

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST WOMEN'S HERITAGE PROJECT
IN HAWAII 1995



MARIANNE KARPLUS



PAT PERRY



LILLIAN SCHWARTZ



BEATRICE BENNETT



HELEN WHORTON



GLENDORA FORSHEE



RUTH IAMS



MARY DOTTS



ELEANOR DAVIS



MARION SAUNDERS

WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

One becomes a member by signing the Register of Members and making a recorded financial contribution. If you would like to become a member, or if you would like to discuss it, please speak to our Minister.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS OPEN TO ALL

TODAY: January 28, 1996

9:45 a.m. Family Chapel Meeting Room #1

Church Service Begins at 10:15 a.m.

11:15 a.m. Newsletter Deadline Church Office

11:45 a.m. H.U.U.W.F. Meeting Room #2

12:00 NEW MEMBER RECOGNITION LUNCH Young's Home

7:00 p.m. Adult R.E. Class Fred Harper Room

"Liberal Christianity" led by Rev. Mike Young

January 29, 1996 Monday

7:00 p.m. Body/Mind Class Art Room

January 31, Wednesday

1:00 p.m. Newsletter Collation Art Room

February 1, Thursday

6:00 p.m. Worship Committee Fred Harper Room

7:00 p.m. Course in Miracles Fred Harper Room

7:00 p.m. Polyamory Discussion Group Meeting Room #1

7:30 p.m. Choir Sanctuary

February 3, Saturday

CIRCLE SUPPERS

February 4, NEXT SUNDAY,

9:45 a.m. Family Chapel Meeting Room #1

10:15 a.m. Church Service Sanctuary

11:45 a.m. Public Affairs Council Meeting Room #2

3:00 p.m. "Suzuki" Violin Recital Sanctuary

7:00 p.m. Celebration of Imbola Sanctuary

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

1995-1996

President - Molly Rowland

Vice-President - Clarise Mason

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Joan King

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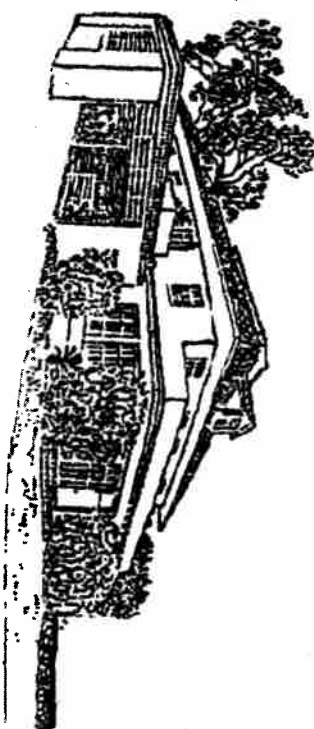
Secretary - Judy Hutchinson

Church's Office hours: @ 9 to 2:30 p.m. Mon. thru Fri. Tel.: 595-4047.
HOURS OF OPERATION FOR THE CHURCH BUILDING 7 a.m.-10 p.m.

THE FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF HONOLULU

A Unitarian Universalist Congregation

Rev Mike Young, Minister



Mission Statement

- 1993 -

We are an open and diverse community which seeks to create and nurture a supportive environment that empowers individuals to explore spiritual growth, experience intellectual stimulation and seek justice for all people through principled action. Our commitment is based on love, mutual respect and shared responsibility.

"Remembrance, Denial, Hope"

Guest Speaker: Rev. Robbie Cranch

January 28, 1996

January 28, 1996

Sound of the Bell

*Our worship begins with the sound of the bell.
Please, honor the silence of others.*

Prelude *Minuet from Symphony in D - Mozart*

Spirit of Aloha Julian Showkeir

Announcements/Within Our Circle

Recognition of New Members Membership Committee
Smita Shukla and Shirley Atkin

Unison Reading Affirmation # 458

Mindful of truth ever exceeding our knowledge
and community ever exceeding our practice,
reverently we covenant together,
beginning with ourselves as we are,
to share the strength of integrity
and the heritage of the spirit
in the unending quest for wisdom and love.

Walter Royal Jones, Jr.

