

MAY / JUNE  
2012

# UATL NEWSLETTER

MAILING ADDRESS:  
P.O. Box 10742  
SOUTH LAKE TAHOE, CA  
96158

*Our new sanctuary & annex  
is located at:  
1195 Rufus Allen Blvd.  
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150*

**OFFICE HOURS:**  
**TUESDAYS & FRIDAYS**  
**11-2**  
**WEDNESDAYS 10-2**

**Office phone #**  
**(530) 544-2266**

**WE'RE ON THE WEB!**  
*VISIT US AT:*

[WWW.UNITYATTHELAKE.ORG](http://WWW.UNITYATTHELAKE.ORG)

EMAIL:  
UNITYATTHELAKE@  
SBCGLOBAL.NET



## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

On Sunday, April 29<sup>th</sup>, we had a ceremony honoring 8 new members of UATL. We bless them for their willingness and dedication! We asked them to answer some questions so you can know them a little better. (You'll meet Chris Love, Bob Prescott and Leonard Smith in our next newsletter)

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**NEW MEMBERS**  
(LEFT TO RIGHT)

AUDREY BRANCH  
KEITH WILLIAMS  
CARRIE WILLIAMS  
MARILYN DUNN  
GEORGE DRAKE  
LEONARD SMITH  
CHRIS LOVE

ABSENT:  
BOB PRESCOTT



**A place you've always wanted to go?**

Keith Williams: I've always wanted to travel to Evanston, Wyoming. I've traveled to many places in the world but never to where my parents grew up.

Marilyn Donn: I've always wanted to travel to Hong Kong, and did in the 80's. I also saw Bangkok, Singapore, and Jakarta, Indonesia.

It was the trip of a lifetime!

Carrie Williams: I've always wanted to go to the Galapagos Islands and witness the wildlife.

Audrey Branch: anywhere

George Drake: foreign countries, but less so to third world countries now that M.S. is slowing down my reaction time and ability.

**Hobbies/Interests?**

Audrey: yoga peace play

Keith: I have an interest in all things mechanical, and have been active in sailing, flying, skiing, auto racing and building things at various times throughout my life.

Carrie: Anything I can enjoy with our dogs and my husband and friends

George: politics, environmental discussions, space advocacy

**Favorite book?**

Marilyn: "Atlas Shrugged" although I don't agree with her politics. I also love all kinds of murder mystery books including those based in Lake Tahoe.

Carrie: My all time favorite book is "Guardians of Being" by Eckart Tolle. To me he is very concise as to what my animals bring into my life.

**Who's your favorite musician?**

Audrey: Trevor Hall

Marilyn: I love all kinds of music from Jimmy Buffet to jazz and the rock from my youth.

Carrie: I have always liked Tom Petty as a recording artist, so upbeat!

**What historic figure would you like to talk to?**

Keith: I'd like to talk to Benjamin Franklin, inventor and statesman

Marilyn: I would like to talk to Abraham Lincoln, my favorite president.

Carrie: I'd love to have a sit down with Jesus Christ and experience his spirituality.

George: The list is far, far, too large.

**What would be your greatest day?**

Audrey: Everyday by the water

Carrie: Spending time in the woods with our dogs followed by a barbeque in the yard with my wonderful neighbors.

George: one in the wild.

**Is there something about you people would be surprised to know?**

Keith: I grew up in a career army family.

Carrie: I eat ice cream every night and I understand [people's] challenges with compassion, without judgment

## ABOUT THE NEW SANCTUARY



We're still getting back on our feet after spending more than we expected on the beautiful space. You can financially contribute to/support the continued unfolding of this amazing dream through the website or at Sunday service, earmarking your cash, check or credit card payment for "Building fund".

## SPECIAL EVENTS & HAPPENINGS

Our annual **Yard Sale** time will be on **Saturday, June 30<sup>th</sup>** ...we are NOW accepting any and all donations in GOOD condition. Please clean and fold all clothes, and label. That is very helpful to us. We would also love to have a storage shed on the property. Does anyone want to donate one or know of an inexpensive one for sale?

**Labyrinth and drumming:** We held a sweet ceremony to bless the land and were guided as to the exact location for our labyrinth. We will be clearing the land over the next month. **Please join us on June 4<sup>th</sup> at 9am** as we complete the process with the energy of the full moon. We would love to have everyone's energy as part of the labyrinth so you can just place one rock and/or bring your drums (and a lawn chair) to bless us all as we joyfully work (we'll have extra drums, too). We are excited to create this first step in our community garden for the whole community to enjoy.

