

SUUSI 2006 Confirmation NUUS

Southeast Unitarian Universalist Summer Institute

July 16-22, 2006

Welcome to SUUSI 2006!

Have you started packing yet? When I was a teenager, I started packing at least two weeks before SUUSI and was completely packed a full week in advance. I just couldn't contain my excitement. I hope you are as excited as the Staff and Board are for SUUSI 2006. This year we have been hard at work to bring changes to SUUSI that you have requested. The SUUSI Board did a serious analysis of the evaluations last year, and we used your input to direct our planning and programming. For example, you requested more shorter workshops, and so we offered them. You requested some late late night programming, and so we bring you Afterhours CACHE. Look for details on more SUUSI improvements in your NUUS throughout the week. Don't miss your chance to win a free week at SUUSI 2007 - check out the information in the Community Sun Dance section on page four. I'm looking forward to seeing all of you to rejoice and renew.

- Jen Lucas, Director

Arrival

Getting there

To reach the campus from Interstate 81 (southbound and northbound):

- Take Exit 118B onto U.S. 460 West. Follow the signs for Blacksburg/Virginia Tech.
- Continue along U.S. 460 to the traffic light at VA 314, Southgate Drive. Turn right onto Southgate Drive.
- Check-in will be located in Owens Food Court. Follow the signs for SUUSI from Southgate Drive.

Unloading your car

After you check in, you'll need to unload your belongings at one of the designated unloading areas and then drive to the assigned SUUSI parking lot to park your car. Your luggage and other belongings will be safe with our move-in staff while you park your car. Shuttles will be running to bring you from the parking lot back to the unloading areas. The primary unloading points will be the parking lot behind Owens Hall and the small area between Pritchard and Lee. If you own a small cart or dolly, please bring it to use in moving your belongings from the unloading area to your dorm. So that you can easily share your cart with others, ask the move-in staff to help you label your cart with your name and suite number. The move-in staff cannot carry your belongings into the dorms, but all able-bodied participants are encouraged to help those who need a hand moving into the dorm. Volunteers are what make SUUSI tick.

NEW for 2006: Pay your registration balance in advance and check in faster! (See page 2)

Early arrival? Late arrival?

The residence halls for SUUSI are available beginning Sunday, July 16. We suggest you arrive early on Sunday, but you can't come a day early and hope to "crash" on campus. We've already made our commitment to Virginia Tech for housing the staff who are required to do the set-up in advance of Sunday Check-in. SUUSI starts at 10 am on Sunday. Check-in ends at 4 pm.



If you know you will be arriving after 4 pm on Sunday, call us at (540) 231-9811 BEFORE 4 pm and we'll put a room key aside at the Peddrew-Yates Residence Hall Information Desk. You will then need to come to the Registration Office in Room 1B of Payne Hall between 7:45 and 9:45 am on Monday to settle your bill. You can also provide us with a credit card number and expiration date if you cannot come to the Registration Office on Monday. You will need your meal card in order to get breakfast without paying, so please come to the office first.

If you need to arrive in town a day early, don't despair! The Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Blacksburg will provide a dinner on Saturday evening at 6 pm (\$10 per adult, \$5 per child under 8 years old) and Bed & Breakfast accommodations with a local family (\$20 per person/family). They'll even pick you up at the Roanoke airport for \$25 per person or family if you're arriving by plane on Saturday or Sunday. Contact Tayloe Skelton at uatayloe@hotmail.com or (540) 951-0296 (please leave a message).

Parking: You will pick up your parking pass during Check-in. Please hang it on your car mirror. In order to avoid a parking ticket, please park ONLY in properly marked areas of the Litton-Reaves lot.

Sunday Check-in

SUUSI introduces Express Check-in

The new SUUSI Express Check-in means shorter and faster lines. Pay your balance today, send in missing forms and key deposits, and you can be one of the lucky ones who speed through SUUSI Check-in. To pay your balance, send your check (payable to SUUSI) to the Registrar (Marianne Vakiener, 9803 Barlow Rd., Fairfax, VA 22031-3517) or drop her a note at registration@suusi.org to authorize the use of your credit card.

We have streamlined Sunday check-in to help you launch your SUUSI week quickly and efficiently. Whether you end up in the Express Check-in, just have to pay a balance, or have changes to make and forms to submit, our new Ambassadors will greet and guide you through the process and lead you to one of our Check-in Tellers who will process payments and distribute room keys, meal cards, and parking passes. If you have changes to make at Check-in, the Ambassadors will guide you to special Check-in Tellers who will handle all workshop and trip changes, room reassignments, and walk-in registrations. If you have a balance to pay when you arrive, you will finish faster if you pay by check or cash.

Don't forget to pay your balance and key deposits, and send in missing forms by July 7 so Marianne will have them before she leaves for SUUSI. See you in Blacksburg!

Family ID Number: KEY to SUUSI registration

Everything in your registration for SUUSI is linked by your "Family ID Number." You will need to know this number when you arrive on Sunday. This number appears on the Confirmation document you received with this mailing. It looks like this:

Southeast Unitarian Universalist Summer Institute
2006 Registration Confirmation
Family ID# Primary Reg # Name/address
1 167 Smith, Jane...

