

NCUU

NATURE COAST

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

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Citrus Springs, FL 34434

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Nature Coast Unitarian Universalist (NCUU) News



Nature Coast Unitarian Universalists

Website: <https://www.ncuu.org>

March 2022

SUNDAY SERVICE

Sunday, Mar. 6, 2022

Speaker – Dee Collier



Whether she's referred to as "Annie Oakley," "Little Miss Sure Shot," or "Watanya Cicilla," you would recognize her as an American sharp-shooter, who became a much-loved international performer. But what was she really like? How was her incredible talent discovered? What events in her early years led to her character qualities? And what connection does she have with Central Florida? You're about to find out the answers to all of these questions and more as Dee Collier, a former elementary school teacher, history and drama enthusiast, brings to life the one and only "Annie Oakley."

Topic: "Annie Oakley"

Annie Oakley learned shooting skills as a child. Eventually, she became the best-known sharp-shooter in the world. But there was so much more to her than that. Her character qualities helped her survive a difficult childhood and eventually support young women who had a great deal of potential without the means to achieve it.

Sunday, Mar. 13, 2022

Speaker – Amy Weintraub, Progress Florida



Amy Weintraub is the Reproductive Rights Program Director at [Progress Florida](#) and chairs the Florida NOW Reproductive Rights Task Force. She is a seasoned, award-winning organizer, who has worked most of her adult life identifying, educating, and activating citizens toward social justice. She is heavily involved with the League of Women Voters St. Petersburg, Pinellas NOW, and the statewide Floridians for Reproductive Freedom coalition. Amy was a key leader of Women’s March St. Pete 2017, which saw more than 20,000 people gather to advance women’s issues — the largest public protest in St. Pete history. Prior to moving to Florida in 2015, Amy lived in her home state of West Virginia, where she led efforts within organizations

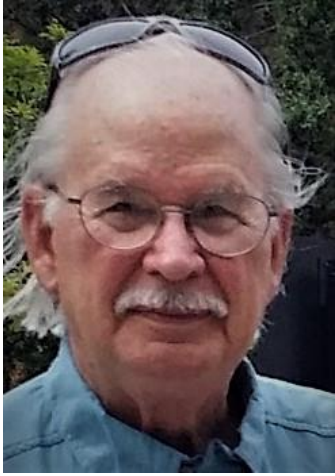
such as WV FREE (West Virginia Focus: Reproductive Education and Equality), Covenant House of West Virginia, and Planned Parenthood. She is a UU and was a leader in her congregation in Charleston, W.V., for many years, including serving for years as board president, vice president, treasurer, and worship associate. Amy lives in South St. Petersburg with her spouse. They have two children in college.

Topic: “Beyond Roe: Reproductive Rights in Florida”

Amy Weintraub, Reproductive Rights Program Director for Progress Florida, will offer reflections on the state of reproductive freedom in our state. She will discuss the relevance of the second principle and how UUs can position themselves to be resources for those in need of abortion care, even in the face of abortion bans and the potential end of the Roe v. Wade decision.

Sunday, Mar. 20, 2022

Speaker – Jim Davis



Jim Davis was born and raised in central Ohio and attended Capital University, The Ohio State University, The New School in New York City, Central Missouri State University, and Florida State University. During his junior year in college, he began writing poems and won several awards. His scribblings continued through a stint with Vista (Volunteers in Service to America) in New York City and in graduate studies. Life intruded. Music and poems were set aside. Near retirement, music wandered back. Poetry, as an adjunct to the search inward and outward for meaning, flew in through a hole in the screen. Jim has published one book of poems called “Inner Voices” and the second, tentatively called “Nostos,” is in the wings.

Topic: “Nostos: Poems Attempting a Return to Home”

The word “Nostos,” from Greek, means a yearning to return home. Poetry, like meditation, leads us to self-discovery.

Here’s a sample: “Like a mosquito that surreptitiously buzzes into your bedroom while you are asleep and bites in an inappropriate place, certain wisdom finds a hole in the screen and fills its appetite on your blood. You slowly waken with an itch. Follow your curiosity and don’t fix the screen.”

