singer, guitarist, and composer who has performed with big names and produced numerous CD's and songbooks.

But it is Jim's work with UU's that sets him apart from other well known performers. He composed hymns 167, 316, and 347 in Singing the Living Tradition. He also worked on the Seventh Principle Project, so he's a great fit for this year's theme.

For more information, see:  
<http://www.jimscottmusic.com/>

*Newsletter Editor:* Rickey G. Slezak  
Send submissions or **address corrections** to:  
14 Marie Terrace, West Orange, NJ 07052 or  
**RickeySlezak "at" comcast.net**

## Directions to the Monardes House

From the Beltway (495):

Take Route 1 South towards College Park. Pass the University of Maryland on your right. Pass the College Park shopping center. Pass our neighborhood on the right as you go up the hill.

Take a right at East-West Highway (Route 410) heading West.

Take a right at the next stop light, Adelphi Rd.

Go past the Hyattsville Public Library and the 1st stoplight and take a right at Beechwood Rd.

Take the first left on College Heights Drive.

Take the 2nd left on 41st avenue. You can park on the street.

Our house is the 2nd house on the left, white rambler, **6702 41<sup>st</sup> Ave. University Park, MD**  
Telephone: (301) 699-8276.

