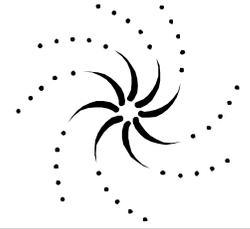


SWWIRL

Winter 2001/2002



NOTE:

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What made you go to your first conference? What keeps you coming back? Have you gone to your first conference? If so, are you going again this year? If not, what would encourage you to attend?

Oh, how the planning committee of this year's conference would like to have answers to these questions!!

Putting together one of these annual conferences is a scary, rewarding and sometimes daunting task, but it continues to happen! And, do you know who are some of the most committed and supportive attendees of our conferences? The planning committees from previous years!

I personally was "not interested" in a conference like the SWUW one. That is, until someone, somehow, convinced me I needed to go to one "just so you can say you've tried it". A year later, I was volunteering to host a conference in my fair city and here I am two years later serving on the planning committee for Gather The Spirit, Weaving Our Lives.

So – what's in store for the 2002 Conference? If you received this SWWIRL in the mail, then chances are very good that you received a conference registration brochure. We sincerely hope that you spent time pouring over all the information in that brochure and came away committed to attend the conference and looking forward to time with SWUW. If you didn't find anything of interest to you, please let your SWUW officers know so they can better serve your needs.

If you are interested, we hope to see you at the conference. We are very excited about what we have to offer and can hardly wait to share it with you.

Throughout this issue, you will find various articles from some of the members of the planning committee and workshop presenters (as well as articles unrelated to the conference). These articles will give you a more in-depth look at various aspects of the conference and let you peek behind the scenes at some of the wonderful

women who have worked the past 2 years to make this conference a reality.

If you haven't registered yet, don't delay! Regular registration ends/ended January 26th, but late registration is available until the start of the conference. Please see the conference website at <http://www.swuuw.org/2002/> for information and printable registration forms.

Looking forward to seeing "ya'll" there!

Brenda Baldwin, Guest Editor
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2002 Annual Conference
February 22-24, 2002
Fort Worth, TX

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How Can I Help With SWWIRL?

Do you have writing, editing, drawing, nagging or any other such talents that will contribute to this newsletter? Are you a leader just waiting to burst on the scene and take control? Then YOU can be the next SWWIRL editor, contributor and/or publisher. We have many talented women in SWUW. We have the resources to publish and mail this newsletter to over 800 women. We need you to bring it all together to make this a good communication tool for the women of the SouthWest UU Conference and our friends. Interested? Contact the president listed above.

**Minutes of SWUW mid-year meeting
held at SWUUSI on July 25, 2001**

Meeting was opened by President Gino Kennedy and attendees were introduced. Those who had not received the last two SWWIRL publications were given copies.

There was a discussion about the current response to the SWUW Questionnaire and a request that groups mail those in and/or if they did not receive a questionnaire to pick up one and mail it in.

A question was brought up about resolution of the handling of SWUW bank accounts. Due to illness in the family of a past treasurer, our present treasurer has not been able to gain access to the checking account in a Tulsa Bank. Barbara Starr Langhus, who it is understood is a signatory on that account, will be contacted again to see if she can get this matter resolved.

Gino reported that according to the By-laws she is to appoint the nominating committee. Sylvia Wheeler of San Antonio and Connie Dunn of Denton have agreed to serve on it. It was suggested that a woman living outside of Texas and has been active in SWUW for some time be included. No names were suggested at that time. Gino reported that at the annual meeting held in Little Rock on 2-10-01, it was voted that SWUW adopt a social service/social action project. Proposals are to be submitted to Sarah Oglesby, chair of the special committee prior to the annual meeting to be held on 2-23-02 in Fort Worth. She further reported that according to our treasurer, Barb Rodman, we have about \$10,000 to use for such a social action project. Lines of responsibility for carrying out/managing the proposal are to be clearly defined and guidelines well-established by the Executive Committee.

Some projects that have been proposed are:

- 1) Microcredit project (details in Spring '01 SWWIRL article by Sarah Oglesby)
- 2) sending several R E directors to national training conferences [about 5 could attend.]
- 3) Providing cell phones for abused or high-risk women.

There was a consensus that if the proposal were worthy, it should not be limited by any geographic considerations.

It was further recommended that SWUW develop with the SWUUC board a plan for recycling at SWUUC sponsored events held at SWUUSI, as well as SWUW sponsored ones.

Meeting adjourned at 1:10 PM.

