

## HISTORY OF UU-MAC

OR

It didn't happen overnight

October 1979 - Twenty three people expressed an interest in exploring the creation of a 'Week long summer institute within the JP District in response to inquiries and sign-up sheets circulated at the JPD Fall conference by Joy Ogden-Stigger. Nancy Mitchell, then President of the District, encouraged follow through on this project.

November 1979 - The JPD Board voted to allocate \$40.00 for a study of the feasibility of establishing a Summer Institute. Joy Ogden-Stigger will chair the committee. Those persons who expressed an interest received cards announcing the January meeting date, place and tentative agenda.

January, 1980 - Two people, Bill Harris and Joy, met at Cedar Lane. Decision made to check back with people to discuss their time commitment. Also to recruit others who might be interested in a Summer Institute.

March, 1980 - People on updated list received letter calling for meeting during the JPD annual meeting at River Road Unitarian Church.

April, 1980 - Agenda - How to determine level of interest within the District.

Two proposals:

1. Survey in form of questionnaire to be sent to all DRE' s. - Joy
2. Plan a camping weekend during late summer of 1980 - Fred LeShane

Discussion of type of institute should this be? Consensus seemed to be a week for families (one to extended) for all ages. Information from questionnaire will be included in decision on this item.

June, 1980 - Gathering information about other institutes at G.A. Continued recruitment for institute committee, conversations with J. Starr Williams about resource persons who have worked successfully in family programming.

September, 1980 - Reported results of survey, mini-weekend. Jan Rugh joined us as programming person; Jake Han came from SUUSI as organization resource. Group formed two sub-committees: 1. Site 2. Programming  
Progress report to JPD Board. Institute committee asked to prepare cost analysis for week long conference. Frank Robbins prepared this for November Board meeting.

October, 1980 - Site committee had checked colleges, other facilities in southern and western Maryland, Baltimore, Washington, Northern, Va., Poconos Resorts and Pennsylvania. Murray Grove was ruled out as not having appropriate facilities  
Bea Robbins chaired this group. Lafayette College recommended as best choice.

November, 1980 - Second progress report to JPD Board. Institute formation appeared to be accepted with two concerns expressed:

1. Cost for underwriting project
2. Conflict with G.A. if held during 1981

It was agreed to hold the first institute during summer of 1982.

February, 1981 - JPD Board allocated \$500.00 to the Summer Institute committee. Noel Kane was appointed Board liaison.

April - May, 1981 - "Celebrating in UU Community"

## History (continued)

April, 1981 - Committee met to determine theme for the week. Select Keynote speaker.

July, 1981 - On site visit. Space was selected. Daily schedule refine. College requirements determined. Staffing suggestions discussed.

August, 1981 - This meeting was held in Newark, Delaware. Alice Wesley and Joy Spent the evening brainstorming staff suggestions. Each left with a list of people to contact.

September, 1981 - Agenda: To determine amount of scholarships and subsidies for staff. Morris Hudgins devised the formula. Agenda set for November.

October, 1981 - Second on-site visit. Plans for space and schedule reviewed. Joy and Linda Shay Gardner, Lafayette College Special Programs Office, met.

November, 1981 - Morris Hudgins agreed to chair November, January meetings. Agenda is to continue work on staffing and publicity. Brochures to be sent out in January, if possible, Nomi Willey agreed to co-chair with Morris.

January, 1982 - Committee and staff met together. Worked on Schedule, programming and publicity.

May, 1982 - Staff and committee continued to refine schedule, programming.

June Registration deadline - Sixty people registered.

July, 1982 - WE MADE IT!!!!

## STAFF

Director - Petronella Cochran

Workshop Coordinator - Sandy Kreutzer, Morris Hudgins

Children's Program - Hank Dahlstrom, Becky Hedin, Phyllis LeShane

Youth Program - Maryann Maggiore, Ann Gardner

Evening Program - Morris Hudgins

Worship Coordinator - Alice Wesley

Nature & Sports Coordinator - Betty Metzler

Registrar - Jean Davis

Arts Center - Susie Eastridge

UU-MAC Logo created by Pat Harris of the Towson UU Church, Maryland

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS - Past and Present

Laura Boggess

Ann Gardiner

Noel Kane

Bill Harris

Phyllis LeShane

Fred LeShane

Arthur Knight

Bea Robbins

Frank Robbins

Karen Snow

Nancy Ruckus

Alice Wesley

Nam Willey

Morris Hudgins

Joy Ogden-Stigler

**SPECIAL THANKS TO JOSEPH  
PRIESTLY DISTRICT AND  
METROPOLITAN NEW YORK DISTRICT  
FOR their support and to Cedar Lane,  
Towson, and Newark UU Churches for  
providing meeting space for our committee.**

August 31, 1982

Dear UUMAC, Friend:

Enclosed is a delightful report from Mary Ann Maggiore about our First Unitarian Universalist Middle Atlantic Conference and a Summary of the UUMAC elections and the first meeting of the new Committee.