Opening Hymn "Just As Long As I Have Breath" # 6

Call to Worship - by Kathleen McTigue # 435

Lighting of Chalice

Song of Hope

From all that dwell below the skies.
Let faith and hope with love arise,
Let beauty, truth and good be sung,
Through every land, by every tongue.

Responsive Reading # 649
"From Generation to Generation"

Special Music *The Swan* - St Saens
Louise Keeord Ching, Cello

Special Presentation

by the Honolulu Unitarian Universalist Women's
Federation, Women's Heritage Project

Bea Bennett	Marianne Karplus
Eleanor Davis	Pat Perry
Mary Dotts	Marion Saunders
Glendora Forshee	Lillian Schwartz
Ruth Iams	Helen Whorton

Hymn "Now I Recall My Childhood" #191

Sermon "Remembrance, Denial, Hope," Rev. Robbie Cranch

Offertory *Arietta* - Grieg

Sharing Our Response

Closing Words "The Larger Circle," # 646
by Wendell Berry

Joining Together DONA NOBIS PACEM

Postlude *Andante Religioso* - Mendelssohn

AT YOUR SERVICE TODAY

ANNOUNCER	Julian Showkeir
GREETERS	Joan King and Miyo Ichijo
DECORATOR	Clarise Mason
PARKING	Ed King
COFFEE	Edith Mountain and Ruth Iams
CHOIR DIRECTOR	Clarence Awaya
PIANIST	Susan Spangler

Next Sunday, Church Service at 10:15 a.m., February 4, 1996
"In Praise of Chaos, Sin and Other Mistakes,"
Sermon by Rev. Mike Young

Before you get your coffee, please greet someone you don't know!

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST WOMEN'S HERITAGE PROJECT IN HAWAII
1995

Women over eighty - members of Honolulu UU Church

The following ten Oahu women--nine born on the mainland and one in Austria--agreed to be interviewed as part of the Unitarian Universalist Women's Heritage Society's Oral History Project. The UU Women's Heritage Society, located in Medford, Massachusetts, will be a repository for the ten audio-taped interviews of the women, who were born between the years of 1902 and 1915. The First Unitarian Church of Honolulu also will keep a set. The Heritage Society initiated this project in order to record the lives of long-lived Unitarian Universalist women, who continue to inspire us today.

Judy Robeck, a member of the Honolulu UU church living on Maui, and Mickey Selwyn, a Honolulu UU member, spearheaded this Honolulu project. Judy Robeck interviewed nine and Joan King interviewed one of the UU church women members, all who are over 80 years of age. Funding for the project was provided by the Honolulu Unitarian Universalist Women's Federation with matching funds from the Mabel Babcock Legacy.

These ten women, who have lived almost a century, all began their lives when women's roles in the home and the work place were very different from what they are today. Yet each of these women made a place for herself in the world, and without exception believes her life was full and interesting. Although the women have differing views of "feminism," and some have children and some don't, they all for the most part believe they did what they wanted to do. Most all of the women came from a "religious" background of Protestantism, but none came from a formal Unitarian Universalist background. A common characteristic of the women is each one's life-long interest in reading and studying the world about her.

Their interesting lives and perspectives of life cannot be reflected adequately in these brief alphabetically arranged summaries, which serve only as a guide to the tapes. You are urged to listen to the tapes and hear the words of the women.

BEATRICE BENNETT

Beatrice Bennett, born in Norwich, Connecticut in 1915, of an American father and English mother, wanted to be a doctor, but settled for being a bacteriologist and a mother of four children. Although she did not become a doctor, because "it was difficult to be a woman doctor in 1939," she did research she is proud of. It was the desire for their children to have good religious education that sent Bea and "best friend" husband Jim Bennett to Unitarian Universalism. Bea threw herself into life and living and is "happy as long as I can be active and useful." She was

in **Men and Women in Hawaii** in 1972 for her volunteer activities in the community. The Bennetts came to Honolulu in 1959.