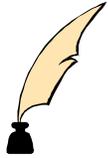
Submitted by Acting Secretary, Judy Gibson of Jonesboro UU

Am I a Member of SWUW?

If you have paid dues in the past year, yes, you are. If you have not, you can become a member by sending annual dues of \$5 to the Treasurer listed above. Please include your full name, mailing and e-mail addresses, phone number, name of women's group and/or church or fellowship, if applicable.

The easiest way to pay your dues is to pay them when you register for the Annual Women's Conference. ☺

To determine your current status, please look on your mailing label. If there is a year shown in the upper right hand corner of the mailing label, it is the most recent year in which we have record of your dues. If no year is shown, we have no record of dues receipt. Any questions, please contact our President listed at left.



President's Column

I hope all of you are looking forward to our Women's Conference in Fort Worth with as much excitement as I am! The speakers all sound wonderful! The exhibitors represent a wide range of goods to be available. What I am hearing about our special activities have me all agog! And, the conversations with so many of you will fuel me for most of another year!

I am also excited about our upcoming Annual Meeting. It will be exciting to develop a plan to invest our money in one or more social service/action project(s) so that our influence will be cast much farther than the limits of our district.

It is my understanding that at the Fort Worth Women's Conference, there will be a booth manned by women from All Souls UU Church in Tulsa which will be helping a microcredit project. They will have fabric items and coffee beans available. Try to go by the booth BEFORE our annual meeting and talk to them about their project. Supporting a microcredit project is at present the most popular suggestion for a social action project that has been made to our group. To learn more about microcredit you may visit the summit webpage at:

<http://www.microcreditsummit.org>.

Another suggestion is that our group sponsor livestock and training in how to care for them to families in many countries around the world by sending a contribution to the Heifer Project International. If you don't know about this project, you can call 1-800-422-0755 for information or go online to <http://www.heifer.org>.

Yet another suggestion is that we become a Chalice Lighter. This would entail our group making three contributions a year which will go to a selected UU congregation within our district.

It will be most interesting to hear Sarah Oglesby's report as chair of our Social Justice Project Committee and learn what additional suggestions have been sent to her.

If you have a project you want us to consider, contact Sarah Oglesby, 7150 E. Grand Ave, Dallas, TX 75223, (214) 321-4966, [soglesby@juno.com] or me Gino Kennedy, 1350 W. Melissa Dr., Stephenville, TX 76401, (254) 968-7670, [kennedy@tarleton.edu] and let us hear about your idea for our SWUW project.

I have been ill this fall, in early October I sprained my back, which went into spasm and shutdown much of my right lung. I developed pneumonia and finally an empyema, a sac of infection outside of the lung which

takes forever for the body to absorb. I am recuperating nicely, but am still but am still not up to full speed. I have not accomplished several of the things I had hoped to do as your president due to my 2 plus months of forced inactivity and very low level of energy. However...

I WILL BE at the February Conference!

Gino Kennedy

P.S. Those who attended SWUUSi had a great time! We cleared about \$500 from our Lunches Plus program. Many cudos to Mary Francis for her outstanding job of coordination, food preparation and advertising! Minutes of the mid-year meeting held during SWUUSI are included in this newsletter.



You Are Cordially Invited to:

The SWUW Annual Meeting

February 23rd, 2002

Fort Worth, TX

(over lunch at the Women's Conference)

AGENDA:

Approve Minutes, as printed in SWWIRL, of
2001 Annual Meeting and Mid-Year
Meeting Held at SWUUSI

Treasurer's Report

Report of Nominating Committee

Election of Officers

Report by Sarah Oglesby on Proposals for
Social Service Project

New Business

***DRAWING FOR
DOOR
PRIZES!!!***

(Must be present to win!)

Being a Maiden in a Conference of Women

by Erin J. Dunn

I have been going to the SouthWest UU Women's conference since I was nine. I am now fourteen and have had four years experience. My friend Jennifer Sanders who is two years my senior has had one more year than I have in attending these conferences.

As far as being a maiden in a conference of women... I was lucky to find a friend, Jennifer! She and I met each other at the conference in Oklahoma (1998). She and I became instant friends. You couldn't separate the two of us. You still can't!

I have had fun in my four years going as a maiden. In San Antonio (1999), Jennifer and I were up till about 1 A.M. splashing around in the pool! I dared Jennifer to dare me into going into the pool. The pool was freezing and I turned blue after about twenty minutes. That is a memory I will never forget! And then in Dallas (2000), Jennifer and I had great fun on the glass elevator. I dared myself to push all the buttons. And when the door opened on each floor, I would get off the elevator and jump back in before the door closed.

