

# Pleasant Valley Unitarian Universalist Church

1215 Main St Garland Texas 75040

Telephone 972.487.8760

June 2005

*Come Celebrate the Circle of Life with us!  
Sundays, Coffee at 10:45, Service at 11:00*

## President's Perceptions

May 21, 2005

### **Sunday Speakers**

June 5: TBD

June 12: TBD

June 19: TBD

June 26: TBD

OK, it's getting "warm". The weather forecasters, in their infinite wisdom, have decreed that it doesn't get hot until it reaches 100 degrees. They are indeed entitled to their own opinion, regardless of our experience, however I think it gives other parts of the country an incorrectly rosy picture when they say "Sunny and warm". People might hear that and think it isn't hot here. But we know better, don't we?

And time, at least as we perceive it, proceeds to move on. We had our congregational meeting last Sunday, elected a new slate of officers and ratified a couple of items regarding safety at church. I expect by now there are new postings on our web site. Please join me in welcoming Bill Richards (Vice President) and David Pollard (Treasurer) to the Board of Directors for 2005-2006. David has also agreed to assist me in denominational affairs by being our second representative to NTAUUS. I will be continuing as President and Barbara Clary will be continuing as Secretary. I'm looking forward to seeing what we can accomplish this year.

And let's not forget a big thank you to the outgoing Board Members: Willow Cunningham (Vice President), Shannon Ader (Treasurer) and Janice Ader (Member at Large). They were a big help to me personally, making my job much easier over the past year.

Now is the time to start looking at a larger picture. For the last year or more, we have been in survival mode. We survived. Now let's start looking toward something more. By the time you read this we will have taken the first step, which is dreaming out loud. Sunday, May 29, is the time to let others know what our dreams for this church are. We also look for you to help us put them into motion.

### **Individual Highlights:**

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Then on to implementation. The new Board will be coming up with a budget that will be our financial guide from September, 2005 until August, 2006. In the past, this budget and the resulting "pledge drive" has been based on the question, "What do we need to survive another year?" I'd like to change that. I'd like us to ask the question, "What do we really want to do, and what will it cost to get there?"

The branch of Christianity I grew up in told parishioners that 10% of their income was the amount required by the Bible. I didn't like it then, I like it less now. The Unitarian Universalist Association uses 5% as a guideline. Personally, I don't like that either. I don't think anyone should tell you how much, even as a percentage, is "right" to give. What I do like is asking everyone to contribute according to their personal ability and according to the worth of what they are receiving. If you are receiving spiritual help, what is it worth? If you are here for the social aspect, what is it worth? If you are here to learn, what is it worth?

Remember that you can only get something out of this church because someone put it into the church. Did you put in what you get out? Probably not. What ever you are taking home is probably something that someone else put in. Is someone getting something that you put in? I hope so. You will find that the more you put in, the more you get out.

Keep in mind that I'm not talking about just money. Yes, money is important, but so is the time and effort that people donate to accomplish all that we do. Please don't say, "Because I don't have money to contribute I'm of no value." Wrong answer!!! If everyone will do what they can do, be it money or time or both, we'll have a marvelous year.

*Contact Information***Board of Directors**

President  
Bob Anderson  
[president@pvuuc.org](mailto:president@pvuuc.org)

Vice President  
Bill Richards  
[vice-president@pvuuc.org](mailto:vice-president@pvuuc.org)

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972-530-9626  
[secetary@pvuuc.org](mailto:secetary@pvuuc.org)

Treasurer  
David Pollard  
[treasurer@pvuuc.org](mailto:treasurer@pvuuc.org)

Member at Large  
Janice Ader  
972-231-2607  
[groovyone@ev1.net](mailto:groovyone@ev1.net)

**Contact List:**

Keep up with what we're doing, join our message groups at:  
[PVUUC\\_TX-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:PVUUC_TX-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

**Committee Chairs**

**Communications:**  
Jessica Longshore, 972-365-9752  
[jmorghana@hotmail.com](mailto:jmorghana@hotmail.com)

**Newsletter Editor:**  
Amy Green, 214-497-0226  
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**WebSite:** Charles Collins  
[webmaster@pvuuc.org](mailto:webmaster@pvuuc.org)

**Facilities**  
Janice Ader Chair, 972-231-2607  
[groovyone@ev1.net](mailto:groovyone@ev1.net)

**Finance**  
Bill Richards

**Membership/Worship**  
**Vacant – Please Volunteer**

**Worship Coordinator**  
Shannon Ader

**Religious Education**  
Aine Aldrich, Michelle Bigwood

**Social Activities**  
John Clary 972-530-9626

**Treasurer's Committee:**  
Bill Richards, Barbra Clary

**Group Coordination**

**North Texas Pagan Men's Group**  
Facilitator: John Clary (Opus)  
972-530-9626  
[opus\\_the\\_poet@juno.com](mailto:opus_the_poet@juno.com)

