

The CommUUnicator

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Waynesboro

Remembering Rosie

By Sylvia Woodworth

May often finds me turning my thoughts toward our deceased member and my good friend, Rosemary (Rosie) Hall. A mother of five and teacher of French, she shared a love of all things French with me.

It is a custom in France to take a bouquet of lilies-of-the-valley to a friend on May 1. When I met her, Rosie had a patch of these flowers at her home in Stuarts Draft. She gave me some to transplant to my garden where they thrive. From then on, I took her a bouquet of "her" lilies-of-the-valley on May 1, first to her retirement community, then to her assisted living home. Since her death, I have taken the bouquet to her daughter.

This year, this visit prompted me to revisit plans for her memorial service which she had entrusted to me. But alas, her death during the pandemic at age 98 meant there was no celebration of her life held at UUFW. She had wanted the service to be full of music, including her favorite hymns, and *La Marseillaise*, the French National Anthem, sung by my husband Doug and me! She also wanted there to be laughter. She was famous for her limericks which appeared regularly in her retirement community newsletter, much to the delight of the residents. She had chosen three to be read at her service. As an alternative, I include them here.

My sister's new boyfriend is quirky. I'll bet that his past has been murky. He laughs much too loud, Acts out in a crowd.
Why can't she see he's a turkey?

She's a little old teacher of French, In her youth, quite a pert, saucy wench. But as the years pass, She's losing her sass. So now she just sits on a bench.

And my favorite.....

There is a nice lady named Rosie, Who lives near a fellow named Posey Too bad that he's wed, With a wife in his bed, Or else she could be Rosie Posey!

How Rosie would have enjoyed our recent humor service! She had no intention of going to heaven, but I still like to imagine her in heaven writing limericks to read to the angels, helping them sing in their choir, and taking them bouquets of lilies-of the-valley on a beautiful May Day.

Average service attendance in April: 56
Average RE attendance in April: 7

The UUFW Has a Butterfly Garden By Carla Throckmorton

Recently, I discovered UUFW has a butterfly garden! I know many of you know this, but I was so happy to see it. It was made several years ago by former youth group member, and an Eagle Scout, Alex Schmidt. He did a fine job with bricks around the edging, a sign about butterflies and a butterfly house. There are still a lot of flowers in the garden. It is located near the raised beds by the playground.

On Tuesday, new member Shannon Mills, her son Chad and her daughter Coraline, worked with me to start to restore the garden. Chad, Shannon and I edged around the bricks digging up the grass that was trying to climb the bricks and creep into the garden as grass is wont to do. Coraline and Shannon bravely dug out a two-foot square of grass that was determined to stay right where it was. Whew, wipe the brow.

Chad dug up a small tree that wanted to make its home amongst the butterflies. We planted two spotted bee balms and two orange







coneflowers. Then we sat down and had a few snacks and a lovely chat on a beautiful spring day. Thank you, Shannon, Chad and Coraline. I'm hoping to revitalize the rest of the butterfly garden this year.

So much time and effort has been put into the UUFW grounds by dedicated people. I would like to see the grounds revitalized in loving honor and memory of the people who have worked so hard over the years. We are blessed to have such beautiful grounds.

I hope you can join me in this endeavor. If you have questions or are interested in a particular area or plant on the grounds, let me know. I love to talk about plants. You don't need gardening experience or a lot of time to be a part of revitalizing UUFW grounds. Many hands make work light.

Enjoy our grounds. It is a peaceful place full of love.

Carla recently completed the training program to become a <u>Master Gardener</u>.

Lunch Get Togethers in Staunton



During
COVID,
Diane
Ganiere and
Anne
CooperChen
organized

weekly lunch get togethers in Staunton and Waynesboro to help us stay connected. Linda Shallash and Manny Vasquez hope to revive these brown bag lunches in Staunton and invite others to meet up every Wednesday at noon in Gypsy Hill Park near the bandstand.