We've grown up a bit since then. We still have that childish spirit in us, but we are also responsible young ladies. Here is a bit of *herstory* on how the Maiden Program came to pass. It all started at the Dallas conference. Jennifer and I had light bulbs flashing above our heads. We really wanted to meet other maidens so we came up with some ideas. We came up with scavenger hunts, fashion shows, talent shows and pizza parties. She and I really wanted to do it all right then and there, but we really wanted to know what the other maidens wanted and we didn't know who all the other maidens were. Jennifer and I pondered on how to meet them. I got the idea to call Mary Kay Hamilton (who was in charge of the Dallas conference) and ask her what to do. So I called her up in her room and I asked her how to get the Maidens to come and meet.

Mary Kay told me that I should go and talk with Barbara Starr Langhus (SWUUW President at that time) and ask her for one of the conference rooms. Mary Kay then said to go around and look for the maidens and make friends with them.

I thanked Mary Kay and looked at Jennifer, I told her that we had to go and find Barbara Starr Langhus. Ms. Langhus told us to announce the meeting at the banquet that night, so we did! We got seven maidens to attend and found out that the Maidens were interested in a program and said that they would come to it.

Brenda Baldwin heard rift of this and invited me to the planning meeting for the 2002 conference. I went before them and proposed the Maiden Program. I said that the maidens would be interested in doing a fashion show and a talent show, and would love it if they could have their own maiden run late night ritual.

They went for it! So now we have the Maiden Program 2002! It includes: a Saturday lunch Pizza Party, a Fashion Show on Saturday night before the banquet to show off our dinner attire, and a talent show after the banquet! Don't forget to sign up for the talent show by February 1! And late Saturday night, there will be a maiden-run *Late Night Ritual*. Can you believe it? All this is just for us? And on top of all that, we have a Maiden room filled with fun things to do, such as games, music, snacks, crafts...and just hang time!

So I hope that you guys... UH... err... I mean... girls... can come and join in on the fun!



A note from Kathleen Hawkins

“Patter and Nirvana”

Please note that the Patter presentation scheduled for the Fort Worth Conference is 90% new material from the material that I presented at the SWUUW Conference in Dallas. If you come to the workshop, you'll get another chance to see a couple of the mind-reading illusions from last time--to see if you can figure them out this time--and you'll see some astonishing new illusions, as well. I'm also going to put more emphasis on how to respond to people who might be misleading you with what they think is the truth, or people who are trying to manipulate you with their opinions of how you should behave. If you attend, you'll get a memento of the class: a charm--either a wizard or a woman in the moon--to represent the magic within you and your deepest, most profound wisdom.

In the Nerves to Nirvana workshop I'll be sharing the story of how Stephen King and I were switched at birth; he got the "normal" life that I should have had, and I got the life of a horror writer. If any of you--who don't already know me and the story--have ever heard a story like the one I'm going to tell, I'll give you a prize. I'll also be sharing how to go from cheerless to fearless in five steps. So, if you've ever felt sad, anxious, or overwhelmed, or you've got someone in your life who is standing on your last nerve, this is the workshop for you. If you attend, you'll get a charm that represents both your individuality and your integral connection with Life.

If you're coming to either (or both) Patter or Nirvana, please bring: 1. A wallet-size baby picture of yourself if you have one 2. Several examples of things that people have said to you that have mislead or manipulated you 3. Your wisdom and your wonderful imagination.

I hope to see you there. It'll be a lot of fun. If you have questions about either Patter or Nirvana please email me at: kathleen@winningspirit.com and reference SWUUW in the subject line.

THE MAGIC

by Connie Dunn

When Brenda Baldwin, our 2002 convener (Fort Worth), first asked me to write something for the newsletter, I had no idea what I would write. She wanted us to write something different than what was written in the registration packet, which at this point left me wondering what else I could possibly say.

I wasn't really "speechless," nor would most of you have believed that anyway! But I wanted to tell you how special these SWUW conferences are, and our registration packet was filled with all our "special" opportunities. That's when it struck me that I should talk about the magic at our conferences!

I'm sure most of you by now have seen *The Lord of the Rings* and *Harry Potter*. If not, you are aware that both movies deal with aspects of "magic." They captured bits of magic moments, as well, on film. But as good as one can feel when transported to such magical places as *The Lord of the Rings* and *Harry Potter* take you, they don't compare to the "real" experiences of women in ritual together. While the visual effects are Hollywood's version of magic, magic of the mysterious quality that seems to enchant can only be experienced in the natural or real world.