This number also appears on your nametag. It is the middle number at the top of your name tag:

2006 – 1 – 167

Schedule for Sunday, July 16

10 am – 4 pm	SUUSI Check-in and move into the dorms
4:30 – 7 pm	Dinner in D2
5:45 pm	Mandatory teen/parent meeting, location TBA
6:45 pm	Banner Parade – starts in front of Payne
7 pm	Ingathering in Burruss followed by Opening Circle
8:30 pm	Mandatory meeting for all parents of youth in Burruss
8:30 pm	Mandatory orientation for all YA's, location TBA
9 pm	Mandatory Workshop Leaders meeting, P-Y 140
9:30 pm	Cabaret and Serendipity
10 pm	CACHE and Common Ground

When to arrive and what to expect at Check-in

An Arrival Tip for Newcomers and others.

Check-in at SUUSI opens at 10 am and closes at 4 pm. That's a six-hour time frame. Many long-time SUUSI goers will testify that the best time to arrive varies somewhat from year to year. Sometimes the Check-in line is short at 10:00 a.m., and sometimes it is long. We hope our new Express Check-in process eliminates long lines altogether, but if it does get busy during the time you are checking in, we appreciate your patience with our volunteer staff.

We strongly recommend that first-time attendees arrive at Check-in as early as possible, but no later than 2 pm. We want you to have the time you need to check in and move in and have a good time doing it. At Check-in, you'll pick up your registration packet and pay any balance due, as well as make any needed changes. If you have children or youth with you, you will make stops at the Youth and/or Teen tables. You'll also be asked to confirm your contact information, get your picture taken for the Mug Book, and sign up to volunteer. Our Registration Ambassadors will be on hand to answer questions and guide you through the process. After Check-in, you will need to 1) unload your car; 2) move your car from the unloading parking lot as soon as you unload; 3) drive to the SUUSI-designated parking lot and take the shuttle back to campus; 3) find your dorm and move your stuff in; 4) have dinner; and 5) get to the banner parade by 6:45 pm. You might also want to reserve some time to sit quietly or take a short nap to recover from the drive, check-in, and moving in. Coming to SUUSI is exciting, but you need to pace yourself right from the start.

Reaching you at SUUSI

Check the Arrival NUUS for the SUUSI Info Office phone number. The Office will be open daily from 8 am to 7 pm Monday through Friday. When you receive a telephone call, we'll post a message for you on the message board inside the Information Office. So plan to check the message board regularly. If the message is an emergency, we will make every effort to find you (we'll check the schedule that you post on your room door). If someone needs to contact you when the SUUSI Information Office is closed, have them contact the Virginia Tech Information Desk directly at (540) 231-9811. Unless it is an emergency, the Tech Info Desk will give that message to the SUUSI Info Office the following morning to post on our message board. (Please note the distinction between the SUUSI Info Office and the Tech Info Desk... it can be confusing!)

What to bring

SUUSI is a summer camp in college dorms, usually two beds to a room. In the dorms with smaller rooms you may have bunk beds. We're a tight-knit community: expect to be close to neighbors as well as roommates. Expect to make new friends!

Linens (sheets, towels, washcloth) will be provided for every bed at SUUSI (except for teens staying in the Teen Dorm). Blankets are provided for all beds in AC space, and non-AC if available.

Consider bringing:

- Cart or dolly to transport luggage to dorm
- A fan if you have a room without air conditioning.
- Checkbook for key & room deposits (cash not accepted)
- Cash: SUUSI Store, Artisan's Bazaar, Used Book Sale
- A robe (bathrooms are shared)
- Power strips with circuit breakers
- Extra pillows & blankets (we've had some chilly nights!)
- Alarm clock, coat hangers, drying rack, mirror
- Drinking cup, water bottle
- Dorm decorations
- Ethernet cables for connecting your laptop with the Internet (modems won't work)
- Lawn chair, picnic blanket, frisbees, a good book, and a great attitude
- Nature trip necessities: Read your nature trip requirements before you leave and be sure to bring the required equipment
- Comfortable summer casual clothing – be creative, let your clothes be a statement of the inner you!
- Costumes and dancing clothes for Serendipity

DO NOT BRING:

Candles * Pets * Halogen lamps * Air conditioners * Illegal drugs * Weapons * Scooters * Extension cords (only power strips with circuit breakers are acceptable)

Skates 'n' bikes

There are places where you can skate and bicycle, so you can bring your equipment (including helmet and pads) to SUUSI. Please don't violate the campus or SUUSI rules – the crowded areas such as the SUUSI quadrangle are off limits.

Your room: personalize it - within limits

We will be staying in residence halls on the Virginia Tech campus. Each room is furnished with 2 beds, 2 desks and chairs, a double dresser, a nightstand, window blinds, and a recycling/trash bag. In the air-conditioned dorms, many rooms are arranged in suites, with 2-3 rooms sharing a small lounge and bath. You need to bring towels for children sleeping on the floor. Also, Teens need to bring their own linens and towels.

You can personalize your room. Bring bedspreads, artwork,

stuffed animals, wacky widgets, and holiday lights (using power strips, not extension cords). By Sunday night you might create a pad that is the envy of the block...the place where everyone wants to hang.

But remember – we are only in the dorm for one week. Others will be moving in right behind us. Please be gentle with the furniture, the walls, the ceilings, the floors. Please do not paint any surfaces whatsoever. Do not mar the bathroom surfaces. Don't take furniture out of the room, and don't tie anything to the sprinkler nozzles. You can rearrange the furniture, but it must be back in its original position when you leave.