ELEANOR DAVIS

Eleanor Davis was born in 1909 in Seattle, Washington. Her mother was a fundamentalist Christian, her father a "free thinker" from Sweden. An avid reader, Eleanor's profession became library science, in which she received a master's degree from Columbia University. Her research in Hawaii on Swedes who came to Hawaii as contract laborers became a book: **Fornander: a Biography** and was published by the University Press. She was presented a medal for the book from the King of Sweden in 1981. Eleanor believes the feminist movement is going in the "right direction" but believes women "don't know how lucky they are and how much better things are now." Eleanor first came to Hawaii in 1938.

MARY DOTTS

Mary Dotts, born in 1904 in Alliance, Ohio, came from a Methodist background. A graduate nurse, she was married in 1942 to a man with two children. They had sabbaticals in Costa Rica, Panama, Venezuela, and Hawaii before he died in 1965. Mary moved back to Honolulu in 1969 where she attended the Unitarian church and met Cecil Dotts, whom she married in 1972. They traveled to Africa and China--all part of her "full and interesting life." Although at age 91, Mary believes maybe "this world is too fast" and she is "losing balance," her basic optimism remains.

GLENDORA FORSHEE

Glendora Forshee was born in 1902 in Detroit, Michigan, "an excellent place to grow up." She was a Methodist until age 9 and then became "active" as a Presbyterian youth. Glendora's love and talent for drama propelled her into a stint abroad and then into Detroit radio, in which she played all the female parts on the **Lone Ranger** radio show. Prudently, she also got a Master's degree and finished her career teaching radio and speech. In 1968 she decided to retire and chose Honolulu, along with Unitarianism. Always a "health nut," Glendora says she takes "no drugs or alcohol." She says she "always has been very healthy and well," until now and is finding it "hard to be an old lady."

RUTH IAMS

Ruth Iams, born in 1912 in Chicago, "always loved to read and study." She was a Phi Beta Kappa at the University of Chicago, but remembers her attorney father saying, "Any idiot with a good memory can get good grades; if you can think that is what counts." Being a mother of four "suited" her and she

received a Master's degree in Psychology from the University of Hawaii while she was in "her domestic decade." Always a feminist, she became the first woman to be UH Senate Faculty President and headed the first Hawaii Commission on the Status of Women, though she says she is "much more aware of what I haven't accomplished." She said she has been a Unitarian all her life but didn't know it, and was one of the founding members of the Honolulu UU church. Ruth also is a UUWF Clara Barton Sister.

MARIANNE KARPLUS

Marianne Karplus was born in 1910 in Vienna, Austria. An only child, her father died when she was 14. She taught kindergarten--although her uncles wanted her to be a seamstress--until she lost her job because of anti-Jewish sentiment. She studied English so she could go the U.S., and still remembers her last view of her mother standing at the door when she left for England. After England she went to America, where she held a series of childcare positions before eventually meeting her husband Walter, who was also from Vienna. Marianne considers herself "very lucky," but sadly remembers, "only my mother wasn't."

PATRICIA PERRY

Pat Perry, born in 1910 also, spent her early years in Arkansas in a two room home without plumbing or heat before moving to Spokane, Washington. She says she has "enjoyed the passing scene and the changes in my lifetime." Although she "shudders" at crack babies and other social problems, she generally likes the world better now than when she was growing up. A mother of two and married to Bill nearly 60 years, Pat says she sees herself primarily as a wife and homemaker, though she admits to having served as regional director of the General Alliance of Unitarian and Other Liberal Christian Women, and as a national officer for six years, as well as being listed in *Who's Who in American Women*. "The big thing" in her life since 1956 has been the UU church. Pat also is a UUWF Clara Barton Sister.

MARION SAUNDERS

Marion Saunders, born in 1908 in Cincinnati, grew up in Saginaw, Michigan. She became a Methodist at age 16, to her non-religious family's astonishment, though she ignored "orthodox" religion after high school. Studying anthropology in college "opened a whole new world to her." After getting an A.B. and M.A. in anthropology and working as an anthropologist, she joined the WAVES. Marion and Allan, a University of Hawaii political science professor, were married in Honolulu in 1946 and were founding members of the Honolulu UU church. Marion sees herself as a "feminist" and community activist as well as having "loved

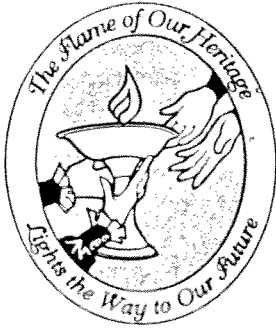
every job" she ever had. She believes she has "been very fortunate" in her life and advises women to "take what's available and possible and make something out of it."

