

## Unitarian Universalists of West Hawaii – October 2015 Newsletter

A free and responsible search for truth and meaning

2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays @ 4 pm, Sadie Seymour Gardens/Outdoor Circle, 76-6280 Kuakini Highway

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**Aloha Spirit Day – Feb. 20, 2016: Steering Committee will be calling members & friends about this!**

### UPCOMING SUNDAYS:

**Oct. 11, 4:00 p.m.** – During the Big Island's weekend event known as **The Ironman Triathlon**, we are delighted that this Sunday will feature a talk by Bree Wee on the "**Spirituality of Competitive Spirit.**" Bree came to Hawaii as a brand new teacher in January 2003. She arrived with her surfboard and an incredibly positive attitude ready to follow her dreams. Soon she was involved in the racing spirit in Kona, and she became an Ironman star 4 years later. A quote from her website: "Triathlon has opened so many incredible doors of opportunity for me, allowed me to build a greater appreciation for the world and people in it, and find a place where I can possibly inspire the next generation to live their dreams." Not only is she a super mom to her son, Kainoa, Bree finds ways share her spirit and help others in every aspect of life. Facilitator Gail Dawrs knows Bree best as a teacher and mother and a really fun person who lives to the fullest each day.

**Oct. 25, 4:00 p.m.** – "**Lōkahi: Unbroken Unity,**" with UU minister Rev. Catherine Ishida. This continues our series based on the word "Aloha." In Hawai'i, it's easy to feel disconnected from the national conversation on race, so let's have our own. Whose are we, in heart, and mind, and soul?

### LOOKING AHEAD:

**Everyone is welcome at these meetings.**

**If you have questions, call Linda at 530-368-0079.**

Tuesday, Nov. 10, 2:00 p.m. – Board meeting at Maiden's home.

Nov. date not set yet (sometime between the 9<sup>th</sup> and the 19<sup>th</sup>) -- the Aloha Spirit Day Steering Committee

### **Summer Service Evaluation**

Both the Board and the Sunday Service Committee evaluated the effectiveness of the small(er) group gatherings that were held this past summer. Those who attended felt that the programs were excellent for motivating deeper conversation/connection between people. Given that attendance is lower in the summer, it's probable that next year will be handled in the same way if there is someone who wishes to help organize these services (June/July/August).

### IN MEMORIAM – Rosemary Fitch

It's with great sadness that we learned that one of our founding members, Rosemary Fitch, passed away. She and her husband Tom were integral to our congregation. Tom continues to live in Texas although he says he would like to be on the Big Island for some period of time if he can figure out what to do with his two "woofs." Tom also emailed, "Shortly before Rosemary died she wrote this, *'I've had such a rich life - rich in family and friends, teachers and students, animals and plants.'*"

In summarizing their life together, Tom shared, *"She grew up in the Black Hills where she gained a love for nature. In 1960 she graduated from Sturgis High School and was a National Merit Scholar. She went to college at the University of Minnesota where she studied languages with a major in Russian and a minor in German. After graduating with a BA in 1964 she took a job in a lab that studied pollen in cores of lake sediment to determine climate change going back to the ice ages. She was hunched over a microscope when I took an interest in this long legged beauty, from my office across the hall. I asked what she was doing so she invited me to have a look through the microscope. I exclaimed how interesting! She smiled and said I should look again now that the eye piece is in place. Thus she knew that my interest was in her and not ancient climates.*

*"Our life together included 5 years in Australia; when we returned to the U.S., we settled in Lexington, Mass. and there Rosemary discovered the UU church facing the Battle Green. We joined and she more than me became an active member. Apart from raising 3 kids she worked with Cambodian Refugees. After another 5 years another job change; this time to north Texas where we joined the First Jefferson UU church in east Fort Worth. There, aside from work at the church, she took up English as a Second Language (ESL)."*

REQUEST FROM UU visiting from VERMONT: Bob Hawk and his wife Maris will be on the Island from Dec. 10-30 to network connections so his wife may return and study hula and lomi-lomi massage (she is currently a professor of dance). They are looking for someone who would like to do a home exchange in Montpelier, VT or a "hospitality exchange" through [homelink.org](http://homelink.org). They would also really appreciate some referrals to hula and lomi-lomi teachers. Bob's email address is [bob.hawk350@gmail.com](mailto:bob.hawk350@gmail.com). Please email him asap if you are able to help or make a referral.