To ensure there are no damage charges incurred (by SUUSI or by you!) please check the room carefully when you move in on Sunday and report any existing damage or missing furniture to the SUUSI Info Office. Give us a written note with the dorm name and the room number.

New linens procedure at Virginia Tech

Virginia Tech has initiated a new linens policy and procedure to cover the expense of replacing linens lost during summer conferences (not just SUUSI). Each bed will now come with a bag of linens (two sheets, one pillowcase, two towels, and one washcloth) that must be returned to the VT staff at the end of SUUSI week. Save the plastic bag that the linens come in to use for the return. *Note: Teens living in the Teen Dorm will not receive any linens from VT. Please bring your own.* According to the new policy, VT will charge you a replacement fee of \$50 if you don't return any of the linens you receive. If you turn in linens but leave out certain pieces, the replacement fee is less (set of sheets \$15, single sheet \$10, pillowcase \$10, towels \$10 each, washcloth \$5), but clearly it would be best to turn in all linens received to avoid additional charges. SUUSI has not charged you a linens deposit this year, and if all goes well, we won't have to in future years. Let's show VT what good guests SUUSI participants are by turning in all of our linens at the end of the week.

Construction on campus

You will notice a change in the spaces that we use this year at VT due to the numerous construction projects on campus. Even though some of our usual spaces are not available, VT has been hard at work to come up with the best solution for our space needs.

Do you have a staff credit voucher?

If you have a voucher for SUUSI giving you a discount on your registration fees because you are on staff or leading a workshop, please don't wait until the chaos on Sunday to turn it in. Immediately, today, mail your voucher to Marianne Vakiener, 9803 Barlow Road, Fairfax, VA 22031. Phone (703) 385-0527, registration@suusi.org.

Creating intentional community at SUUSI

Ingathering

Don't miss the amazing spectacle of the Banner Parade!

The Grand Marshall for the parade is Uncle Flip. If you don't know who that is, ask someone in front of Payne dorm. Bring your church banner! Display it with pride for all to admire. Bring your drum. Play it with wild abandon. It is time to Rejoice and Renew.

Drummers and banner carriers, meet at 6:40 pm in front of Payne so that together we can create a beautiful parade to Burruss Hall for the Ingathering Ceremony. Uncle Flip will march the start of the parade at 6:45. If you are unable to march/dance/walk in the parade, meet at Burruss hall at 7 pm for the Ingathering ceremony.

Following Ingathering, be a part of the LARGEST circle of UUs in the nation when we gather in our Opening Circle. If you are a newcomer, this is an event not to be missed. If you are an experienced SUUSIite, this is the fast lane for renewing and rejoicing in old friendships.

Spiritual renewal at SUUSI

Even when you go to church weekly during the rest of the year, often our lives are so busy it is difficult to take time to explore spiritual ideas in community. Theme talks and evening worship at SUUSI provide a unique opportunity for spiritual exploration, reflection and renewal. Further discussion on theme talks are facilitated daily at 4:15 pm by Ken Wagner.

Theme talks

Every morning, Monday thru Friday from 9 to 9:45 am

Monday: Rev. Rosemary Bray McNatt *Living In the GAP*

Tuesday: Rev. Molly Brown *Coming Back to Life*

Wednesday: Rev. Sarah Lammert *In the Middle of This Road We Call Life*

Thursday: Rev Calvin Dame *Awakening From Sloth*

Friday: Rev Meg Barnhouse *Did I Say That Out Loud?*

Evening worship

Every evening, Monday through Friday, 7 - 7:45 pm

Monday: Rev. Paul Boothby *Transcending Tyranny for Renewal*

Tuesday: Rev. Christine Brownlie *To be Announced - When LifeLaughs at Us*

Wednesday: Mary Ann Somerville & Kip Barkley *Revisiting the Religion of the Ancients for Renewal*

Thursday: Rev. Bill Gupton *Rejoice in the Journey*

Friday: Rev. Nancy McDonald Ladd *Faith in a Seed*

You can get in touch with the Minister of the Day (available for true personal and pastoral emergencies) by contacting the SUUSI Info Office.

Community Sun Dance

Monday through Friday from 5 pm to 6:45 pm

Community Sun Dance (formerly Community Time) is our chance to connect and reconnect with the larger SUUSI community.

In the spirit of the Sun Dance, a ceremony practiced by some Native American tribes, we are dedicating this time for renewal, sharing, rejuvenation and play as a community. We will have ceremonies on Wednesday and Thursday, honoring commitments, friendships and other important bonds within our community, such as marriage vows, friendship and parent-child relationships.

Monday: Welcome to SUUSI. Meet a newcomer for the chance to win a free week at SUUSI! We'll give away tickets for a chance to win a credit totaling the amount of adult registration and non A/C housing in 2007. Turn in your ticket to a newcomer for your chance to win. Newcomers who want to help with the drawing will receive details at the Newcomers table at Check-in on Sunday. You must be present to win the drawing, so join the rest of the SUUSI community as we gather for a carnival to celebrate the beginning of SUUSI. Look for more details about the drawing in the Arrival NUUS.

Tuesday: Create and share. Today is a day to get in touch with your creative and giving side.

- Craft Sale: Amateur artists, young and old, are invited to sell their creations (for < \$10).
- Treasure Swap: Bring clothes, jewelry, toys and household items to swap and share. No money exchanged! All leftover items will be donated to Goodwill.
- Creation Station: Bring your T-shirts and \$2 (per item) for tie-dyeing. Other craft activities will be available as well.