Contact: David Minesinger  
214-417-6642  
[dminesinger@yahoo.com](mailto:dminesinger@yahoo.com)

**Women's Group**  
Facilitator: Janice Ader  
[groovyone@ev1.net](mailto:groovyone@ev1.net)

**Writers Group**  
Facilitator: John Clary (Opus)  
972-530-9626  
[opus\\_the\\_poet@juno.com](mailto:opus_the_poet@juno.com)

**NTAUUS Representatives**  
Bob Anderson  
[sunsettir@yahoo.com](mailto:sunsettir@yahoo.com)

David Pollard

**Green Spirit**  
Jessica Longshore  
[jmorghana@hotmail.com](mailto:jmorghana@hotmail.com)

**Welcome To WolfGrove!**

We are a Grove, not a Coven, which means that we have an open circle policy. We are a collection of Solitary Practitioners who gather together for Esbats, Sabbats, study, fellowship and fun. We are Universalists in that we do not focus on any one aspect or pantheon of aspects of the Divine. Our doors and circles are open to all of like mind who are genuinely curious about Earth Based religions. We request that all proprieties be observed at all times. No illegal substances or activities are permitted.

Why Wolf? The wolf is as close as we could get to a universal symbol of community. Wolves are among Mother Nature's best parents, devoted to the protection and education of the cubs to be responsible and productive members of the pack. We facilitate the Full Moon Rituals (held evenings) and Sabbat Rituals (held on Sunday mornings) at PVUUC. We meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays of the month at 7:30pm.

Contact WolfGrove Council for more information:

Crone - Janice Ader 972- 231- 2607 [groovyone@ev1.net](mailto:groovyone@ev1.net)  
Sage – Sunsett [sunsettir@yahoo.com](mailto:sunsettir@yahoo.com)  
Scribe – OPUS 972-530-9626  
[opus\\_the\\_poet@juno.com](mailto:opus_the_poet@juno.com)

EList: [WolfGrove-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:WolfGrove-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

## North Texas Pagan Men's Group

This is a time and place to deal with those things you can't talk to family and co-workers about because you're pagan. This is a support group for pagan men and sons in a Christian world.

We meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays of the month at Pleasant Valley UUC, 7:30 pm.

This group is facilitated by John Clary (Opus) @ 972-530-9626, or [opus\\_the\\_poet@juno.com](mailto:opus_the_poet@juno.com).

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact David Minesinger at: 214-417-6642 or [dminesinger@yahoo.com](mailto:dminesinger@yahoo.com)

### RECIPE OF THE MONTH

#### Jalapeno Corn Chowder

"I had this at Cafe Brazil, and loved it so much, I decided to expound on it with my own spices. I could eat a whole pot of this myself."

By **Jessica Longshore**

1. 2 cans of Corn Chowder (can find at Albertson's...actual corn Chowder)
2. 1 plump jalapeno seeded and sliced.
3. 1 large poblano pepper, seeded and diced.
4. 1 large Anaheim pepper, seeded and diced.
5. 3 scallions, chopped.
6. 1/2 to 1 can of black beans (matter of preference), drained and rinsed.
7. 1 cup of Heavy Cream (depends on how soupy or thick you'd like. Can add more).
8. 2 heaping tbsps of minced or crushed garlic.

Directions:  
In a large pot, add all of the ingredients together. Simmer for an hour.

Additions:  
\*Can add cayenne pepper, red pepper, paprika and cumin for more of a kick. \*Can also add real bacon (chopped) if you want a smoker flavor. If you do, cook bacon first before adding to the pot for simmering.

#### Editor's Note:

Thank you, Jessica. This sounds delicious. I'm going to try this! Would you consider making this for the next potluck????

## Women's Group

Women's group meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday at 6:00pm. Come join us for potluck dinner and conversation.

Led by Janice Ader. Please come be a part of what is sure to be a dynamic group! We are open to suggestions for study group topics, speakers, group special events, book discussions, and special interest projects.

**SEE YOU THERE!!!**

## Writers Group

Calling all scribes, published and otherwise! Many of us deal with the written word on a regular basis. If you want to learn more about how to do it well, and interact with others who do it, too, join us on **the last Tuesday evening of each month at 7:30pm**. Topics of discussion vary, public reading is encouraged and a lively time is had by all. Newsletter editor would also like to start featuring a writer in our group each month with a selected work to be published in the newsletter. Writers, sharpen your pencils!

If you have any questions or need information, contact John Clary (Opus) @ 972-530-9626 or email [opus\\_the\\_poet@juno.com](mailto:opus_the_poet@juno.com)

**SEE YOU THERE!!!**

### Member Spotlight:

Some of our members were recognized in May and presented with a framed Service Appreciation Award.