LILLIAN SCHWARTZ

Lillian Schwartz, born in 1910 on a farm near North Platte, Nebraska, of Canadian parents, has spent her adult life using her home economics major. She began as a home economics teacher and then went into Cooperative Extension Service work, mostly in Hawaii, to which she came in 1940. Although she grew up as a Methodist she felt like a "hypocrite" reading the responsive readings. She said she couldn't continue to believe most of the things she grew up believing and is "so glad to have found Unitarianism." The mother of one daughter and the grandmother of four, Lillian says she has "always done what I wanted to do and have enjoyed it."

HELEN WHORTEN

Helen Whorten was born in 1908 in Denver but spent most of her life in Kansas. She believed her parents, especially her mother, ignored her as a child because of their distress over her brother's death, and she says she grew up on her own. Her life became her work at the base at Ft. Riley, Kansas after she took the civil service exam in high school. Helen came to Honolulu after retiring from 45 years at Ft. Riley. "Loving to study" she went to college and got her degree, in addition to joining organizations and attending the Honolulu UU church, of which she became a member when minister Dick Allen challenged her to become one. The mother of a daughter, and a son she is especially proud of, Helen believes she "got along great in life" because she "had a man's mind."



The Flame

Unitarian Universalist Women's Heritage Society
147 High Street, Medford, Massachusetts 02155 (617) 396-7494

October 1995

Vol. 5 No. 1

Oral Histories from Hawaii

by Judith K. Robeck

It was fascinating for me to interview nine of the women members of Honolulu Unitarian Church recently (born on or before 1915) to hear their stories. Many had lived on Oahu for many years, but all came from various parts of the Mainland U.S. — and had traveled widely before and after coming here. Most had advanced degrees, or had been teachers as well as homemakers (and wives) and seemed pleased to share their stories. The oldest was 93, the youngest just 80. For me (a mere 75), it was interesting to hear how they survived the depression and problems and succeeded in their chosen careers/professions. How each found Unitarianism and/or Universalism varied, of course. Several lived in retirement communities (there are two on Oahu, one on the north shore and one in Honolulu). We have made copies of the tapes and will forward them to the UU Women's Heritage Society. We are summarizing the tapes so that others can get to know these women better — and they can know each other.

I used a small microphone, attached to the person being interviewed, but the clip that holds it broke in the midst of my first interview, and I found my Sony tape recorder had a good mike built into it. Everything went well for the most part, except for the one I was most eager to get — and somehow I forgot to turn the mike on in my nervousness and ended up with blank tape. I was very upset and called to do a second interview with Eleanor the next morning, but it lost the fervor and deep emotion of the first interview inevitably, and she felt it was too sketchy and brief. I did a second interview with Mary Dotts also, because the quality was poor. Everyone is pleased that this project is happening, and I was glad to be a part of it. I was grateful to the legacy of Mabel Babcock for helping pay my airfare, car rental and other expenses connected with the project.

What happens next — and what will be the end product — is still waiting to be decided. There are a few more women I would like to include who were not available before. Perhaps I might do a follow-up with some of these first nine, who could have gone on for another hour.



Failure is Impossible Service Announcement and Errata

To lend an authentic feel to our worship service on women's suffrage—"Failure Is Impossible!"—We now have some props available for your use.

We have purchased an historic 48-star flag, like the one carried by the women from the states that had already passed suffrage by 1914. Sarah Barber-Braun has created "authentic" state ribbons, like the ones the women wore. We would be happy to "rent" these props to you for your service for \$15 plus return postage. Just let us know when you would like them and when you will be able to return them.