**Prayer Shawl Ministry:** This group will lovingly and prayerfully crochet and knit prayer shawls that can then be shared with people in need. Beginners welcome. Our next meeting is Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup> right after our Sunday celebration.

**Garden Party:** Saturday, May 26<sup>th</sup> help us bring a splash of color to our deck, planting flowers for our deck railing and snap peas along our fence. We will also be raking the back, behind the Sanctuary. Time tba and donations welcome.

**Happy Birthday, Hillary Potluck!** Immediately following service on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Featuring Donna Janacek presenting "H2O" products for natural home care. Celebrate the earth and benefit UATL, too! DJ will donate 15% of all sales to Unity. (Have a home party/green celebration for 7-8 people anytime up to July 29<sup>th</sup> and DJ will still donate 15% of all sales to Unity).

**Summer Solstice Celebration, Wednesday June 20<sup>th</sup>, Regan Beach:** details tba

### Community Events (non-Unity):

The Sierra Club Tahoe Chapter will be hosting a photo presentation of Jim Stamates, Wed May 9<sup>th</sup> in the Sanctuary, 7pm: Inspiring images set to music tell the story of the Rhythm of the Sierras. To see his work: [www.stamates.com](http://www.stamates.com). Free!

Rosemary Manning, Emotional Freedom Technique Workshop, in the Annex, Sat. May 19<sup>th</sup>. Begins at 9am. Stay tuned for more info.

Habitat for Humanity's "A Brush with Kindness": There are three projects scheduled this year beginning in June. There will be a project volunteer meeting at Hope Lutheran Church (930 Julie Lane) May 22 at 6:30pm.

*HONOR  
YOURSELF  
AND/OR  
SOMEONE  
YOU LOVE:*

*We received a \$10,000 interest-free loan to help fund the building of our new Sanctuary and Annex. In order to help repay this loan, we are offering the opportunity to adopt 10r more chairs. For \$75/chair you can honor yourself and/or someone else ("in memory of"... "in celebration of"... "in gratitude for", etc.) and we will prominently display all the name(s) on a beautiful group plaque. You will be blessed with the knowing that you have contributed immensely to the manifestation of UATL's dreams.*

*Our Sunday talks are now available on our website, beginning shortly after each Sunday service. Tell your friends!*  
 This is a wonderful way to introduce other folks to the Unity message. You can make donations (for regular tithes, building fund, Minister's Fund and Hands and Hearts) and purchase all of OneVoice's CDs, Stew and Hillary's meditation CD *Journeys to the Heart*, plus CDs of Sunday celebration services, directly from the website via PayPal or credit card.

**PHOTOS FROM OUR OPEN HOUSE  
MARCH 24<sup>TH</sup>, 2012**



Dory,  
Roy &  
Mark



Dory, David,  
Karen, & Kristina



Rosie &  
Kim

*So far, we have 66 chairs "adopted" and the Council is close to deciding how to display the donations.*

## FAITH IN ACTION

*Please note you can use a credit card to make any kind of donations and we can automatically charge your credit card monthly if you choose.*

We joyfully affirmed and celebrated our abundance thru tithing to the following during March/April, 2012:

\* World Bicycle Relief \* Cheryl & Tom Millham \* Silent Unity \* West Central Region \* Brenda & Michael Donahoe \* Unity of Maui \* Unity in the Community

Total of outgoing tithes for this period was \$1,084.10 Thank you!

**As of 5/1/12, our bank balances are as follows:**

\*Bank of the West Checking: \$6,490.74  
(covers everyday spending and bills)

\*Bank of the West Savings: \$169.59  
(2012 Hands and Hearts for Christmas fund)

\*Everbank Checking: \$10,185.22  
(general reserve fund)

\*Ministerial Fund: < \$0  
(within Everbank Checking):



### Special thanks to:

\* OneVoice, in all your many combinations and permutations, for always sharing your amazing gifts so generously and freely in our Unity community and our greater community. You're all magnificent!

\* Sherry Stofko for taking on the designing and formatting of this newsletter...it's fabulous and beautiful!

## FROM THE COUNCIL

Greetings to all! I am so excited about all the energy and love that is swirling around our Unity Community! Every time I walk into our new Sanctuary I am overwhelmed by the peace and beauty of this sacred space, and the continual unfolding of our collective dream. This dream encompasses so much more than just the "space." I see our new home as a place of nurturing and support, a base from which we expand our connection with our community and continue to reach out in service. It is the result of contributions from so many, all coming together to accomplish exponentially more than one can do alone. I celebrate this new chapter for Unity at the Lake!