Wednesday: Groovy TUUNES. This is the day to experience the musical and performing talents of our community. There will be drumming, a sing-a-long and karaoke. Musicians, singers, clowns, mimes, jugglers and other performers are encouraged to join in the fun!

Please gather around 6:30 pm for the Sun Dance ceremony. The Reverend Morris Hudgins will be leading a short blessing honoring our community's most important bonds: friendships, partnerships, marriage vows, parent-child relationships and all other strongly held relationships.

Thursday: Play day. Join the SUUSI community by getting in touch with your playful side. We'll be playing games, putting together cooperative events and other outdoor activities! Bring your outdoor toys, footballs, Frisbees, bubbles, volleyballs, etc.

Please gather around 6:30 pm for the Sun Dance ceremony. The Reverend Sarah Lammert will be leading a short blessing to

honor families “in all their various configurations.” She will be celebrating the generosity of the human spirit and the capacity to love unconditionally.

Friday: *Decorate and rejuvenate.* It is the official SUUSI Spa Day, the time at the end of a busy week to pamper yourself! Plan to paint fingernails and toenails, color your hair or get a little facepaint. How about hair wrapping or body art? Massage, yoga and tai chi demonstrations will also be given. This is a perfect chance to get ready for Prom Night at Serendipity!

Closing circle

The closing circle at 9 am on Saturday morning is a long-standing SUUSI tradition where we gather one last time before leaving. You might cry; many of your friends will. You will surely smile. There will certainly be plenty of hugs. And it is a last photo op!

Responsibilities of living in community

We have an abundance of freedom at SUUSI, and with it comes full responsibility. Some basic expectations of all participants include:

- Be alert to the needs and personal boundaries of others. Help make SUUSI safe and enjoyable for everyone! In our community of 900-1000 people, let us remember to respect each individual’s rights and privacy.
- Parents and guardians are responsible for their children when the children are not in SUUSI-sponsored activities for youth. Watch them having fun, but please – keep an eye on them.
- Excessive noise when others are trying to sleep is inappropriate. We ask that you be mindful of others and that you move to an area that will not be disruptive. Don’t practice your drumming next to the Quiet Dorm, for instance.
- Leave all pets at home. There are no accommodations on campus for live animals, not even the goldfish.
- Fire is a serious concern in college residence halls. Best way to deal with it – don’t use any open flames inside any building on campus.
- The breaking of alcohol, drug, or any other local laws will not be tolerated. The Staff and Board are all committed to compliance with these laws and will not allow violators to remain at SUUSI.

- SUUSI affirms its commitment to maintain an environment free of discrimination, harassment, and violence based on sex, race, color, ethnicity, religion, national origin, age, handicap, gender, or affectional orientation.
- SUUSI expects its Board, Staff, and participants to conduct themselves in a dignified manner, showing concern and respect for their colleagues, participants, and the surrounding community.
- Skates and skateboards are not allowed in the SUUSI quadrangle and many other areas – please respect the local rules, and bring your equipment (especially helmet and pads).

Breaking bread together

We will eat our meals again at D2 Dining Center. D2, which is the recently renovated Dietrick Dining Center, has a food court arrangement.

The first SUUSI meal covered by your registration fees is Sunday evening, July 16. If you arrive earlier on Sunday, you can get lunch on campus or in town, but the cost is not included in your SUUSI fees. The last SUUSI meal is breakfast on Saturday, July 22. Three meals are provided each day, Monday through Friday, and meal cards are used.

Because SUUSI participants share the campus and dining hall with other groups, D2 can get crowded, particularly at dinner. In order to foster a greater sense of community, we suggest that you eat dinner between 4:30-5:45 pm if possible. D2 will be open until 7 pm each evening.

Breakfast: 7 – 9:30 am

Lunch: 11 am – 1:30 pm

SUUSI community dinner time: 4:30 – 5:45 pm

D2 dinner hours: 4:30 – 7 pm

There are veggie/vegan selections at all meals. Meals are “all you can eat” so don’t worry about going hungry (but let’s be careful about not wasting food)!

Sharing the space . . .

The Tech campus will have other groups and summer students on campus during SUUSI week. Be intentional with the neighbors you see in the dining halls, in other dorms, and walking around campus—especially the incoming students with their parents/guardians attending their Orientation at Tech. This is a great opportunity to reach out to others with a cheery UU howdy—or to just pass by quietly!

What makes SUUSI an intentional community?

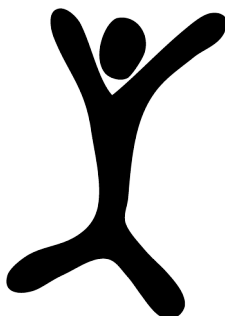
We strive to create an environment in which we can be freely and fully expressed in a community we trust to hold safe space. Each of us can be intentional in holding that space. How? When we lead or attend workshops, we can get to know one another. When we see someone enter the dining hall looking for a friendly face or place to sit, we can offer both. We can work together to make sure SUUSI meets its mission! We can attempt to create in one week what we want in our lives the other 51 weeks of the year. YOU create SUUSI!

Workshops and Nature Trips

If a workshop or nature trip you requested is marked "Full" or "Cancelled" on your Confirmation Statement, you may e-mail registration@suusi.org after you have chosen another. If your confirmation letter says the workshop you wanted is full, you can check again when you register at SUUSI. There are often cancellations and you might still get in if you ask.

