

# THE UNITARIAN CONGREGATION OF TAOS

## Bulletin Board: July 2017

1st Sun,	July 2	<i>(Still) Standing On The Brink</i> , Rev. Munro Sickafoose
Tue,	July 4	Jim & Nancy Schultz' Annual July 4th Picnic (see details below)
2nd Sun,	July 9	Circle topic: <i>Balance</i>
Wed,	July 12	7 p.m. – Women's Group ( <i>Carol Doughty, lccdoughty@gmail.com</i> )
3rd Sun,	July 16	<i>The Question Box</i> , Rev. Gary Kowalski
Wed,	July 19	4:30 - 6:00 p.m. – Men's Group ( <i>Bob, rsilver65@gmail.com</i> )
4th Sun,	July 23	Circle topic: <i>Imperfection</i>
5th Sun,	July 30	<i>Presentation on interfaith community</i> ; Chuck Doughty, Bob Silver

**Services & Sharing Circles begin 11:00 a.m. at the Masonic Lodge,  
124 Camino de Santiago, at intersection with Gusdorf Rd.**



### American Dreaming

As we approach the 241st anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, I think it worth revisiting the state of the American



Dream: The opportunity for one's children to grow up and receive a good education and career without artificial barriers. The opportunity to make individual choices without the previous restrictions that limited people according to their class, caste, religion, race, or ethnicity. The opportunity to work hard and make a better life for oneself and one's children.

I think it's hard for us to understand at times how much this meant, and still means today, to the those who came to this country from societies that were rigid, hierarchical, ruled by aristocratic orders and monopolies, and which people were denied freedom of conscience and belief. Which is to say, much of the world, and Europe prior to the 19th century.

This vision, this Dream, was and still is, a beacon of freedom and hope. We understand that despite the broadness of this vision, the Dream was not – and is still not - available to everyone and that much work remains to be done.

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### Jim & Nancy Schultz Cordially Invite You to Their

July 4th Picnic!  
Tuesday, July 4, 5-8 p.m.  
In the courtyard at Nancy & Jim's  
314 Rosarita Street

To allow for decent planning, reservations MUST be made. Nancy says, "I don't mind a BIG crowd as long as I know the number!"

No cut-off number, but reservations are a must."

Reserve by phone at 751-0786 or email: j3h3s3@aol.com

NO LATER than June 30th.

\* \* \*

Nancy will contact a few women to help prepare the main dish—a shrimp and pasta salad—at her house.

Nancy will make the shortbread for the strawberry shortcake as their personal contribution.



She will assign food to folks after she has a head count.

Jim will contact men from the men's group to help set up tables and chairs.

Looking forward to seeing you!

### Women's Group

Meets 2nd Wed. of every month at 7 pm at Barbara Martinez' residence.

Book being read: *Field Notes on the Compassionate Life*, Marc Barasch.

Contacts:

Carol Doughty;  
lccdoughty@gmail.com;  
575-224-3166

Marsha Fawns;  
creatings@taosnet.com;  
575- 758-1887

Contact Carol Doughty if you are not on the email list and would like to be.

**Sunday, July 30, 11:00 am**  
*Can We Bridge Our Cultural and Religious Boundaries?*

Chuck Doughty and Bob Silver

An important opportunity to dialogue and interact with members of the InterFaith/ InterCultural Alliance. What do we want? What can we expect?

## Music Committee News

Singing practice with Martha 10:30 am on the 1st and 3rd Sundays. Please join when you can.

Our guest musician Ruth Fahrbach will sing on **July 16th**.

Our guest musician for **August 6th** is Mary Bruschini, singer, teacher and choir leader, who will conduct the congregation in two 3-part rounds: the Palestrina Dona Nobis Pacem, and an Alleluia by Boyce.

There will be a group singing rehearsal with Mary Bruschini following the **July 30th** service, 1-2 pm in the Lodge.

Please let Gael Minton know if you would like to rehearse with Mary Bruschini on July 30th and help lead the round singing on August 6th.

Phone: 575.751.4681  
email: sbfarm03@gmail.com

## HAPPY JULY BIRTHDAY WISHES TO...

- 6 Linda Malm
- 21 Barbara Scott
- 22 Nancy Schultz
- 28 Chuck Fawns

If your name is not on the birthday list yet, please contact the Admin, Welcome Lindsey: welcomelindsey@gmail.com.



## American Dreaming, cont'd from page 1

Martin Luther King, Jr., in his *Letter from a Birmingham Jail*, saw the civil rights movement as grounded in the African-American quest for the American Dream:

*“We will win our freedom because the sacred heritage of our nation and the eternal will of God are embodied in our echoing demands ... when these disinherited children of God sat down at lunch counters they were in reality standing up for what is best in the American dream and for the most sacred values in our Judeo-Christian heritage, thereby bringing our nation back to those great wells of democracy which were dug deep by the founding fathers in their formulation of the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence.”*

The American Dream has been the shared ethos that has united Americans across our many divisions, and the struggle to make that dream available to all is at the core of the American political and social experience. What the Dream means is always evolving, and yet its essence remains the same – equality, opportunity, and justice for all, regardless of status or origin.

Without that shared ethos, it is hard to imagine America continuing on in any meaningful fashion. In our current historical moment, the forces of inequality and the rise of a new political and economic aristocracy threaten the very idea that such a vision is even possible any more. For most Americans, it's become harder and harder to make a better life. The Dream seems to be fading.

And yet, the vision of an country where there is equality of opportunity and justice, and the right to live, speak, and worship freely remains a powerful one. What do you think? Has the American Dream become an impossible fantasy?

(Continued on next column)

Or does it still have the power to inspire and be a dream worth pursuing?

~Rev. Munro

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**Sunday, July 2, 11:00 am**  
*(Still) Standing On The Brink*  
Rev. Munro Sickafoose

Every so often I revisit the subject of global warming and the other impacts human beings are having on our planetary home. As usual, the news is not good, and our progress toward any solutions seems stalled. Where are we, and what's next? Some answers, and more questions!



**Sunday, July 16, 11:00 am**  
*The Question Box*  
Rev. Gary Kowalski

It is popular these days to ask Google, or Alexa, or Siri. Here's your chance to ask Gary, shape the sermon and get all your questions answered. Please send your puzzles, stumpers, queries and wonderments to gary.kowalski@gmail.com at least one week prior to the service (**deadline July 9**). He is looking forward to an inbox filled by a curious congregation.