When 200-300 women gather in community to experience a "spiritual" event together, that's magic! As diverse as UUs tend to be, the women that attend the SWUW conferences represent the full array, as well. If you come often to these annual conferences, then you may well be looking forward to visiting with friends. If it's your first time, you will still be among friends...ones you will remember from year to year, maybe even develop lifelong relationships.

During the past year, some of our old friends have passed on. They will be missed and their memories will live on through us. New friendships will take shape and spontaneous bonding may occur. The magic of friendship is one of the strongest strands of magic on earth. It is real and it happens every year at the SWUW conference!

The conferences tend to be magical in aiding change in one's life through messages delivered throughout the weekend or from a workshop. Those who are open to the magic best achieve this, of course.

These conferences are put together by the energies of many people, they don't just magically occur on their own. However, as if by magic, people give their energies to create the magic of the conference. When I first began coordinating the Opening and Closing Ceremonies, I started with a blank slate. But then dancers and an internationally known choreographer, Karen MacIntyre, came forward. A singer and song-writer, Sue Young, offered her services and a complete CD of sacred songs "From the Mother." The dancers liked the music and the choreography to some of the songs began. Magically,

the music and the dancing and the talking and other parts of the Opening and Closing Ceremonies began to take shape. And when I had this crazy idea that we should sing our calling of the directions, Sue Young agreed to create the music. Liza Ely and her multitude of talents also materialized to make the experiences of both the Opening and Closing Ceremonies complete.

The late night rituals and the MAID/MOTHER/CRONE Rooms are also areas where I have spent my energies and time. Both Friday and Saturday Late Night Rituals magically are unfolding like petals on a rose. The MAID/MOTHER/CRONE Rooms are another testament to magical mystique manifestation. Starting with nothing and creating something that follows the wonderful Red Tent of Arkansas has been both challenging and magical. While many ideas have rolled out of my imagination, these rooms are magically creating themselves out of faery dust, relaxation and a host of other items.

Yes, Virginia, there is MAGIC! While many who attend the conference might bandy about the term "witch," I'd have to emphasize the presence of magic with or without the notion of Wicca (witch), spells or enchantments. I feel that the strongest enchantments lie in the bonds of friendship. However, we hope that our entire conference is filled with magic and magic moments, as well as having been created out of the essence of magic. And though I have spoken about the magic as it applies to a small part of the conference, it is only because this magic, I have witnessed!



MORE ABOUT "THE PIG LADY"

In 1999, Sarah Oglesby met Andrea the Pig Lady. Sarah was in El Salvador with a group of activists from RESULTS. Their purpose was to meet microcredit borrowers and see how well programs were working in the area. Sarah shared some of Andrea's story with you in last Spring's SWWIRL. Here is an updated version of that story.

Eight years ago a woman came to Panchimalco to give the village women microcredit loans. Andrea was interested because the woman said, "I am here to make sure no one looks down on you. I am here to make you into leaders." For years, Andrea's brother had told her she was worthless, and that she had never amounted to anything. To get a loan, a woman had to already have a small business or a plan. All Andrea had was a plan. She wanted to raise pigs. Pigs are expensive, so Andrea's plan was to use her first loan to buy 20 chickens. She raised the chickens, sold them for a profit and successfully paid back the loan. With her second loan, Andrea had the confidence to buy two baby pigs. The piglets alone cost her around 200 Colones (\$US 25), and she had to feed them. She learned to buy corn, seeds and spoiled milk from the market, and mix it into a paste called cholate for her pigs. Andrea saw an

(continued on Page 6)

THE PIG LADY *(continued)*

opportunity in the high price of the piglets. She decided her business would be raising and selling them in the market. She has done this very successfully for the last eight years.

Andrea's success and the trust placed in her through larger microcredit loans have given Andrea the confidence and the capital needed to achieve more over the last eight years than she had in the first 48 years of her life. She received loans that allowed her to build two small houses on most of her remaining land. She rents each of the houses out to two other families for 450 Colones a month (\$US 50). She also bought a second large plot of land where she grows bananas. The summer before we visited, Andrea took out a loan to buy the empty plot of land next to her house. Soon she'll have somewhere other than her house to keep the pigs. From her earnings, Andrea has saved 9,000 Colones (\$US 1,100) in the microcredit bank.