Haven't signed up for your choice of workshops?

Please make sure to pre-register for the workshops you would like to take. We have changed our workshop payment policy and you must either pre-pay or pay by cash or check at the beginning of your workshop. Please read the SUUSI NUUS for the drop/add office hours.



Workshop leader meeting

The Mandatory workshop leader meeting will be held Sunday evening at 9 pm in Peddrew-Yates room 140 (Not the Payne crossover lounge). If you are not able to attend please let Kate Hofmann know ASAP via email at workshops@suusi.org.

Looking for ways to rejoice and renew?

We have many wonderful selections of old and new Workshop offerings, for example:

Morning Workshops

- 100 Fun Run/Walk: Tuesday 7:15 am
- 102 Beginning West African Drumming: M-F 10-noon
- 144 UU Prayer Beads: M 10-noon
- 150 Dream Makers/Dream Breakers: M-Th 10-noon

Afternoon Workshops

- 204 America's Music...the blues: TWTh 2-4 pm
- 213 Essential Luxuries for Cheap!: TTh 2-4 pm
- 220 Joke Marathon: Th 2-4 pm
- 230 Showcase of Stars: M-F 2-4 pm
- 253 Songwriting and Performing: MTTh 2-4 pm

Evening Workshops

- 301 Beer from SUUSI's Backyard: W 8:30-11 pm
- 308 Ritual of the Dark Quarter: Th 8-9 pm
- 312 Wizard Tournament: Th 8-10 pm

Check Out Our FREE Workshops!

- 125 Raising More with Program Budgets!: MWTh 10-noon
- 143 Universalism: Building a World Community!: M-F 10-noon
- 212 Empower the Gap: T 2-4 pm
- 215 Getting on Staff, Leading Workshops: T 4:30-5:15 pm
- 219 Invisible Children: A Call to Action: M 2-4 pm
- 227 PFLAG meets Interweave!: MW 2-4 pm
- 241 Theme Talk Discussion: M-F 4:15 - 5:15 pm

- 245 UU History: Shaping Our Religious Future: M-F 2-4 pm
- 248 What's so UU about Cohousing?: M 2-4 pm

Workshop changes

For a list of all cancelled workshops, see the separate insert in this confirmation package.

Day Changes

- 124 Music and Social Change has been shortened to 4 days, MTWTh
- 306 Making Paper Airplanes - has been moved from Fri. to Tues., 8-10 pm
- 308 Ritual of the Dark Quarter - has been moved from Wed. to Thurs., 8-9 pm

Time and Day Changes

- 309 Sensual Veil Moves & Choreography - has been changed from 8-10 pm Tues. to 10-midnight Thurs.

Other Changes

- 115 How to Meditate - Recommended reading has been added: *How to Meditate* by John Novak.

Workshop additions

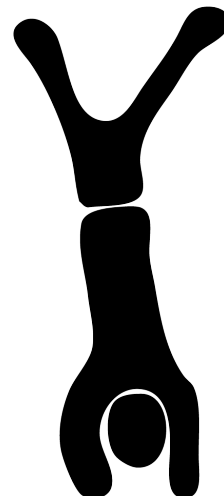
Self Empowerment Reunion (No Limit)

This is a chance for you to share with others the successes and challenges that you have enjoyed since taking one of Zim's personal empowerment classes. Let us know how you're doing!

Zimri Putney is a physicist, a certified teacher of the Pathwork and longtime teacher of self empowerment at SUUSI and elsewhere, and an ardent student of healing himself and others. Free. Tuesday 8-10 pm. Drop-in, 14+.

Traveling to Athens & the Greek Islands Reception (No Limit)

If you have ever seen the movie "Shirley Valentine" and wished you could travel to the Greek Islands, we'll talk about all the things to do and how you, too, can plan a wonderful trip with friends and family. Join Eileen Baker to discuss the possibility of a SUUSI trip in the spring of 2007. Free. Monday 4:15 pm. Drop-in, no registration necessary.



Review your nature trip requirements

Take some time before you finish packing to read through all the requirements of your Nature Trips. Make sure you have all the equipment you need. Laced sneakers can be your oldest pair of Reeboks...but they have to tie on to your foot so you don't lose them in the action! Always bring a full water bottle to avoid dehydration, and make sure your batteries work in your flashlight. Yes, there are stores in Blacksburg where you can buy equipment, batteries, water, etc., but the trip van won't wait for you. We have tight schedules to meet, so please be prepared and arrive for your trip 15 minutes early as a courtesy to the rest of the participants. Also, make sure it's a trip for which you are physically prepared...trips labeled "strenuous" really are!

Like fun?

There's a nature trip for everybody at SUUSI! Whether you're a newcomer, a veteran, like leisure or more strenuous activity, come join us in the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains around Blacksburg!

Natural history comes alive at Wildwood Park (504), a U.S. Forestry Service representative will show us the effects of Fire in the Forest (501), or you can simply relax and enjoy a visit to one of three wineries (530, 532, 533, 534). If you love nature, but don't want to ride in a van, sign up for a Botanical Tour of the VT campus (500) or a visit to the VT Geosciences Museum (522).

Newcomers can join one another in an early Monday morning hike at Pandapas Pond (601). Our all-day Double Your Pleasure Hike (650) includes two hikes with lunch between.

