



# *SUUSI Winter NUUS*

*Southeast Unitarian Universalist Summer Institute*

*www.suusi.org*

## **SUUSI 2004: "Reunions"**

**July 18 – 24, 2004**

**Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA**

Reunite with nature, make new friends and renew connections, and remember sweet summer days of years past. Whether this is your first SUUSI or your 20<sup>th</sup>, there is much on which you can reminisce when we all gather together for fun, relaxation, reveling and renewal. Whether your idea of a good time is hiking the steepest trail, shooting the fastest rapids, gathering with others to learn something new about yourself or the world, dancing all night in the disco, or singing along with the Cabaret talent, SUUSI is the place to be this summer. Come to SUUSI for all that is restful and rewarding... a week of intentional community and the gift of friendship — new and renewed.

### **SPIRITUAL GROWTH**

It is one of our goals to make SUUSI a place of spiritual growth for all who attend. Our denominational programming is designed to deepen the experience of our time together and to encourage worship as a community.

SUUSI's denominational staff is busy scheduling speakers for 2004 Theme Talks and Worship Services. Remember to check them out during your week!

If you have questions regarding denominational affairs, contact Denominational Coordinator, Mina Greenfield, at [denominational@suusi.org](mailto:denominational@suusi.org).



### **NATURE**



The SUUSI Nature staff is busy planning your trips for next year. There are many new trips, some that we haven't been offered in a few years, as well as many annual favorites.

- ✦ The nature staff bringing back Whitewater Rafting. Leave campus early on a comfortable tour bus and travel to West Virginia where we will find the best whitewater in the East. A day on the river, lunch and dinner provided, will lead to an incomparable adventure. Register early to assure yourself of a place on this trip.
- ✦ This year the Adventure staff is offering three new trips. Giant Caverns Vertical Cave has the second largest room in a Virginia cave, Greenville Saltpeter Cave is a large, four entrance cave with remains of saltpeter mining from the Revolutionary War. The Adventure staff will also offer a Ropes Course that provides personal and group challenges.

- Exciting new Discovery trips have been added this year. If you like natural, wildlife friendly landscaping, you might enjoy “Native Plants for Backyard Habitats.” Or, travel back in time at Virginia’s Explore Park where you can interact with historically attired interpreters. Enjoy a gentle walk focusing on plants native people would have known and used. Learn the effects – beneficial and disastrous – of fires in the wilderness.
- To expand on some popular trips, we offer a birding class for beginners and fossil hunting at a new location. Plan to enjoy a “reunion” with a favorite experience from the past – explore Dixie Caverns, bike along the New River, dine at the Chateau Morissette Winery, or relax with an afternoon herb tea. Look for these and many other new and returning opportunities to discover the nature of Virginia’s Blue Ridge Mountains.

## CONCERT HOUR



**Monday:** **Steve Key** will return for his third SUUSI this summer. With his original ballads, funny topical songs, and musical stories about real people, Steve Key easily wins new fans to his view of the world. He’s a seasoned professional who has played the big folk festivals in Philadelphia, Winnipeg and Kerrville. He’s opened shows for Richard Thompson, Christine Lavin, Jonathan Edwards and Tom Paxton. <http://www.stevekey.com/>.

**Tuesday:** **Johnsmith** has been traveling the musician’s road for the past 30 years, and what that journey entails certainly has inspired the heartfelt songs he writes. John is a winner of songwriting awards from Kerrville, Napa Valley, Telluride and Rocky Mountain folk festivals. Rod Kennedy of the Kerrville Folk Festival said, “Since winning the New Folk competition John’s songwriting and performing skills have become finely honed. Audiences find his originality and genuineness totally engaging and refreshing.” <http://www.johnsmithmusic.com/index.htm>.

**Wednesday:** **Small Potatoes** is **Jacque Manning** and **Rich Prezioso**. This Chicago-based duo has been touring on the folk circuit since 1993 and in that time they’ve become sought-after regulars at many clubs and coffeehouses across the U.S. They have made repeat appearances at major folk festivals, including the Kerrville Folk Festival, the Walnut Valley Folk Festival, and Philadelphia Folk Festival. They were one of the “most requested” acts at the 1999 Falcon Ridge New Artist Showcase. Jacquie is also a winner of the 1998 Kerrville New Folk Songwriting Contest. They call themselves eclectic-maniacs. They describe their music as “Celtic to Cowboy” and say it has taken them “years of careful indecision” to come up with a mix of music that ranges from country, blues, and swing to Irish, with songwriting that touches on all of those styles and more. <http://smallpotatoesmusic.com>.

