

*Rumblings from Olympus...*

## Censorship

By President Bob Mahaffy

There are two kinds of people in this world: Platonists and Aristoteleans. In the Raphael fresco *The School of Athens*, Plato is pointing upwards saying “The Heavens, that’s where the truth is;” while Aristotle with his arm outstretched says, “No, the truth is right here in front of us.”

Plato was such an admirer of Sparta that he based his ideal State in *The Republic* on the Spartan polity, with the communal living and all. Another thing he especially admired about the Spartans is that they taught their young boys to never lie; always tell the truth. As a result, he was the first to advocate censorship, especially regarding Homer. He felt Odysseus, with his cunning and trickery, set a poor example for the young. ☺



Detail from Raphael's *The School of Athens*

## Membership Challenge

A Fellowship friend and supporter has generously offered to match donations (up to \$1500) for a project that will help increase SCUUF membership. Please bring your suggestions to our next board meeting or contact a board member (below). We need your input for the benefit of the Fellowship! ☺

## Here to Serve

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*More Rumblings...*

## Pet Truths

Some of you have met my new dog Boomer, a golden retriever. (He’s actually a used dog, at three years old.) I’m starting to have second thoughts about taking him in though, since discovering what St. Augustine has to say about pets in *The City of God*.

Augustine says that no happiness is possible in this life, and while you think they can give you some comfort, pets might turn on you and rip your throat out in the middle of the night when you least expect it.

You think you can trust your little parakeet, but in fact it is always a possibility that you could have your eyes pecked out. ☺

## Among UUs

Herb & Betsey Kinney’s grandson, Jon Wash, is spending his summer in Mexico, attending a university on the Yucatán Peninsula that was established in 1611. (That date is not a typo.) Jon’s courses are taught in Spanish, and include numerous fieldtrips.

☺ ☺

Mark Stueve, SCUUF webmaster & newsletter editor extraordinaire, is temporarily on crutches with a walking cast, due to a broken foot. Mark expects to be back to full-speed ahead soon. He was recently featured in *The World* news outdoor section, in an article titled “Eating in the great outdoors”. Mark’s “utensil-less” cooking facts and photos appear side by side with the “Nature Guide Journal” column on foraging for wild food, written by Marty Giles, Mark’s wife.

☺ ☺

Will Fowler, son of Barbara Taylor and Steven Fowler, is working on staff for the Boy Scouts at Camp Baker, near Florence, this summer.

☺ ☺

Mitzi Loftus, SCUUF founding member, will be the featured author at Coos Bay Public Library at 7 pm on Thursday, July 17, in the library’s Myrtlewood Room. Mitzi will share tales from her new book, which is a sequel to her first book, *Made in Japan and Settled in Oregon*. ☺





**South Coast  
Unitarian Universalist  
Fellowship**

PO Box 595

North Bend OR 97459-0048

**July-August 2008**

**Visit SCUUF online at <http://scuuf.pnwd.uua.org>**

## **South Coast Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Jul - Aug 2008 Calendar**

Unless otherwise noted, programs are from 3:00 to 4:30 pm  
at North Bend United Methodist Church, 2289 Meade Street.

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| July 6    | <b>The Future of SCUUF: What's in <i>Your</i> Vision?</b>  |
| July 13   | <b>Symbiosis – Part II</b><br>Lichen collaborate...what can we learn from them?  |
| July 20   | <b>Stripping the Nation for Parts</b><br>The biofuel controversy from <i>As If We Were Grownups</i>  |
| July 27   | <b>Family Fun Day</b><br>Join us at Mahaffy Century Farm. BBQ entrée provided.<br>Bring a side dish and activity to share.<br>(97356 Coos River Highway). Starts at 1:00 pm.<br>Carpooling from Bunker Hill School at 12:30. |
| August 3  | <b>Findhorn Dance</b><br>Starts 3 pm at Jevanna's Tree House, 2690 Liberty, NB   |
| August 10 | <b>Just War?</b><br>Under what, if any, conditions might war be a justifiable option?  |
| August 17 | <b>The Natural History of Religion</b><br>The 1757 book by Hume is one of the first attempts to account for the origins of theism in naturalistic terms.   |
| August 24 | <b>Hike Our Beach Mile</b><br>Call 266-7335 for car-pooling information.   |
| August 31 | <b>Buddhism - Part I</b><br>There is agreement with the importance of the Four Noble Truths and the Noble Eightfold Path.  |

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*Board Meetings on July 8 and August 12 • 7:00 pm • Stueve-Giles*

*Program Planners on July 10 and August 14 • 4:00 pm • Java Jones*

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