For those who purchased the service at GA, please note the following discrepancies in the text: On page 11, the final hymn is listed as "Hymn # 109 - Wonders Still the World Shall Witness." The final hymn *should* be listed as "Hymn # 109 - As We Come Marching, Marching." [Hymn # 139 is Wonders Still the World Shall Witness; this would make an appropriate final hymn as well, so you have a choice.]

On page 7, where the narrator comes in at the bottom of the page, the text *should* read, "In 1872, Susan B. Anthony made so bold as to go to the polls in Rochester, New York, to vote. Miss Anthony was arrested, taken to the city jail, and later charged with a fine which she refused to pay. She spoke out strongly in defense of her right as a citizen." [Further research showed that Victoria Woodhull, the first woman to run for president, did not actually make it to the final ballot.]

The Unitarian Universalist Women's Heritage Society and the authors of "Failure is Impossible" regret any inconveniences that might have been caused by these discrepancies.

To: Mabel Babcock Grants Panel
First Unitarian Church of Honolulu

From: Honolulu Unitarian Universalist Women's Federation

Subject: Honolulu Women's Heritage Project

The Honolulu Unitarian Universalist Women's Federation requests matching funds from the Mabel Babcock Legacy Grants Panel in the amount of \$300.00. The money will be spent in the following manner:

Using the guidelines provided by the Unitarian Universalist Women's Heritage Society for collecting oral histories, we propose to tape interviews (audio and possibly video) with the elder women of our church. The interviews will be a part of the archives of our church heritage, exploring the human element of its founding and development in the community. Copies of the tapes will be sent to the U U Women's Heritage Society in Boston. The tapes will also be made available to community organizations; such as, the Hawaii State Committee on the Status of Women.

The member who has the greatest interest in implementing this project is Judy Robeck, a resident of Maui. Her participation will be augmented by Joan King on Oahu. By using an interisland team, we hope to work toward our mission goal of seeding congregations on other islands.

The combined grant money and HUUWF funds will be used to provide air fare for Judy to come to Oahu several times and for equipment needed to tape the interviews. Members of HUUWF will provide lodging for Judy on Oahu, but there might be a need for her to rent a car to get to the homes of the interviewees.

The members of HUUWF will request interviews with all women church members currently over 80 years of age. We feel that we do not want to delay the project too long, as some of them are in frail health. Several of the women we will ask for interviews are founders of the congregation. We hope that this project will inspire and enrich the entire church family. We also want to make Honolulu a more visible part of our Association.

Respectfully submitted,

Mickey Selwyn
HUUWF Member

①

LEGAL RELEASE FORM - ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

I hereby grant permission to the Unitarian Universalist Women's Heritage Society to use the material I have given in taped interviews in any ways deemed suitable by the Coordinator and Board of the Society.

I understand that the material may be used in a variety of ways including but not limited to: an exhibit format, a book, a slide-tape show, radio show, public speaking engagements, or in an archive available to the public.

I understand that this material will not be used in any way that would be slanderous or detrimental to my character.

Below are listed any conditions I wish to place on the use of this material.

Signed Lillian R. Schwartz Date 7-26-95

Name (print) Lillian R. Schwartz

Address 25090 Namoku St.

City Kaneohe State HI Zip 96744

Phone 235-2347

Family member _____ Phone _____

Interviewer Judith R. Robeck Date(s) 7-26-95

Address 1993 S. Kihui Rd #400

City Kihui State HI Zip 96753

Congregational affiliation Unitarian Church of Honolulu CLF

2

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Below are listed any conditions I wish to place on the use of this material.

Signed Helen Whorton Date 7-26-95

Name (print) Helen Whorton

Address 45-090 Namoku St. #504

City Kaneohe State HI Zip 96744

Phone ⁽⁸⁰⁸⁾ 247-4442

Family member — Phone —

Interviewer Judith K. Robeck Date(s) 7-26-95

Address 1993 S. Kihui Rd #400

City Kihui State HI Zip 96753

Congregational affiliation Unitarian Church of Honolulu + CLF

③

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Below are listed any conditions I wish to place on the use of this material.

Signed Patricia E. Perry Date 7-25-95

Name (print) Patricia E. Perry

Address 47-507 Lulani St.

