



The CommUUnicator

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist
Fellowship of Waynesboro

Auction Time is Coming!

By Nancy Trimble

It's fall—time to enjoy cooler weather, anticipate the changing colors of leaves and start thinking about our annual service auction on Sunday November 1st. It's the biggest fundraiser we do all year, and the best thing about it to me is the fun we have while we're doing it. Where else can you sample tasty finger foods, enjoy Bill Harouff's auctioneering skills and do some holiday shopping all in one place? This is the opportunity for UUs to share their talents and skills with one another for the benefit of our Fellowship. Much-needed handyman skills, beautiful handmade treasures and gourmet dinners are always in demand, and each year's auction brings new and exciting offerings.

What will you contribute to this year's auction? In this tight economy, it becomes even more important to think of services you can render. Can you offer gardening or handyman help? Childcare or pet sitting services? Could your home be the setting for a murder mystery dinner party or dinner and a movie? Could you offer your skills by teaching classes in knitting or sewing, bread baking or holiday cookie decorating? The auction task force is also hoping to see more donations that would appeal to young families, such as a gift certificate to a local child friendly restaurant, a family night of fun at a go-kart track, sets of crafts supplies or gift certificates to movie theaters.

Descriptions of auction donations will be accepted beginning on October 11th. They can be emailed to auction@uufw.org or using a paper form available at the back of Fellowship Hall.



New for this year's live auction: Bill Harouff will be joined by Stephen Van Sicen to cover auctioneering duties, and there will be a short break in the middle of the live auction to allow for review of bids placed on silent auction items.

Look for more upcoming information and come be a part of the annual UUFW Service Auction on Sunday November 1st!

Member News

Fellowship member, **George Thompson**, has been selected as an Honorary Fellow of the American Geographical Society. The news

release announcing this prestigious honor, dated September 21, 2026, includes the following statement by the AGS Vice President.

“George F. Thompson has done so much for geography with his writing and role as an editor and publisher. This recognition reflects AGS’s admiration for his work and its desire to honor those advancing geography in meaningful and transformative ways.”



The press release continues, saying that George has also received lifetime achievement awards and commendations from the American Association of Geographers, Council of Educators in Landscape

Architecture, Vernacular Architecture Forum, and, in July 2026, the International Planning History Society. Regarding his book publications, George is an author and editor of eight decorated and award-winning books, with a ninth book nearly finished: the forthcoming *An American Place: Landscape Photography and the Ever-Evolving U.S. of A.*

AGS is the oldest geographical association in the United States. Since its founding in 1851, AGS has periodically recognized more than 300 individuals with Honorary Fellowships who have made significant contributions and expanded the reach and relevance of geography. Naming Honorary Fellows has long been one of the ways AGS acknowledges work that deepens our collective

understanding of the world and inspires future generations.

Many Honorary Fellows are among the most recognized names in geographical and exploration history. Recent Honorary Fellows since 1986 include Daniel J. Boorstin, James Fallows, Ian Frazier, Walter Isard, Nicholas Kristof, Barbara J. Ryan, and Jeffrey Sacks.

Congratulations George!

Community News

The [Out of the Darkness Greater Shenandoah Valley - Charlottesville](#) walk to prevent suicide will be October 10 at Gypsy Hill Park, Staunton. The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention walks are an opportunity to find a supportive community of people who get it, to know you're not alone, and to make a difference together. Funds raised support research, advocacy efforts, and educational programs in our schools, workplaces, and communities. The website has details and registration information.



Our hardworking team leaders met last Sunday to share information and coordinate plans and activities. Many initiatives, like the recent UUFW information table at Waynesboro’s PRISM event, depend on collaboration among teams.