Our Introduction to Rock Climbing and Rappelling Extraganza (801) is new this year. Participants will spend all day at a beautiful rock wall in West Virginia and eat lunch next to a creek. Or you can check out the Ropes Course and Climbing Wall at Camp Roanoke (802, 803).

Whatever you choose, SUUSI nature staff will make sure that your trip is fun and safe. Drop by the Nature Tent every day to see what trips are available!

NOTE: Trip #802 is "Teen and YA Ropes Course and Climbing" (not just for teens only).

Volunteers!

SUUSI seems to operate smoothly and simply—and it does, thanks to the many volunteers that make this well-oiled machine run!

There will be a table displaying volunteer opportunities when you check-in on Sunday. You'll get smiles, hugs, new friends and that good feeling you get when you know you've made a difference in people's lives.

So very SUUSI!

First-timer's guide to (gasp!) bathroom sharing

A new experience can be exciting but scary. A big part of that can be not knowing what to expect. Here are some hints for sharing a suite with non-family members.

1. Have the "bathroom talk" right away on Sunday. Discuss how you all will share the bathroom.
2. Most suites in Peddrew-Yates and New Residence Hall-East have one bathroom and three bedrooms. The bathrooms have two toilets in stalls, two showers each with a dressing area (and a curtain between the dressing area and the bathroom, as well as a shower curtain), and two sinks. The bathrooms do not have a locking door to the hall; they're like public restrooms.
3. Will you be comfortable using the toilet or the shower or the sink if someone else is in any part of the bathroom? Would it make a difference if it were someone in your family group or a new SUUSI friend (i.e., your suitemate)?
4. Some bathroom-sharers from previous SUUSIs have found that having a sign on the bathroom door can help. A piece of paper or two, some markers or crayons, and a little masking tape are all you need. You could write each family's name on a piece of paper and then stick it on the door when that family is using the bathroom. Or, you could write "Women & Girls" on one and "Men & Boys" on another, if that's the agreement you make.
5. The key is flexibility and sensitivity. For some families, sharing a bathroom with each other is easy. For other families, parents and children are uneasy sharing the bathroom with each other. There's no right or wrong.
6. Be creative! Perhaps you can find children who would be happy to design bathroom signs for you.

SUUSIships

One of the ways in which we raise SUUSIship funds is through the annual SUUSI used book sale. We accept any books you may want to donate (except old textbooks, which are heavy and don't sell well), and also videos, CDs, cassettes (books or music), DVDs, etc. Find our table when you check-in and dump your books, and be sure to browse and buy some books you've been wanting to read. Take a pile home! During the week the books are available at the SUUSI store. If you arrive late you can drop off your donations directly to the store either on Sunday or on Monday morning. Start gathering your books now!

SUUSIships make it possible for UUs with financial hardships to attend SUUSI. The funds for scholarships also come from purchases made at the Common Ground Café, the Craft Fair at Community Time, and the Artisan's Bazaar, from donated key deposits, donations from congregations, and from individual donations. Many thanks to all who assist so that others can experience the joy of SUUSI! Contact: suusiships@suusi.org.

Youth, Teens and Young Adults

Youth confirmation packets

SUUSI YOUTH Confirmation packets will be mailed out separately in late-June. The Youth packets are mailed out separately since they are child-specific. In your Youth confirmation packets you will find the following items:

- A calendar of events and letter from your child's age group leader – more than one if you have more than one child
- A list of items to bring – some are suggestions, others are mandatory for trips
- Childcare Co-op information – If you will be staying in a Child Care Co-op dorm, you must check in at the Child Care Co-op table at registration. Every adult staying in the Child Care Co-op dorms will need to participate in night-time child supervision. Shifts will be assigned in advance. For late arrivals, Lois Stanton will be available after the Youth meeting following Ingathering Sunday evening. If you have questions, contact Lois at (804) 748-3265 or childcareco-op@suusi.org.
- A parent locator form – this is much easier for you to fill out and bring with you to registration, but we'll have extras on hand if you forget
- Information about assigning an alternate grown-up for your child in case you have a workshop/nature trip conflict
- Afternoon workshop choices – all youth, ages 7-13, sign up for their choice of afternoon workshops. You will want to sign your child up for his/her favorites as soon as possible.

There is a **MANDATORY** Youth parent meeting immediately following Ingathering Sunday evening! Feel free to contact Diana MacPherson, SUUSI Youth Director, at (804) 798-2416 or youth@suusi.org anytime with questions, concerns, or ideas!

Attention teens & parents/guardians of teens

This year we are changing a few things in the teen dorm. We have increased our staff. We are also offering more opportunities for the teens to take on more leadership roles! We are sure that the Renewal in the Teen Dorm will give us reason to Rejoice!

We are offering four teen nature trips this year:

- #720 Teen Tubing M 1:15 – 5 pm
- #806 Teen Night Caving W 6 – 11 pm
- #628 Teen Mud Wallow Tu 2 – 6 pm
- #802 Teen/YA Ropes Course Tu 7:45 am – 4:45 pm

To sign up for any of these trips before SUUSI, please e-mail registration@suusi.org. You must have closed toe/lace up shoes to participate in any of the above nature trips. No sandals, even for tubing!