City Kaneohe State HI Zip 96744

Phone 808-239-7272

Family member _____ Phone _____

Interviewer Judith K. Roberts Date(s) 7/26/95

Address 1993 S. Kihei Rd #400

City Kihei State HI Zip 96753

Congregational affiliation U.U. Church of Honolulu

4

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Below are listed any conditions I wish to place on the use of this material.

Signed H. Glendora Forshe Date 7/27/95

Name (print) H. Glendora Forshe

Address 45-090 Namoku St. #1206

City Kaneohe State HI Zip 96744

Phone 247-6347

Family member _____ Phone _____

Interviewer Judith R. Robeck Date(s) 7/27/95

Address 1993 S. Kihei Rd #400

City Kihei State HI Zip 96753

Congregational affiliation Unitarian Church Honolulu + CLF

5

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Below are listed any conditions I wish to place on the use of this material.

Signed Marianne Karplus Date July 27, 1995

Name (print) MARIANNE KARPLUS

Address 45-090 NAMOKU ST. # 1115

City KANE OHE State HI Zip 96744

Phone (800) 235-1740

Family member _____ Phone _____

Interviewer Judy Robeck Date(s) 7/27/95

Address 1993 S. Kihei Rd. # 400

City Kihei State HI Zip 96753

Congregational affiliation Unitarian Church of Honolulu + CLF

(6)

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I understand that this material will not be used in any way that would be slanderous or detrimental to my character.

Below are listed any conditions I wish to place on the use of this material.

Signed Beatrice Bennett Date July 28 1995

Name (print) Beatrice Bennett

Address 4760 Farmers Road

City Honolulu State HI Zip 96816

Phone 808-734-7527

Family member _____ Phone _____

Interviewer Judith R. Robeck Date(s) _____

Address 1993 S. Kilauea Rd # 400

City Kilauea State HI Zip 96753

Congregational affiliation Unitarian Church of Honolulu

7

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Below are listed any conditions I wish to place on the use of this material.

Signed Ruth Iams Date 7/27/95

Name (print) Ruth Iams

Address 927 Prospect St. #1002

City Honolulu State HI Zip 96822

Phone 808-533-3708

Family member _____ Phone _____

Interviewer Judith R. Robeck Date(s) _____

Address 1993 S. Kihei Rd #400

City Kihei State HI Zip 96753

Congregational affiliation Unitarian Church of Honolulu

8

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Below are listed any conditions I wish to place on the use of this material.

Signed Eleana H. Davis Date 7/29/95

Name (print) Eleanor Davis

Address 1434 Punahou St. #531

City Honolulu State HI Zip 96822

Phone 808 - 949 - 7699

Family member _____ Phone _____

Interviewer Judith K. Robeck Date(s) _____

Address 1993 S. Kihei Rd #400

City Kihei State HI Zip 96753

Congregational affiliation UUC Church of Honolulu

9

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Below are listed any conditions I wish to place on the use of this material.

Signed Mary S. Dotts Date 7/29/95

Name (print) Mary Dotts

Address 1434 Punahoa St. # 1227

City Honolulu State HI Zip 96822

Phone 808-949-3108

Family member _____ Phone _____

Interviewer Judith R. Robeck Date(s) _____

Address 1993 S. Kihei Rd # 400

City Kihei State HI Zip 96753

Congregational affiliation Unitarian Church of Honolulu

ELEANOR HARMON DAVIS

Born and grew up in Seattle. Graduated Phi Beta Kappa from University of Washington School of Library Science. Arrived in Hawaii in 1938. Worked in public libraries of Maui, Kauai, Hawaii, and Oahu. Head of Maui County Library system and Assistant Chief Librarian of Library of Hawaii, Honolulu. Also worked in libraries of Seattle, New York City, and Prince George's County, Maryland, where she helped set up the first unsegregated public library service in the state outside that of the city of Baltimore. Administered and taught courses in basic library technology for five years at the East-West Center. Married Carl DeV. Davis, President and Board member of the Unitarian Fellowship, ~~in its early days~~; he died in 1978 on Maui, where they had retired in 1973.

