



# The CommUUnicator

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Waynesboro

## The Harouffs: UUFW Legends

By Susan Clark

People sometimes have wonderful stories of meeting their eventual spouse or partner.

According to Lorain Harouff, Bill won her heart with his voice. When she was 16, they met in Latin class at Wilson Memorial High School. She fell in love with his voice when he sang at a school assembly. Eventually, he convinced her to sing with him in public. And although she was terrified at first, they've been singing together ever since. While at Bridgewater College, Bill landed a job as a disc jockey on a local station and, with his deep voice, was pretty good at it.

While Bill was at Bridgewater, Lorain entered Madison College (now JMU) majoring in education. Bill taught school in Bath County during her Junior year and they were married the next summer (1965). He worked in radio full-time during her senior year.

They moved to Richmond in 1966 and Lorain began her teaching career while Bill enrolled at RPI (now Virginia Commonwealth University) to major in broadcasting. Unfortunately, the university dropped the program. Forced to change majors, he focused on speech and drama instead—another doorway into his dream career. In 1967, Bill got a job with TV-12 directing live commercials for car dealerships and live broadcasts from Grove Avenue Baptist Church's Sunday services. (Immediately across the alley, not 40 feet away from where they parked the TV-12 truck was the

Richmond Unitarian Church but he didn't know the significance at the time.)

They both grew up attending church regularly (Lorain Presbyterian and Bill Brethren) but developed many doubts during college and were happily unchurched by this time. Bill had an aunt living in Richmond with whom they could openly discuss most any issue and she informed them that they were Unitarians!

After Bill graduated, they returned to Staunton temporarily while they made plans for moving somewhere more permanent—perhaps the great Southwest (which they still visit often). Roots began to sink in quickly, however, and Lorain's dad's death in a farm accident sealed the deal. They stayed! Lorain taught 36 years at Bessie Weller

Elementary. Bill taught in Augusta County for 16 years, disc jockeying evenings and weekends.

As they began thinking about starting a family, they remembered that their church homes had been very important to them while growing up, and they wanted the same for their children. They remembered what Bill's aunt had said and found the UUFW in 1972. Jerry and Caroline Menk greeted them at the door and the rest was history! Their children, Raegan and John, were born soon after and grew up in their home church, UUFW.

In 1987, having met three other musicians, Kay Buchanan, Kevin Walsh and Mark Taylor (also then a member of UUFW), they decided it was time to "scratch their music itch" so in 1986 the five of them formed the folk music band, Windfall.



Bravely, but with some trepidation, they undertook touring the country, singing in Unitarian Universalist churches for special events and fundraisers as well as at two General Assemblies.

Bill and Lorain left the group in late 1989 and were replaced by Sara Cheverton — yes, the same great Sara Cheverton who’s now a member of blue stone sky! They continued to tour as a duo on weekends throughout Virginia, North Carolina, Maryland and Tennessee for several more years. They often attended SUUSI, Southeastern Unitarian Universalist Summer Institute, attending workshops and performing.

In 1994, Bill began working in program design at The Mountain, a Unitarian Universalist camp in North Carolina while Lorain remained home since John was still in high school. The “commuter marriage” became too much, so in 1997 he returned home and worked a final ten years at AAA. They both retired in 2007. Their lives have been rich with music and two families — theirs and their UUFW family to which they have made generous contributions of their time and talents.

## Addressing the Climate Crisis: Part 2

By Stephen Maxwell

The world’s leading voice on climate science, the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), explains that the worst impacts of climate change could be avoided if we successfully limit global warming to under 1.5°C to 2°C.

According to the Union of Concerned Scientists, doing so will not be easy. Under current emission levels, we’ll likely exceed 3°C this century. For a fighting chance at 1.5°C, we need to reach “net zero” global emissions by 2050. “Net zero” means that all the sources of heat-trapping emissions (such as burning fossil fuels) must come in balance with all the processes that remove heat-trapping gases from the atmosphere (such as the growth of forests). Achieving net zero emissions will require

massive changes in the energy, transportation, and food sectors, as well as afforestation and new “negative emissions” technologies (such as direct air capture machines that pull CO2 out of the air).

Fortunately, we have clean energy and clean vehicle technologies today. We have scientific consensus. We know what needs doing. We only need to act. Here are some things we can do as individuals.

- Vote for candidates who are serious about making the necessary policy changes and investment decisions.
- Lobby at all levels of government for this approach.
- Participate in actions sponsored by Virginia Interfaith Power & Light.
- Eliminate, as much as possible, your grass lawn. Replace it with native plants, shrubs and trees.
- Next time you buy a vehicle, get an electric one.
- Investigate the feasibility of “going solar” at your home, much as the Fellowship has done.
- Eat less (or eliminate entirely from your diet) beef. Beef cattle are a primary source of methane emissions.
- Download and/or complete a carbon footprint calculator, to learn what adjustments you might make to your daily routine or household functions. [Check out the EPA’s calculator.](#)
- Compost household waste. Landfills are another primary source of methane pollution. Composting lessens that impact. Free composting dump stations exist in Staunton and other communities.
- Limit your transportation carbon footprint if you are still using a gas or diesel-powered vehicle. Make ride-sharing arrangements with friends or fellow members of the Fellowship, for example. Keep your tires properly inflated. Think twice about any trip you plan to take in your car so as to make every trip as efficient as possible.