Willow Cunningham presented Service Appreciation Awards to:

**Bill & Laura Richards** – above and beyond the call of duty (have you seen the beautiful redo in the children's RE room?). We are lucky to have such dedicated members.

**Barbara Clary** – our church always looks so beautiful and spic and span, courtesy of Mrs. Clary. What would we do without you?

**Janice Ader** – "Mama Janice" she is lovingly referred to. Long time leader, Crone, and WiseWoman in our midst. We appreciate you.

**CONGRATULATIONS SERVICE APPRECIATION AWARDS RECIPIENTS!**

## KIDZ KORNER:

**FUTURE KIDZ KORNER ARTICLES – LOOK FOR THIS IN JULY NEWSLETTER!!!**

**WE LOVE OUR KIDZ!!!!!!!**

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*Community Events*

## Community Groups and Events

### Betwixt & Between

Betwixt & Between is a 501(c)(3) non-profit community center founded in 1997 to provide a meeting place where people could come together to share, celebrate, rejoice and learn in an atmosphere of understanding, civility and respect. Our mission is to build bridges of understanding between all people regardless of political, religious or cultural affiliation.

Betwixt & Between  
4415 Belmont Avenue  
Dallas, TX 75204  
214.821.3340  
[www.betwixt.org](http://www.betwixt.org)

### Open Circle Center

OCC is a North Texas Pagan Community Center supporting spiritual diversity and dedicated to the principles of respect for the individual and accountability to the community. OCC's mission is to provide a safe, sacred location for fellowship, worship, education and outreach, organized to support those seeking spiritual growth.

Toll Free Voice and Fax: 866-812-7564  
On the web at: <http://www.occ-dfw.org>  
Email: [community@occ-dfw.org](mailto:community@occ-dfw.org)  
[membership@occ-dfw.org](mailto:membership@occ-dfw.org)

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday Shoreline Spruce-up – White Rock Lake

Green Spirit meets at 9am. Check the Green Spirit website for meet-up information. The web address is <http://www.green-spirit.org>

It varies where we meet.

### Sierra Singles

Contact for Sierra Singles information: Sue Schaeffer, (972) 304-0974 or [sueschaeffer@comcast.net](mailto:sueschaeffer@comcast.net) See the Dallas Sierra Club home page ([www.dallassierraclub.org](http://www.dallassierraclub.org)).

### Vegetarian Happenings

Vegetarian Happenings: Metro 972 988-8687, ext 3104  
VegNet: Metro 972 601-9032, ext 3101  
<http://dfwnetmall.com>  
[dfwveg@dfwnetmall.com](mailto:dfwveg@dfwnetmall.com)

### Gloria Dei Nights

Gloria Dei Nights Coffeehaus: First Saturday, Gloria Dei Lutheran Church of Garland, Texas. 1333 Beltline Road, one block East of the Garland Road intersection. 6:30 pm with the shows running from 7 pm to 9:45 pm. \$8 proceeds going towards charitable organizations in and around the Garland area.

[gloriadeinights@comcast.net](mailto:gloriadeinights@comcast.net)  
[www.GloriaDeiNights.com](http://www.GloriaDeiNights.com)

### North Texas Traditional Dance Society (NTTDS)

North Texas Traditional Dance Society Barn/contra dances with live music, no partner or experience needed. No smoking or Alcohol 1st, 3rd, 5th, Saturdays, 8-11pm 6\$ donation

[www.nttlds.org](http://www.nttlds.org)  
[info@nttlds.org](mailto:info@nttlds.org)  
214-357-8213

## JUNE BIRTHDAYS!!!!

**Sanford Hofer - June 19<sup>th</sup>**

**Everyone please help me out with this list by letting me know everyone's birthday!!!**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY, SANFORD!!!**

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## Recurring Events

### Last Lunch

Last Sunday of the Month Fundraiser for the Church – come have lunch with us! \$5 per adult and \$2.50 per child

### Potluck Sunday

2nd Sunday of the month. Bring something to share with us all as we come together to have lunch and socialize. **After Potluck, please stay for Grounds Cleaning Day!!**

### Full Moon

Celebrate Esbat with us! This month's full moon ritual is June 21st. Gather at 7:30 p.m. Ceremony at 8:00 p.m.

### Family Movie Night

Third Friday of the month. Fare varies. Contact Shannon for details.

### Bardic Faire

Last Friday night of the month. Singing, drumming, dancing, and so on...

## Oakwynne's Tree Book Review

The Queen of Myself: Stepping Into Sovereignty in Midlife  
by Donna Henes - \$16.95

"Mama Donna" Henes graced us with her queenly presence Friday, April 29<sup>th</sup>. She was an awesome speaker, holding her "subjects" enthralled as she spoke.