"We did it! The first UU Middle Atlantic Conference at Lafayette College came through with flying colors in every category: spiritual, recreational and fiscal. More than 75 people from all over the Joseph Priestley District and New York's Metro District came to talk, listen, swim, raft, paint, act, write, read and sing, sing, sing. And how could it miss with Pet Cochnar of Silver Spring and Morris Hudgins of Delaware County leading us, Joy Ogden-Stigger of Cedar Lane energizing us and Dorothy Spoerl come all the way from Maine to inspire us? Everything went so nicely that the intergenerational community that gathered on the hill high above the Delaware truly became what we'd\_hoped--a festival of human communal spirit. The conference had focused on "Celebrating in UU Community" and it was that of all our accomplishments that was most impressive. Clusters of strangers as well as old friends created a society that was full of energy, empty of strife; and capable of getting and going and doing things on a moment's notice.

"And there was so much going on, it was impossible to be bored. The recreation planned by Betty Metzler (Delaware County) was tremendous. There were boat rides and nature walks and rafting group and historical tours, too. Artist Susie East-ridge (Silver Spring) presented day after day of ambitious and exciting projects like candle making, kite design and tee shirt dyeing. And consistent with every day was Hank Dahlstrom's delightful one room school where children of a variety of ages learned to play as well as to think; where the class met over two intensive days to plan their own community and envision how the world would be if they were asked to organize it. Adults meanwhile were busy in provocative workshops like "How to be an Over-Achiever" run by David Gallagher (Towson) and "Life Stages" led by William Gardiner (Germantown); Sara Best (Cedar Lane) and Loretta Williams (UUA) roused a number of sensibilities through "Women in Religion" and "Fomenting the Revolution", respectively. For those who wanted to save a life there was CPR taught by Peter Ventre (New York). For those who wanted to enjoy it there was "Guided Imagery" by Madelaine Ventre, and Yoga taught by Richard Hess (Davies Memorial).

"Sound like a feast for the mind and body? It was. It was also a feast for the spirit. Morning and evening services were offered and few people missed any of Lee Barker's (Harrisburg) early morning sermons. With a fresh start every day, we would go on to Dorothy Spoerl's wonderful talks and our seminars and through it all we would gather and sing under Alice Wesley (Cherry Hill) or reminisce and sing with Walt Weider (Restoration). And so we grew together like a new family. Sometimes it occurred while we were working or playing during the day and sometimes it occurred late at night in the tap room where Fred and Phyllis LeShane (Davies Memorial) labored so well so that we could rest so easily. Sometimes it happened while we were dancing under Fred and Eleanor Echelmeyer's patient instruction.

"The weather was good, the food was good, the company was extraordinary. The college was kind to us, and the JPD and Metro Boards were more so, making it possible to see our idea take flight. When it was all over, the staff and planning board met and decided to do it again--same time, same place, next year. Our goal is to, create a bigger conference with even more participants. We already have great ideas for a children's program and a separate young adults' program so that next year even more families will be able to come and enjoy themselves.

"Now that the date is set, mark it down on your calendar. It's the last week in July at Lafayette College in Easton (right off of 611 on the N.J./Pa. border). If you like to think, run, hike, sun, swim, meditate, imagine, congregate, interrelate, motivate yourself and/or others, come next July to UUMAC! See you there!

Mary Ann Maggiore"

#### SUMMARIES OF BUSINESS MEETINGS

Pet Cochnar, Morris Hudgins and Joy Ogden Stigger suggested names from participant list for nominating committee. Sara Best (Cedar Lane), Rob Dahlstrom (Silver Spring) and Rev. Bill Gardiner (Germantown) agreed to serve and presented the following slate at a duly called general meeting on Friday, July 30, 1982:

President - Rev. Morris Hudgins (Media)  
V. Pres. - Rev. Alice Blair Wesley (Cherry Hill)  
Secretary - Joy Ogden Stigger (Cedar Lane)  
Treasurer - Arnold Bradburd (Restoration)  
Two Delegates from Metro NY District: Peter & Madelaine Ventre  
Two Delegates from JP District: Connie LeFerrier and Fred LeShane

Officers were elected unanimously.

On July 31 the following staff, officers and planning committee people met: George Blurton, Arnold Bradburd, Dick & Pet Cochnar, Hank Dahlstrom, Jean Davis, Fred and Eleanor Echelmeyer, Susan Eastridge, Doug Gallagher, Morris Hudgins, Connie LeFerrier, Fred & Phyllis LeShane, Mary Ann Maggiore, Betty Metzler, Madeleine & Peter Ventre, Alice Wesley and Joy Ogden-Stigger.

Agenda included Adoption of Articles of Incorporation; Treasurer Dick Cochnar's reports--we are \$800 in the black; Discussion of 1983 date, site and keynote speakers--we will meet fourth week in July at Lafayette College; Dates for next two Planning Committee meetings--Sept. 18 and Nov. 13 at TowsonUU Church; and finally an Evaluation--see attached sheet.

A sense of camaraderie and high spirits prevailed at our meeting. So, join us at Towson or send us your ideas. We have expectations for a great week in 1983.

As ever,

Joy Ogden-Stigger,  
Secretary