We are offering 4 scholarships for #802 Teen/YA Ropes Course to those willing to take on a leadership role in Spirit Committee or Touch Groups. Spirit Committee is an opportunity for teens to take on leadership roles in the teen community with adult in-

put. It meets for 30 minutes daily at 5 pm. We are also planning on having two Touch Groups a day, one teen led and the other adult led. *We need teen touch group leaders!* The Ropes Course scholarships are for the first 4 teens that let us know they are interested! Any questions or want to be a leader? Contact us at teens@suusi.org and put "Teen Leaders" in the subject box.

We are going to add a Social Justice aspect to the teen dorm this summer. Teens, start thinking about issues that are important to you and ways that the teen dorm can address the issue.

MANDATORY teen parent/guardian meeting

All teens and the parents and guardians of teens are required to attend a meeting on Sunday night at 5:45 pm before the Banner Parade. This will be an opportunity to meet the teen staff and become familiar with the rules and expectations that make the Teen Dorm a safe and wonderful place. Teens will be issued their name tags at this meeting.

YOUNG ADULTS!!! Listen up.

If you're 18-25 years old and want to have a good time, get ready for an action-packed week of fun, friends, connectedness, laughter, and plain-old good times. Don't worry, if you're not prepared, we have everything you need, like a thrift store run, a trip down the river in a big tube, late night movie sessions and a whole lot more!

But if you would like to bring some stuff for YA events, you can bring the following:

- Some item of clothing (t-shirt, boxers, hoodie) you would like to have our YA logo printed on, and to just alter/silk-screen/paint/tie-dye/etc in general
- Any worship-type items, such as readings, poems, etc.
- Musical instruments, lyrics, etc. for performing.
- Games and sports like materials to play with everyone during our athletics programming and our Community Sundance time.
- Also bring some cash of course for trips to the 7/11 and to throw in on other late night grub fests, like the BBQUSI.

Again this year, the young adult housing will be located on the second floor of Lee. Be sure to stop by the YA table at registration to pick up a copy of the YA schedule and your name tag, and come to YA ORIENTATION, which will be right after Ingathering at 8:30 pm (mandatory for those living in YA housing!). If you are a YA not living in Lee, but are still interested in hangin' out and participating in workshops, please join us!!!! And if you're new to the SUUSI YA program and would like to be added to our YA listserv, just email your friendly YA coordinators, Meredith Nevin and Mark Weathers at ya@suusi.org and we'll hook you up with listserv access so you can get to know some people before you show up.

Nightlife

There are lots of ways to party at SUUSI!

Serendipity is the dance party for all those 21-years-old and up. The DJ plays a variety of music, and you can bring a CD for special requests. This year's themes: Sunday: *Happy SUUSI New Year*; Monday: *Fashion Nightmare*; Tuesday: *Down By The SUUsea*; Wednesday: *Costume Night*; Thursday: *Flash From The Past*; Friday: *Prom Night*.

CACHE (Clean Air Clear Heads Everyone) is the dance party for everyone 14-years-old and up who loves to dance in an alcohol and smoke free room. This party includes modern dance hits, hip-hop and hits from the 80's.

Common Ground Café is a space for relaxation and conversation throughout the evening for everyone 14+ years old. Coffee, tea, pastries and soft drinks are available. Bring your favorite game, or a jigsaw puzzle to break the ice and meet new folks. Stick around after 1 am for Late Night performances.

Late Night CACHE is a new addition to the SUUSI Night-life lineup this year! We'll offer late night dancing and other activities until the wee hours of the morning. Check the Arrival NUUS for more information.

Family Movie Night has been a successful addition to the SUUSI evening schedule, so we're doing it again. On Tuesday at dusk (9 or 9:15) we will show *Madagascar* (2005), a film for the entire SUUSI community. The movie will be shown on the lawn behind Pritchard. Bring blankets, popcorn, snacks

and your family. No seating will be provided on the lawn.

Family-Friendly Cabaret: Bring the kids! Cabaret will start with an Open Mic each evening at 9:30 pm. This will be followed by two to three main acts interspersed with shorter sets by some of the performers invited back after their Open Mic set, as well as SUUSI regulars.

Open Mic starts on Sunday night at 9:30. Performers are invited to sign up at Check-in for their 10-minute or two song set. Each night thereafter, Cabaret will start at 9:30. After the Sunday night Open Mic is filled, Open Mic performers will be invited to perform during the first 20 minutes of each evening. Cabaret staff will need advance notice of intent to perform during Open Mic so that we may schedule accordingly.

Friday is Jamboree! One song per act. In order to perform, you must perform with someone that you have never performed with on Cabaret Stage. We will also have performances from several of our workshop classes. Start looking for a cop performer early in the week so you can get in some practice time! Sign up with the Cabaret staff person who will be in the hall.

Family Concert Hour is held Monday through Thursday at 8:30 pm. This is the chance for SUUSI participants to hear hour-long performances by some of the finest talent around.

Monday: Amy Carol Webb

Tuesday: Rod MacDonald

Wednesday: Joe Jencks

Thursday: Phil Ochs Song Night

Teen Way Off Broadway (TWOB) XX!?

Teen Way Off Broadway returns this year for its 20th show! Can you believe it's been so long? TWOB began with *Hair* in 1987. Nineteen years later, our teens will prepare all week to present you, the SUUSI community, a fantastic 20th TWOB. Come out on Friday to the Lyric Theater in downtown Blacksburg – same location as last year. Tickets are available at the SUUSI Info Office. Tickets are required due to limited seating per performance and are completely FREE!

