

Arlington Unitarian Universalist Church
2001 California Lane
Arlington, Texas 76015
817-460-6481
arlington-tx-uu.org

Kaleidoscope

October 2009

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| Sunday | Oct 4 | 10:00 a.m. | The Sunday School Gang begins a new series by the late Professor Robert Solomon, <i>The Passions: Philosophy and the Intelligence of Emotions</i> , with "Emotions as Engagements with the World," led by Naren Jackson |
| | | 11:00 a.m. | David Tripp speaks |
| | | 12:30 p.m. | Finance Committee led by Larry Heath |
| Sunday | Oct 11 | 10:00 a.m. | Ken Sambell leads a discussion on "Spiritualism & Humanism, Pro's & Con's" — starts at 10 sharp, ends 10:45 a.m. |
| | | 11:00 a.m. | [Safe Haven collection]
David E. Cozad speaks about a proposed SkyTran for Arlington's entertainment corridor, with innovative technology using an ultra-energy-efficient magnetic levitation-linear synchronous motor powered by onsite photovoltaic panels (developed with NASA) |
| | | 12:30 p.m. | Board Meeting led by John Blair |
| Saturday | Oct 17 | 6:30 p.m. | Emerald Dragon New Moon Ritual at the church |
| Sunday | Oct 18 | 10:00 a.m. | Sunday School Gang — David Tripp continues a series of discussions on the literary works of Paul Tillich |
| | | 11:00 a.m. | TBA |
| | | 12:30 p.m. | Social Justice Committee led by Larry Heath |
| Sunday | Oct 25 | 9:00 a.m. | Early Bird Special: Tai Chi and Qi Gong |
| | | 10:00 a.m. | Discussion of "The Spectrum of Consciousness and Expanding It" continues, led by Gregory Ellis |
| | | 11:00 a.m. | Gary Busk, world-renowned for his preservation of the art of Puppetry, speaks on "Puppetry — With Some Strings Attached," demonstrating with marionettes and hand- and rod-puppets. See story on Page 2 |
| | | 12:30 p.m. | Monthly Potluck — all are invited |

Church Calendar continues on Page 2

Sunday Nov 1 10:00 a.m. The Sunday School Gang begins a new series by the late Professor Robert Solomon, *The Passions: Philosophy and the Intelligence of Emotions*, with "The Wrath of Achilles," led by Naren Jackson

11:00 a.m. Jeff Rodriguez, of Westside UU Church of Fort Worth, speaks on "Easy to Be Hard" or great moments in internal dissension, when a group of compassionate people come together in pursuit of a worthy cause only to waste energy squabbling with each other, and offers some ways to avoid this common pitfall

12:30 p.m. Finance Committee led by Larry Heath

*Support Group led by John Reed Monday evenings at 7:00 p.m.
Nursery provided at 11:00 a.m. every Sunday.*

Puppets on October 25!

Please mark your calendars for this special program. Marvin Willis has invited Gary Busk, world-renowned for his preservation of the art of Puppetry, to speak on "Puppetry — With Some Strings Attached," the art and world history of puppetry. More than just toys, puppets have been important in cultures throughout the world from ancient times. Featured on "Antiques Roadshow," our visitor will include demonstrations with marionettes and other types of puppets. Bring your friends and children to this very entertaining offering.

Adult Literacy Project

Patsy Rosen is leading volunteers from our church in an initiative supported by the Arlington Public Library to help adults who want help in improving their reading skills. To participate in this very worthwhile community outreach project, please contact Patsy or call the Blairs at 817-265-3429. Classes have begun at the church.