Andrea and her daughter still live in their original one-room house, but it now has a bathroom, electricity, and even an old TV in the kitchen area. What makes Andrea most proud, however, is that she can now afford to send her daughter to secondary school. Her daughter plans to be an engineer, and Andrea is confident she will be able to send her to the university. One of the biggest differences Andrea says microcredit has made in her life is that she now gets along with her brother. He tells her, "I am very proud of you. You are a completely different person!" To learn more about what you can do to support microcredit, attend the Ending Hunger and Poverty in Our Lifetimes workshop led by Sarah Oglesby and Sheila Swearingen at the Fort Worth Conference.

Sheila Swearingen
Editor, *RESULTS Quarterly*

LIFE COACHING

by Liza Ely

Back in the 1970's, when I was a student of social work, I was inflicted with what was fondly called the "Sally Social Worker Syndrome." Predominate among the features of this condition is an idealistic desire to "save the world." I was determined to right the "wrongs" of our society.

Over the past 24 years as a therapist, I have lost some of my innocence and naivety. Adopting a more Buddhist perspective, I have learned to value non-attachment and to hold to my trust that there is a higher good beyond what my mind can usually perceive. However, I still hold fast to my higher vision for the world.

Most recently I have become intimately involved in an approach for empowering people to fulfill their goals and to reach for their visions. I am experiencing and witnessing life changes and renewed passion. It is called Life Coaching. Those who attend my workshop, "The

Tapestry of Intention," at the Women's Conference in Fort Worth will have an opportunity to personally experience this powerful process.

Inspired by individual's changes, I have begun to utilize the Life Coaching model when working with churches as a Congregational Consultant for our district. I call it "Soul Coaching." This easy way of looking at our challenges and arriving at sensible, reachable goals is a tool for moving our spiritual communities forward in exciting and promising ways.

There are many tools for healing ourselves and our communities available to us. I offer this as one model for reaching personal and community goals. Unitarian Universalist hold the value of leaving this world a better place than we found it. Together, we can make big differences in our small part of this planet. Just maybe, a little bit at a time, we really can save the world.

GRANDMOTHER STORIES FROM THE HEART OF TEXAS

by Jane Austin Bruckner

In our noisy, high tech world it calms us to focus on the strength and healing from wise, tenacious, creative women. When properly grandmothered, we feel comforted and emotionally satisfied. If your grandmother isn't available, then adopt one!

Grandmother Stories from the Heart of Texas, which I edited, will be published by Eakin Press later this year. These collected stories and poems from well-known writers and others, are varied and come from the heart. With few exceptions, most of the grandmothers whose stories grace this book never received accolades from society. From these writings, we learn of their passion for life and their living to give us joy and inspiration. For example:

- Linda Hogan shows us the power of Chickasaw Indian women's tradition of singing during birth, in life and at death.
- Diana Gonzales Bertrand tells how her grandmother's cooking of the Sunday dinner and love of family taught her the importance of work and love for her own *familia*.
- Katherine Anne Porter, born in central Texas, lived with her grandmother after her mother died, then went on to write extensively and win the Pulitzer Prize.
- Joyce Roach's grandmother believed Christmas gifts were of great importance, and used creativity in collecting them during the year.

In collecting these stories, we recognize and affirm the beauty of grandmothers living expansively even in hard circumstances, without immediate reward.

It is my belief that our generation is stronger and has more joy because our grandmothers lived their principles. Think about it. They are in our heads and in our genes. They live when we speak and write.

Splendors of Women's Words and Deep Spiritual Wisdom

A book review by Joyce Lorraine Beck of

Cries of the Spirit:

A Celebration of Women's Spirituality

Marilyn Sewell's well-received anthology *Cries of the Spirit: A Celebration of Women's Spirituality*, originally published in 1991, has appeared in a new edition (May, 2000). Sewell herself has expressed her delight over this on Amazon.com's web page: "I am thrilled that Beacon Press has brought out my book again, with a beautiful new cover. This anthology has sold very well, and has been used by women's spirituality groups, college classes, writers' groups, used to open and close meetings, used for rituals, and used of course for meditation and reflection. I am grateful that so many women have come to love this book, for it was a labor of love for me."

One group to use Sewell's anthology is our own Women's Expressions Group, an ecumenical, interfaith women's spirituality and expressions group associated with Westside UU Church in Fort Worth. In fact, we began our group by reading and studying Sewell's book, although we added our own rituals and were influenced by other books. We have moved on to other readings and other formats since then, but I agree with the numerous reviewers who give this book five stars on Amazon's web page. For I too valued this collection enough to think it worth helping start a group whose initial purpose, at least in part, was to explore women's spirituality by reading and discussing this book.