I have personally been so blessed by my experiences as a member of Unity, and those blessings have been multiplied by my participation as a member of the Council of Trustees. Since joining the Council a short three months ago I have seen the dedication of its members to upholding the mission and vision of Unity at the Lake. I am so grateful for the opportunity to participate in the work of creating an atmosphere where all are supported and encouraged in their own personal spiritual journey.

Each and every member of Unity is so special, each offering unique gifts. Together we can create the world of peace, love and compassion we envision. Thank you all for sharing your gifts with Unity at the Lake!



In Joy,

Kathleen Harris

*"I see our new home as a place of nurturing and support, a base from which we expand our connection with our community and continue to reach out in service."*

# Message from our Spiritual Leader (by Stew)



**“As each of us takes ownership and adds our unique gifts, the idea that is Unity at the Lake will continue to unfold in the most beautiful and impactful ways imaginable.”**

So many things have already increased as a result of us moving into our new sacred space: attendance (including our children), income, excitement, the number of events and activities we can offer and our presence in the community. And perhaps the increase that excites Hillary and me the most is in what we call ownership. Almost every day we now hear someone say something like, “OUR new building” or “OUR spiritual community” or “OUR music team” or “OUR spiritual leaders.” We love it! More and more people are taking ownership in this ministry, which has been a huge part of our vision since we were installed as spiritual leaders (which, by the way, happened almost exactly 5 years ago now!).

More people taking ownership means no one has to bear the brunt of doing too much. No one needs to become burnt out. More people get to share their ideas and gifts, thus blessing the rest of us and tremendously blessing themselves.

For us, though, the most important thing about this increased ownership is that Unity at the Lake is NOT Hillary and me, it is NOT our Council of Trustees or Prayer Chaplains or OneVoice or our YEP teachers or our building. All those people and things are part of it, but Unity at the Lake is essentially an idea. A divine idea. This idea began in someone’s mind (we like to think God had the idea even before that), and since then has been held, touched, kissed, honed, clarified, magnified and beautified by countless people over the last 18 years. Through good times, challenging times, appearances of lack and appearances of prosperity the idea has been lovingly held and nurtured. That is why we now find ourselves in this magnificent place, doing and being more and more of what is good and beautiful and true.

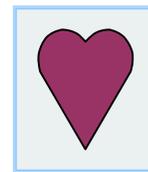
In this way of looking at it, there is no Unity at the Lake without you. It is indeed yours. As each of us takes ownership and adds our unique gifts, the idea that is Unity at the Lake will continue to unfold in the most beautiful and impactful ways imaginable.

And there are so many ways of taking ownership, even beyond tithing, attending, volunteering, sharing ideas, etc. You can keep your eyes and ears open for groups or organizations that need a place to meet, or for a wonderful teacher who wants to present a workshop. You can even teach a class or workshop yourself, or share a skill. Maybe you know of an individual doing work in our community that is aligned with our spiritual principles and that UATL can tithe to as our “We Believe in You” recipient. You can talk about UATL and the life-enhancing principles that are our foundation with your friends and co-workers. You can recommend our sanctuary (and spiritual leaders) to anyone you know of who is getting married. We’re confident that by holding the idea that you are a vital part of what makes Unity at the Lake what it is will inspire you to come up with your own ideas.

Thank you for adding your indispensable ingredient to this magnificent recipe we call Unity at the Lake!



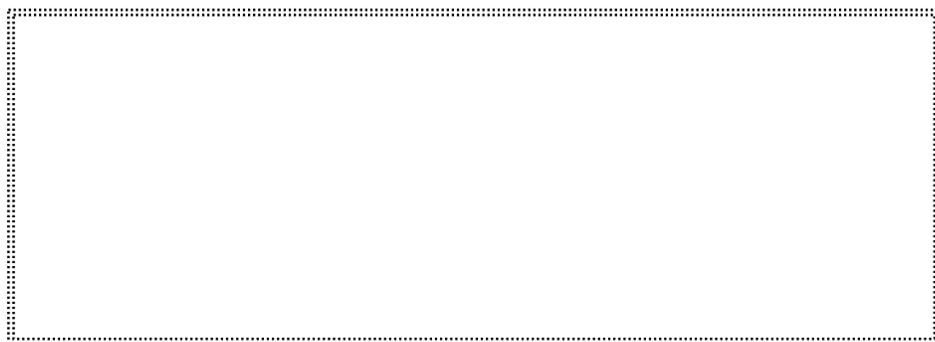
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unityatthelake@sbcglobal.net