New Moon Ritual October 17



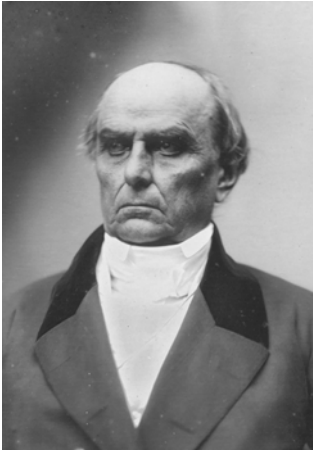
The Emerald Dragon Wiccan Circle celebrates a New Moon Ritual at the church on Saturday, October 17, starting at 6:30 p.m. This event is both a celebration and a study session. If you are interested in Wicca or Pagan beliefs in general, you are welcome to attend. Call Joe Tesoro or Tu Le at 817-881-6327 for more information.

AUUC Mission Statement — Our mission is to provide a nourishing environment:

- In which liberal religious thought and spiritual growth are encouraged; where doubt is welcome and free choice is the rule
- In which we will be motivated to contribute to the betterment of all life
- In which we will teach and promote all of the other Unitarian Universalist values, embodied in the Seven Principles

Pledging: *It costs in excess of \$55 per pledging unit per month to sustain the Arlington UU Church. Please give what you can. If you choose to make your contribution using the collection basket, use a special envelope or indicate "Pledge" on your check. Thank you for your support.*

Meet Daniel Webster



Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable!

— Daniel Webster, 1830

Daniel Webster (1782-1852) was his era's foremost advocate of American nationalism. As a statesman, lawyer, politician and orator, he spent much of his life in efforts to keep the Union from being torn

apart, making compromises with Southern opponents of the federal government that helped delay the Civil War by many years. A farmer's son from New Hampshire, he was well-educated and began his career as a lawyer and Federalist Party leader. He served several terms in the US House of Representatives, first from New Hampshire, then from Massachusetts. Early on he set a pattern of firm opposition to entering wars, first the War of 1812, later the Mexican War, and supported business interests and a strong central government against agrarian and states' rights interests. By 1823 he was a nationally famous orator, and in 1827 he was elected senator from Massachusetts. When the Federalist Party died, he joined the National Republican Party (later the Whigs), working with Henry Clay to provide federal aid to the new western states and encouraging internal commerce that benefited Massachusetts manufacturers and merchants. In a debate with John C. Calhoun and Robert Hayne of South Carolina over tariffs, in which Calhoun argued that states had the right to nullify federal laws, Webster in 1830 proclaimed "Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable!" to wide acclaim in the North. He joined forces with President Andrew Jackson to combat the nullification theory, but parted from him on the question of a National Bank, which Webster unsuccessfully supported. He ran for President in 1836, but carried only Massachusetts. In 1841 he was named Secretary of State to William Henry Harrison, then to John Tyler. In this office he concluded the Webster-Ashburton Treaty with

Great Britain, settling a long and bitter dispute over the border between Maine and Canada. Webster opposed the annexation of Texas and the resulting war with Mexico. But in 1850, fearing a dissolution of the Union, he supported a compromise strengthening and enforcing the Fugitive Slave Act, which made him many enemies in the North and sullied his reputation among abolitionists. After his death, many recalled him as a man whose career was ruined by character defects, while others remembered his irresistible charm and surpassing statesmanship. Some said his patriotic phrases inspired the Union during the Civil War, and certainly Abraham Lincoln echoed a number of his statements. During the second generation after his death, Webster's fame as a nationalist prevailed over his disrepute as a compromiser. Schoolchildren recited his speeches, and most Americans considered him the greatest of the "great triumvirate" — Webster, Calhoun, and Clay. By the second half of the 20th century Webster had ceased to be as well known or as highly rated. Still, he remains a timely and fascinating figure. He died of a traumatic brain injury after a fall from a horse.

More from Daniel Webster:

A strong conviction that something must be done is the parent of many bad measures.

Justice ... is the ligament which holds civilized beings and civilized nations together.

Let it be borne on the flag under which we rally in every exigency, that we have one country, one constitution, one destiny.

Liberty exists in proportion to wholesome restraint.

Mind is the great lever of all things; human thought is the process by which human ends are ultimately answered.

On the diffusion of education among the people rest the preservation and perpetuation of our free institutions.