Cries of the Spirit is an anthology completely composed of women's words. It addresses itself, says its editor, to the spiritual and theological, the realm in which ultimate values are considered and claimed. But it also honors female wisdom and power. Sewell is a Unitarian Universalist minister who believes that many readers may have been alienated from their churches and synagogues because these male-dominated institutions have been slow to recognize and incorporate a female consciousness. Yet, she is convinced that hungering for spiritual wholeness exists and hopes that *Cries of the Spirit* will provide a source of nourishment to those women who are exploring their spirituality.

The selections in the first section of the anthology, such as the excerpt from Margaret Fuller's *Woman in the Nineteenth Century* and May Satron's poem "Now I Become Myself", focus on the theme of women claiming responsibility for their own spiritual lives. Sewell hopes readers will sense the exhilaration of the women in this section as they allow themselves the freedom to discover their strength, accept their power, and make choices out of the integrity of their deepest spiritual impulses. We women, she says, have been taught to please everybody but ourselves and our God: "Demigods are all around, including church and synagogue, demanding that we do their bidding."

Spiritual service is still possible and can be spiritually ennobling; but, she believes, we must choose our own kneeling places and not have thrust upon us an agenda foreign to our spirits. Women's poetry can help us with this. It can "give us courage to align ourselves with the Holy, at the center, in the splendor of strength and wisdom." And this, she is convinced, is the only choice worth making.

"Now I Become Myself"

by May Satron

Now I become myself. It's taken
Time, many years and places;
I have been dissolved and shaken,
Worn other people's faces,
Run madly, as if Time were there,
Terribly old, crying a warning,
"Hurry, you will be dead before—"
(What? Before you reach the morning?
Or the end of the poem is clear?
Or love safe in the walled city?)
Now to stand still, to be here,
Feel my own weight and density!
The black shadow on the paper
Is my hand; the shadow of a word
As thought shapes the shaper
Falls heavy on the page, is heard.
All fuses now, falls into place
From wish to action, word to silence,
My work, my love, my time, my face
Gathered into one intense
Gesture of growing like a plant.
As slowly as the ripening fruit
Fertile, detached, and always spent,
Falls but does not exhaust the root,
So all the poem is, can give,
Grows in me to become the song.
Now there is time and Time is young.
O, in this single hour I live
All of myself and do not move.
I, the pursued, who madly ran,
Stand still, stand still, and stop the sun!

There are many more splendid women's words in "The Imperative of Intimacy", "Sacredness of the Ordinary," "Images of the Diving" and other sections of *Cries of the Spirit*. Along with the poetry in Sewell's other sourcebook *Claiming the Spirit Within*, they give expression to the spiritual experiences of many contemporary women poets. But they do not pretend to be the final word. They also encourage us all to give expression, whether in word, thought, ritual, or action, to our own epiphanies and specific spiritualities.

Marilyn Sewell's anthology not only stimulated my thought and deepened my spirituality it helped lead the formation of our women's group. So, I too rejoice to see her collection appear in a new edition. And I hope, with her, that it will provide a source of nourishment to the many women who, like us, are exploring our own spiritual experiences, discovering what we know, and searching for expression of our own spiritual wisdom.

SWWIRL – SouthWest Women In Religion Letter

A quarterly publication of SWU UW – SouthWest Unitarian Universalist Women

Representing women of the SouthWest Unitarian Universalist Conference

SouthWest Unitarian Universalist Women (SWU UW) is an organization that supports women, discusses women's issues, explores feminist theology, promotes friendships and celebrates the diversities that makes us individual women on our individual spiritual paths.

In addition to our annual conference, SWU UW sponsors workshops at Southwest Conference events and Lunches Plus at SouthWest UU Summer Institute (SWU USI). SWU UW is actively pursuing a social service project and plans to select one at the 2002 Conference in Fort Worth.

SWU UW also has a library of videos, cassettes and a few books of particular interest to women. These are available to ALL members. Please check the SWU UC website (<http://www.swuuc.org>) or the SWU UW website for a list of materials and instructions for borrowing. We also plan to have these available for your perusal at the Conference in Fort Worth. Should you have any books, videos and especially curriculum, such as Cakes for the Queen of Heaven, to donate to SWU UW, we will be happy to accept them at the conference.

For more information on SWU UW, please view our website at <http://www.swuuw.org>. Connie Dunn, our webweaver, has done a fantastic job of making this website user-friendly and informative.

***This is the end of the
SWWIRL for Winter
2001/2002.***

