

Communications for Community Building (CCB) Service Area Report January 2005

Structure

The Service Leaders are Robert Blauvelt (First Unitarian Society of Denver), and KokHeong McNaughton (Unitarian Church of Los Alamos)

Other team members are:

- Al Bailey (UU Church of Las Cruces) as webmaster
- Neil McBurnett (UU Church of Boulder) as assistant webmaster
- Scott White (UU Church of El Paso) as assistant webmaster
- Rich Richins (UU Church of Las Cruces) as *Dispatch* editor
- Judy Phillips (UU Church of Ogden) as Volunteer Coordinator
- Marlene Eggers (South Valley UU Church) as Awards Coordinator

Our Board Liaison is Charles Scholz (UU Church of of Las Cruces)

Goals and accomplishments

- Scott White was recruited for the webteam at the October Annual Conference.
- The webteam, currently consisting of Al Bailey, Neil McBurnett and Scott White, have begun to work on Website maintenance and redesign with each team member delegated to concentrate on a specific area.
- The new web design (being developed along a SA webroom concept) is now in place with an automatic jump from the old website homepage, which can be re-accessed through a link. The Communications for Community Building webroom of the website is demonstrative of how the other service areas will be presented if present planning proves viable, and the webteam encourages everyone to explore and give them the feedback necessary to define their needs so they can be met. Alternative modes of presentation are demonstrated in the “MDD Service Council” and the “Leadership Development” webrooms.
- Neal McBurnett has begun exploring the use of *uuwiki* for possible use by each service area of the Council to hold discussion and to exchange information. This particular communication tool needs to be further explored and tested out by the CCB before being demonstrated to the Council.
- Charles McCarty (Glacier UUF) has developed a website for the Montana Area Unitarian Universalist Association (MAUUA) and submitted this to be linked from the District Website. This is a wonderful initiative on the part of the Montana Cluster and we hope that other clusters can follow this example. Please visit <http://www.glacieruu.org/mauua/> for an idea of what's possible.

- We have now recruited 17 Communications Representatives (ComReps) from the following congregations and small groups. The com-rep email list has been activated with several important messages distributed in the last month which include the Holiday message from Bill Sinkford and the UUSC call for Tsumani Relief. Com-reps are sharing success stories from their congregations.

1st UU, Albuquerque, NM -- Mara Hoffman
 All Souls, Colorado Spring, CO -- Diane Vigeant
 Durango, CO -- Lois Carpenter
 El Paso, TX -- Pat White
 Foothills, CO -- Viki Reeder
 Glenwood Springs, CO -- Jan Girardot
 High Plains, CO -- Toni Olivieri-Barton
 Idaho Falls, ID -- Catherine Nelson
 Lafayette, CO -- Mary Leonard
 Las Cruces, NM – Rose Wiseman
 Los Alamos, NM -- KokHeong McNaughton
 Ogden, UT -- Cal Hansen
 Pocatello, ID -- Irene Nautch
 Portales, NM – Joan Brown
 Provo, UT -- David Sargent
 Ruidoso, NM – Dick Mastin
 Taos, NM – Chuck Fawns

- We are grateful for the help from Gary Reser (1st Universalist, Denver) for his efforts in getting DSL connections to the District Office. This has been our top priority for 2004 goal.
- Since the last report, our *Dispatch* editor Rich Richins put out another excellent issue which contains wonderful reports from the Annual Meeting. Like other *Dispatch* editors before him, Rich has run into the frustration of contributors missing deadlines and not enough material to fill the issue. The new ComReps email forum will be a source for more congregational and cluster information.
- The CCB Service Area will be providing some funding to support the research and printing of a new updated and expanded history of the MDD.

Issues

- We would like to see the collated responses from the Presidents' Forum from our Annual Meeting/Delegate Conference ASAP in order to guide us in future activities and directions.
- We would like to see prompt submissions of articles from those who write columns regularly. This would really help our editor get the job done right and on target. ComReps will also be encouraged to submit material for *the Dispatch*.