## TEEN LAND

The Teen Dorm is available to youth ages 14 – 17. This year the co-directors of the Teen Program are Marybeth Chaconas and Tom Macon. They bring new ideas for the program that will give it a new look, and create a more community-friendly place for both Teens and Staff. Marybeth and Tom are looking for a great team of special



people to work with the Teens this year. Staff hours will be shorter and more child friendly for staff with younger children. Teens and Staff will have more opportunities to participate in workshops and be a part of the greater SUUSI community. People interested in applying for a Teen Staff position can contact the co-directors at [teens@suusi.org](mailto:teens@suusi.org).

## YOUNG ADULTS

The Young Adult program is an age-centered program for participants 18–25 that offers lots of fun workshops and activities, plus a great community! This year’s YA Directors, Hanna Bosman and Kirsten deFur, are currently organizing staff, and have some great ideas for SUUSI 2004. To join the YA listserv, email Hanna at [ya@suusi.org](mailto:ya@suusi.org) — that’s where we’ll be discussing ideas for SUUSI, and it’s a great way to connect with a group of UU young adults with lots of energy and enthusiasm!

## BOARD ELECTIONS

The SUUSI Board is looking for two energetic, dedicated, experienced and capable new Board members. Each year at SUUSI, we elect one At Large Adult Trustee for a three-year term and one At Large Youth Trustee for a two-year term.

If you would like to serve, get a friend to nominate you for a position. The nominator and the candidate must be members in good standing of a Unitarian Universalist congregation. The Church of the Larger Fellowship is deemed a congregation by the UUA. At the time of the election (Thursday, July 22, 2004), Youth candidates must be between 14-17 years old and Adult candidates must be at least 18.

Nominations are open until 5 p.m. Monday, July 19, 2003. If submitted before SUUSI, mail to Sallie Pickard, 560 Myra St., Neptune Beach, FL 32266. While at SUUSI, just drop the nomination off at the SUUSI Information Office.

## STAYING AT DONALDSON BROWN FOR SUUSI WEEK

For the ultimate in on-campus pampering and privacy, you have the choice of staying at Donaldson Brown conference center. It's on the campus, convenient to all SUUSI activities - but making arrangements for a room there is totally separate from the SUUSI dorm space.

You will need to make your own reservations with the Donaldson Brown folks at (540) 231-8000. Please make your reservation early - we have only a few rooms being held there for SUUSI 2004. Tell them that you want one of the rooms being held for SUUSI. The cost is about \$99 per night at Donaldson Brown, so the dorms (even the air conditioned ones) are clearly cheaper. If you will be staying at Donaldson Brown, please indicate that on your registration form so we know that you don't need a dorm room.

## SUUSI-SHIPS

SUUSIships are financial assistance grants awarded to individuals and families who want to come to SUUSI but are experiencing a difficult financial situation. SUUSIships are awarded based on need to defray the costs of registration, room and board (but not travel, workshops, or air conditioning). They require a work/service commitment from each recipient (other than very young children). To be considered in the first round of SUUSIship awards, applications must be received by May 15, 2003. For information, to make a donation, or to request an application contact Karen Lauer (850) 651-3040 ([suusiships@suusi.org](mailto:suusiships@suusi.org)).

### **SUUSIship Fundraiser Needs You!**

**Start saving books, videos, CDs and cassettes for the SUUSIship fundraiser!**

## CALLING ALL MINISTERS



Attention UU Ministers: We want you to join our spiritual community at SUUSI this year! As you can tell, there will be many wonderful colleagues with whom to connect — not to mention about 1,000 other great UUs. (Ordained UU clergy receive a registration discount!)

If you would like more information, or to receive your registration discount, contact Denominations Coordinator, Mina Greenfield by phone at 718.403.9633 or email at [denominational@suusi.org](mailto:denominational@suusi.org).

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### BE A SUUSI AMBASSADOR!

SUUSI is the sort of special experience that you talk about for the rest of the year, until the next SUUSI rolls around 51 weeks later. Do you look forward to SUUSI all year? Do you tell everyone you see? You may already be an amateur SUUSI Ambassador! Become a pro by volunteering to get the word out in your local community by publishing newsletter articles, sending e-mail promos, and hosting a SUUSI-Info gathering in your congregation to view the SUUSI video that appeared at the Ingathering in 2003. To find out more about spreading the word more effectively, contact Alice Alexander at [alice.alexander@verizon.net](mailto:alice.alexander@verizon.net).

### IMPORTANT SUUSI DATES

**May 1** Deadline to notify SUUSI if you want your group to be "housed" together on the campus.

**May 15** Applications due for SUUSIship scholarship awards.

For scholarship information contact Karen Lauer at [suusiships@suusi.org](mailto:suusiships@suusi.org).

**May 20** **Deadline to have registration forms postmarked** to avoid late registration fees.

★ **Sunday, July 18** SUUSI starts on Virginia Tech campus in Blacksburg, Virginia  
(Some staff is required to arrive early, but no housing is available for SUUSI participants until registration opens on Sunday morning)

**Saturday, July 24** SUUSI 2003 concludes. ★

**SUUSI 2004**

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