Ministers' reception

Wednesday 4:30-5:30 pm, location TBA. Please join your fellow ministers at SUUSI for a mid-week gathering.

Drinking alcohol at SUUSI

There is a cash bar open each night at Serendipity. Alcohol cannot be transported outside of Serendipity. Alcohol can be discreetly consumed in the dorms (NOT in public spaces like lounges), but only by those who are of legal drinking age!

Medians

Meet & Greet Median Salsa Reception, 9:30 pm - 11pm Sunday (check the Arrival NUUS for location)

Medians are a lifestyle affiliation group of people mostly ages 26-35, which is age-centered but not age exclusive. On Sunday night we'll be serving salsa and chips to usher in the new SUUSI year. Derrick Peavy, our Median Salsa Maestro, will be catering. We will also be gathering informally prior to Ingathering for our "Toenails & Cocktails" reception. From there we will move to Ingathering with the whole SUUSI community. Stop by the Median table at Sunday Check-in for more on these activities and more. If you are interested in staffing the Median table at Registration, please email medians@suusi.org.

For more information on Median Programming, and the ever changing, morphable calendar of SUUSI week activities, please join the Median discussion group at TheMedianProgram@yahoo.com. If you have any ideas on how you would like to morph the calendar with an event that you would coordinate, we are highly interested in that as well. For more information contact Andrew Diamond at medians@suusi.org.

SUUSI needs you!

Do you want to have a hand in plotting the future of SUUSI? Do you want to help make SUUSI the best it can be? And you want to see cool SUUSI people in the off season? Consider a spot on the SUUSI board! It's a great way to contribute to this gathering we love so much. Every 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. But to run you have to be nominated! If you'd like to get a nomination in before SUUSI, send a nomination form request to elections@suusi.org. During SUUSI, nominations can be made at the info office, but do it before 5 pm on Monday!

The nominator and the candidate must be members in good standing of a UU congregation. The Church of the Larger Fellowship is deemed a congregation by the UUA. At the time of the election (Thursday, July 20) Youth candidates must be between 14-17 years old and adult candidates must be at least 18. Candidates must have attended SUUSI at least one full week during the past 5 years. Candidates should plan to attend a Forum on Wednesday evening. Candidates are encouraged to talk with current Board members to answer questions about their role and responsibilities on the Board.

Health

SUUSI does not run a full-scale medical operation, but maintains a Health Office staffed by a first aid liaison who provides tips and referrals only. Remember to bring your own medications for the week, including the over-the-counter remedies like aspirin. Our Office can't dispense any medications. The aim of the Office is to promote prevention of illness and accidents and to assist you in getting help with medical emergencies. In case you do have an emergency, you are encouraged to access the excellent emergency system on campus directly. Emergency service is available from local hospitals. Just remember, an ounce of prevention (and preparation) will keep you well at SUUSI.

Look at that mug!

As long-time SUUSIgoers know, each year we photograph everyone during Check-in and compile a Mug Book with contact information so you can keep track of folks after SUUSI ends. It helps during those long 51 weeks between SUUSIs. As many of you have noticed, SUUSI-ites are highly mobile and there are always changes in the addresses and e-mail addresses. During Check-in, the Mug Book staff will collect updated information.

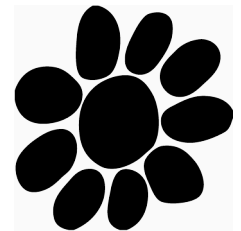
In the packet you receive at Check-in will be a 5 x 8 card with your name in large letters and your address and contact information printed below. A separate card will be printed for each registrant. You can make your corrections on this card and turn it in when you get your picture taken. This procedure will allow you to find a quiet spot to write your corrections. We hope that everyone will choose to have their picture taken, but even if you don't, please give us your contact information corrections.

Accessibility

SUUSI tries hard to accommodate any physically challenged persons. Virginia Tech has ramps, curb cuts, and an excellent map of facilities for those with special needs. SUUSI offers "Star Cars," limited on-campus transportation for those who need a lift get to meals, workshops, worship, Cabaret, etc. Sign up for Star Car transportation through the Information Office.

Help keep Tech green

Virginia Tech does not collect trash from the dorms. Like the students who live in these spaces during the school year, we are expected to take our own trash and recyclable materials to the dumpsters and recycle bins provided around campus. Please be a good SUUSI citizen (and help keep our costs as low as possible) by being a green SUUSI participant.



Key contacts for SUUSI 2006

Director

Jen Lucas
director@suusi.org

Assistant to the Director

Hannalies Bosman
assistant@suusi.org

Director-Elect

Devin Gordon
director-elect@suusi.org

Denominational

Martha Shore
denominational@suusi.org

Locations

Karyn Machler
locations@suusi.org

Nature

Valerie Fleming & Ken Schmidt
nature@suusi.org

Nightlife

Elizabeth Thompson
nightlife@suusi.org

NUUS

Kevin McCulloch
nuus@suusi.org

Organizational Development

Phil Sterner
orgdev@suusi.org

Registration & Housing

Marianne Vakiener
registration@suusi.org

SUUSI Services

Janine Reed
services@suusi.org

Teens

Tom Macon & Kat Sweaney
teens@suusi.org

Treasurer

Wendell Putney
treasurer@suusi.org

Workshops

Kate Hofmann
workshops@suusi.org

Young Adults

Meredith Nevin & Mark Weathers
ya@suusi.org

Youth

Dianna MacPherson
youth@suusi.org