Refs: marshfield.net/History/webster.htm;
biography.com/articles/Daniel-Webster-9526186?;

brainyquote.com/quotes/authors/d/daniel_webster.html;

Remini, Robert V. *Daniel Webster: The Man and His Time*. WW Norton Company, Inc. February 1997.

Troy Davis, Cameron Todd Willingham, and the Death Penalty in Our Country

Justice ... is the ligament which holds civilized beings and civilized nations together.

— Daniel Webster, *American Unitarian*.

On December 11, 2000, the UUA declared an Action Of Immediate Witness against the Death Penalty in this country. Last May, in solidarity with Amnesty International USA, a number of us met in our sanctuary to hold a vigil seeking clemency for **Troy Davis**, a man awaiting execution in the state of Georgia under the "Law of Parties," which also exists here in Texas. The Law of Parties extends capital punishment to individuals who could be connected by association to a murder even if they had no idea a killing was about to take place. Troy Davis was "in the wrong place at the wrong time," and has been on Death Row in Georgia for nearly two decades. For more information about Troy Davis, go to:

amnestyusa.org/death-penalty/troy-davis-finality-over-fairness/page.do?id=1011343.

On August 17, the US Supreme Court ordered a new evidentiary hearing for Davis, deciding by a 6-2 vote that Davis should have an opportunity to prove his innocence. As described in "The Court's Duty," an editorial in the August 19 issue of *The New York Times*, "In a shocking dissent, Justices Antonin Scalia and Clarence Thomas dismissed the idea that the courts have a duty to ensure that they are not putting an innocent man to death." Meanwhile, here in Texas,

it seems to many that at least one innocent man has been executed. In 2004, **Cameron Todd Willingham** was executed for the deaths of his three small children in a December 1991 house fire in Corsicana that was declared arson. In an article titled "Perry's action delays arson panel's probe," in the September 30 issue of the *Houston Chronicle*, a reporter describes how "Two days before it was set to hear crucial testimony, and midway through its investigation, Gov. Rick Perry ... abruptly removed three members of a state forensic science panel looking into a deadly fire for which a man was executed ... Commissioners were set to hear testimony from Baltimore fire expert Craig Beyler about his highly critical review of the methods Corsicana and state arson investigators used to determine the blaze had been deliberately set. Beyler's report, commissioned by the panel, was the third expert review to find fault with the work of fire investigators... Willingham went to his execution insisting he did not kill his children, the oldest of whom was 2."

For more information, go to:

<http://www.tcadp.org/index.php?page=cameron-todd-willingham-case>. Whether or not you believe in capital punishment, we trust you agree no one should be put to death in your name for a crime he or she did not commit.

Cell phones should be turned off during the service.

Food in the Sanctuary: So we can all enjoy a snack and fellowship afterwards, please do not bring food into the sanctuary during services and forums.

Facilities Use Policy: Permission must be obtained prior to use from the church board or, at minimum, the church president. The fee is \$15 per hour unless another rate or free use is agreed upon by the AUUC Board prior to use. Copies of the policy are available upon request.

Support Group: For our members who are trying to get their lives straightened out or to search for just plain stress relief, we have organized a support group that meets at the church every Monday night at 7:30 p.m. For more information, contact John Reed, our dedicated problem-solver.

Side Porch Counseling: Arlington UU Church is sponsoring counseling services each Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. For a moderate fee, Dr. John Reed, LPC, provides counseling for personal problems, stress management and relaxation. Call 817-460-6481 for more information or an appointment. Or just drop by.

New Members Welcome: Membership in the Arlington UU Church is open to everyone 12 or older who is in sympathy with our purpose and principles. If you wish to join us, you need only sign a membership form in the presence of an officer of the Church. Active (voting) members must additionally make a financial contribution of record during the year prior to, and be on the roster at least 60 days prior to, any congregational business meeting at which they wish to vote.

Newsletter/Publicity: Clara Blair, 817-265-3429, blairbards@sbcglobal.net