Eleanor returned to Honolulu in 1986, and lives at the Arcadia Retirement Residence. Has written and published articles on Hawaiian history and on professional subjects. Decorated in 1981 by the King of Sweden for her book, Abraham Fornander: a Biography, published by the University Press of Hawaii.

Special course for persons already employed in varied capacities from clerical through professional in all types of libraries in Okinawa, Japan, ⁽¹⁾S. E. Asia, Pacific Islands [from Trust Territory, Tonga, Fiji], New Zealand, ⁽¹⁾Taiwan].

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I understand that this material will not be used in any way that would be slanderous or detrimental to my character.

Below are listed any conditions I wish to place on the use of this material.

Signed Marion Saunders Date 1-28-86

Name (print) Marion Saunders

Address 3596 Woodlawn Dr.

City Honolulu State HI Zip 96822

Phone 988-2635

Family member _____ Phone _____

Interviewer Joan King Date(s) _____

Address 555 University

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Unitarian Universalist Women's Heritage Society 35 Church Street, Watertown, MA 02172

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FANNING THE FLAME: a report from the coordinator

by the Rev. Dorothy May Emerson

Much has happened since our first newsletter last fall. Once again we have cause for celebration. As anticipated, we have been approved by the IRS as a non-profit organization, making all donations tax deductible. And now we have received a two-year grant from the Veatch Program of the Northshore Unitarian Universalist Society. Although this grant will provide a solid base for continuing work, for over half of our budget we still rely on individual memberships and donations. We are most grateful to all of you for the support we have received and will continue to receive in the coming years. We know from the response thus far that our UU women's heritage is important to many people. The flame of our heritage will glow even more brightly as time goes on, lighting our way to the future.

Our Board of Directors has expanded to include a new treasurer, Donna Clifford, with Karen Deutsch remaining as a board member. Donna has her own income tax and accounting business and has been the Fiscal Administrator for the Church of the Larger Fellowship for the past 8 years. Our secretary Phyllis Rickter and board members Janet Bowering and Joan Goodwin have all agreed to remain on the board for another year. The work of this board has been a significant factor in the growth and development of the Society this year.

Our five field education students are completing their time with us. They have all contributed in different ways to our work throughout the past year. Vicki Jenkins has taken charge of our mailing list, created a data base of people and resources, and been responsible for the design and layout of our newsletters. She has also been developing a new program--Oral History as an Intergenerational Religious Education Program. Lee Bluemel has developed an information guide for local congregations on collecting Oral History. She has also been compiling materials for a worship

What's in a name?

In our last issue we asked for suggestions for a name for this newsletter. Thank you very much to all who responded. We like all the suggestions, so now we'd like to ask you to vote for your favorite. Please note on your membership form which title you prefer.

"WHERSO-EVER
they may be found"

This suggestion from Louise Foulds is based on our name (Women's HERitage Society) and purpose (a search for UU foremothers).

"F.I.R.E."

Females Inspiring Religious Excellence, submitted by Dawn Goodrich

"KINDRED
KINDERLINGS", or
"THE FLAME"

Kinderlings are materials for starting a fire; to kindle is to gradually cause something to burn; based on our motto, submitted by Marie Norton

JUDITH SARGENT MURRAY

by the Rev. Wendy Fitting

Looking with 20th century eyes at words, thoughts, a time, a mind, a greathearted soul unglimped for two hundred years, there is a temptation to expect liberating truth and inspiration-fired vision to leap off the page to heal the wounds and uncertainties of our troubled age. Here in Gloucester at the church founded by her family, we delight to discover Judith Sargent Murray in the form of her over one thousand letters preserved on microfilm. Playwright Sarah Clark is working on a one woman show of Judith's words and times, and church member and feminist scholar Marianne Dunlop is hard at work reading and studying Judith's letters, and she shares her enthusiasm and discoveries, such as this bit of wisdom on the alleged weakness of Eve:

That Eve was the weaker Vessel, I boldly

which hath flown from the pen", and "the voice of joy vibrates upon our ears," you'll know we are visited by Judith Sargent Murray.