The Maiden, Mother, Crone concept leaves a gap for women who are past mothering, but not yet so full of wisdom as to be called a Crone. Mama Donna introduces a powerful new archetype: THE QUEEN.

Not yet old, nor still young, the Queen is coming into Her full Self, knowing who she is and where she is going. Not a how-to book, but a put-on-you-hiking-boots communal journey of women into Sovereignty.

Women were eager to share their life experiences such as child rearing, divorce, empty nest syndrome, and realization of their identities as individuals.

Mama Donna closed her talk with a participatory ritual, encouraging each woman to take the "flaming tongue" seeds, hold the Magick scepter and claim her dream to pursue during Her reign as Queen of Herself.

Amy Green

## Adult RE

### Rise Up and Call Her Name

This is a curriculum that explores the goddesses of many different cultures. **We are currently lacking a facilitator for this class. If you'd like to take over, please contact Bob.**

### Runes 101

Rich and Jennifer Culver of Holy Springs Kindred have very graciously consented to make the trek from their home in Lewisville once per month to give a class on Runes, the ancient Germanic/Scandinavian letters, and their meanings. Join us at 10 am, Saturday June.

## Calling All Sunday Speakers!

Ever wanted to stand up and preach? Here's your chance! Because PVUUC is a small congregation, we don't have a full-time pastor. This means we get to do the Sunday "sermon" ourselves! Members are invited to speak on any topic that might be of interest to the group, and you don't have to be "good with public speaking" to pull this off—we're all friends, and services are participatory. Contact Shannon Ader for more details.

## THANK YOU TO ALL VENDORS AND PARTICIPANTS WHO CAME OUT AND WORKED AT THE CRAFT FAIR ON MAY 7.

Our merchants displayed beautiful wares, many of which were handmade. From hand painted silk scarves, to hand tooled runic key chains, handcrafted tie dyed infant wear, and fantastic tailored robes (also available custom made), to chair massage, and tarot card readings – WE HAD IT ALL!!!

Although sales were slow, everyone had a great time. We hope to put on another Craft Fair soon, so crafters stock up!!!

## Pleasant Valley UUC

1215 Main St  
Garland, TX 75040

PHONE:  
(972) 487-8760

E-MAIL:  
[pvuuc@ev1.net](mailto:pvuuc@ev1.net)

Web site:  
[www.pvuuc.org](http://www.pvuuc.org)

## BeeGee Books

Brian Ader, Bookseller  
[www.BEEGEEBooks.com](http://www.BEEGEEBooks.com)

Specializing in Science Fiction & Fantasy Books (rare hardback and soft covers), Comics, Audio and Video. Call or email for availability and pricing.

972.231.2607  
[groovytwo@ev1.net](mailto:groovytwo@ev1.net)

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[grapeape@comcast.net](mailto:grapeape@comcast.net)  
972.644.7617

### EDITOR'S RAMBLINGS

Magick certainly was afoot at PVUUC's Beltane Celebration!!! If you missed it, see Willow's photographs. A record crowd showed up to honor the Lord and Lady, and be bounty and fruitfulness of our beautiful Mother Earth.

Thanks, Nathan, Trina, Janice, and Bob for a “**MOVING**” service.

The sanctuary was beautifully decorated by Willow, Nathan & Trina. Michelle helped the children learn about Beltane. Each child made a lovely headpiece to dance the Maypole.

Nathan & Trina, symbolizing Lord and Lady, led the dancing, wild frolicking, and music that filled the Sanctuary. Janice & Bob, Crone & Sage, helped everyone who wished to do so pick a ribbon color symbolizing his or her desire for the Maypole Dance.

Moving outside to dance the Maypole was an event in itself, but everyone cooperated, holding onto the cherished ribbon of desires.

Maypole Dancing, drumming, and playing of other instruments was a spontaneous eruption! (Check out Willow's photos of the Dancers!)

“All acts of love and pleasure are my rituals” – the Mother was surely well pleased with her children that day – and I know that many people felt the presence of the Lord and Lady joined with us in merrymaking on Their special day.

Amy Green

# June

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
			1	2	3	4
5	6 North Texas Pagan Men's Group 7:30 PM	7	8	9	10	11 GreenSpirit 2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday Shoreline Spruce-up @ White Rock Lake 9am
12 Pot Luck Lunch	13 Wolf Grove Meeting 7:30 PM  Board / Committees 7:30 PM	14	15	17	18	19 GreenSpirit's Booth @ Natural Urban Living Garden Show – Arlington, TX
20 Newsletter Articles Due	21 North Texas Pagan Men's Group 7:30 PM  Full Moon Ritual 8pm	22	23	24	25 Family Movie Night 7:30 PM	26
27 Pot Luck Last Lunch	27 Wolf Grove Meeting 7:30 PM	28 Writers Group 7:30 PM	29	30		

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