WANTED: Office Furniture, etc.

Sometime this summer we are hoping to move into an actual office. We will need a desk, computer desk, table, chairs, and bookcases, as well as a Macintosh computer, laser printer, etc.

If you have any of these or can help us acquire them, please let us know. Thanks for your help.

CELEBRATING FRANCES HARPER

by Lisa Doege

The Coalition of African American Unitarian Universalist Organizations has planned its first annual Continental Congress to coincide with a city-wide celebration commemorating Frances Ellen Watkins Harper in Philadelphia, September 26-27.

Frances Harper was a noted nineteenth century African American author, activist, and Unitarian. She was a member of the First Unitarian Church of Philadelphia, and is buried in an unmarked grave in Eden Cemetery in that city. Some of Harper's writing will be highlighted in the UUWHS worship service at GA in Calgary.

Coalition constituent organizations have embarked on a fundraising campaign to purchase a headstone for Harper's unmarked grave. The celebrations will culminate Sunday afternoon at the grave site, where the headstone will be erected.

For more information about the Continental Congress or Frances Ellen Watkins Harper donations, contact Nik-ki Whittingham, Coalition Administrative Organizer, P.O. Box 2856, Chicago, IL 60690, (312) 643-4247.

ORAL HISTORIES UPDATE

by Lee Bluemel

We've received a wonderful response to our call for oral histories. Some tapes have already come in, in addition to several requests for the guidelines. If you are currently gathering any oral histories of UU women, or if you would like to, please let us know. Thanks go out to the following women for their reflections and stories:

Miriam DeWolfe of Medford, MA.

Thelma J. Daniels of Ft. Lauderdale, FL.

Theodosia Haviland, Caroline MacKinnon, Anna Pettus, Dorothy Briggs, Dorothy Jean Matteson, Marie Boyle, and Dorothy Meredith of the UU House in Philadelphia, PA, and Patricia Lerman who sent the tapes.

Annette Van Howe, who interviewed Thelma Daniels, had a wonderful idea to send some photos along with her tape. It helps listeners to be able to put a face with a voice, so for those of you who are conducting or giving oral histories, please share any photographs you may have of the speakers!

Thelma Daniels shared a powerful life credo as part of her oral history. She says, "There is nothing that I do not dare to doubt. There is nothing false that I would wish to believe. There is nothing true that I am afraid to know."

For our new resources on Oral History, see the article on page two covering new publications.

A MESSAGE OF GRATITUDE

Our sponsors and sustaining members are those members who go a bit (or a lot) beyond, to make a contribution beyond the required dues. These "extras" give us the fuel we need to fund our projects, bring you this newsletter, and provide the programs and worship which nurture us all.

So, we want to take this time and space to say a public and heartfelt "THANK YOU" to these generous friends. And to invite more of you to join them!

Sponsors: The Rev. Elinor Artman, Johanna Boeke, Eloise Emerson, Helen Helms Marcus, Phyllis Rickter, Rev. Charity Rowley, and Jeanne Slobod.

Sustaining Members: The Rev. Rebecca Blodgett, Kathy Braeman, Carol Browning, Elise Cade, Karen Dau, Jeanette Debs, Wilma Holladay, Mary Humbolt, and Violet Kochendoerfer.

LYDIA MARIA FRANCIS CHILD

by Jackie O'Sullivan

She was the brother of a prominent Unitarian minister, yet eschewed formal connection with any religion. She initially supported herself by writing on domestic issues, but fell into disfavor with the popular press when her conscience forced her to formally address the issue of slavery. She was friend, correspondent, and mentor to a host of religious and literary luminaries of her day, and yet she remained ever modest about her own achievements. She held strong beliefs that a woman's true calling was to the work of hearth and home, and yet severed her financial affairs from those of her husband when it became apparent that he sorely lacked money management skills. She worked on the edge of the early women's rights movement, yet was honored in the dedication of Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony's book, History of Woman Suffrage. And she wrote a poem that became a holiday classic: "Over the River and Through the Woods". Who was this paradoxical woman?

The life of Lydia Maria Francis Child, who was a
(cont. on page 6)