“Nostos,” my second collection of poems, examines personal influences as we travel through our lives – persons, locations, thoughts, and musical moments, which remind me of home. Yet, we gradually learn that home is a convenient fiction for the sense of security, comfort, and safety that abides within or that we seek in our lives.

These words, my poems, are the products of seeking.

Sunday, Mar. 27, 2022

Speaker – Annie Bumgarner



Annie has a special interest in exploring wellness in others and supporting their inner healer.

She is a Therapeutic Recreation Specialist and has led numerous workshops on the value of PLAY and wellness. She is on the certification path of NVC, Nonviolent Communication, to help teach a language of love and oneness. She is the Licensed Unity Teacher at Unity of Citrus, Lecanto, where she teaches classes, does spiritual counseling, and is on numerous teams to support Unity. She loves attending workshops on NVC, silent retreats, and enjoys any topic that takes her out of her comfort zone. In addition, she is an owner of an import company with her husband, Arbuth.

She thrives on learning and believes that wellness and spiritual growth are a lifelong process of choices and renewal that create quality of living.

Topic: “Be Present”

Our minds can continually distract us from the “present” moment. We begin to focus on the past, future, or a belief system that keeps us stuck in our thoughts.

Can we become curious with our minds and remain “present?” What can we “see” when we set our intentions to breathe into the present moment?

How would we “see” our Unitarian Universalist principles in the present moment?

NCUU Board of Directors

President	John Comer
Vice-President	Connie Hart
Clerk	Margo Wilson
Directors	Bree Hill, John Ivens, Shirley Leonard, Lowell Smith, and Don Wright

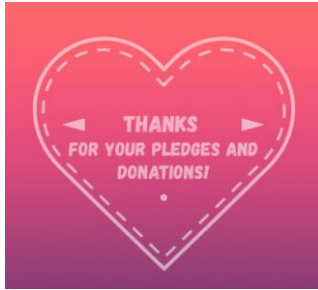
NCUU Committees

Building	Matthew Ciszewski and Lowell Smith
Bylaws	Gordon Hart
Calendar	Gordon Hart
Caring Committee	Connie Hart, Abby Madeiros
Choir Director	Sally Smith-Adams
Denominational Affairs	Bree Hill
Facebook	Jean McCauley, John Comer, and Connie Hart
Finance	Shirley Leonard
Grounds	Bree Hill
Librarian	Tom Hibberd
Long-Range Planning	Bob Madeiros
Media and Technology	Gordon Hart
Membership	Holly Alexander
Music	Sally Smith-Adams
Newsletter	Amy Haiken
Nominating Committee	Abby Madeiros, Jeanne Wright, and Mike Taylor
Photographer	Gordon Hart
Piano	Connie Hart, Sally Smith-Adams, Sheila Woods
Property	Matthew Ciszewski, John Comer, and Lowell Smith
Religious Education	John Ivens
Social Activities	Matthew Ciszewski and Pam Ricker
Social Justice	Don Wright
Sunday Service	Pam Ricker
Treasurer	Jean McCauley
Website	Gordon Hart, Amy Haiken

Board of Directors

Our board meeting is Monday, March 14 (Second Monday of the month) at 10:30 a.m. If you want to place an item on the board agenda, please send it to the clerk, Margo Wilson (clerkatncuu@gmail.com), about a week in advance.

NCUU Pledges



NCUU Pledges and [Youtube](#) Video

Our Fellowship is still functioning and has ongoing expenses. Click the above link if you are viewing this on your email to watch the video. We are open. Please find it in your generous hearts to keep your pledges and gifts up to date. Many thanks to all of you. Checks should be sent to:

Nature Coast Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
P.O. Box 94
Holder, FL 34445

Connie Hart



Announcements

Send Sunday Morning Announcements To:
Contactncuu@Gmail.Com Write "For Announcements" in the subject line. Deadline is the Friday before Sunday service.



March Birthdays



If your birthday is not included, and your name is not on this list, please notify the editor:

ahaiken@yahoo.com. Birthdays will be celebrated for now with a card from the Caring Committee. Please take time to text, call, or email these members this month.

Monique Sondheim



NCUU Calendar

Please send additions, deletions, updates, and edits to Gordon Hart, gchshutterbug@gmail.com, so that he may keep the calendar updated on our website, ncuu.org.



Share the Plate News - March

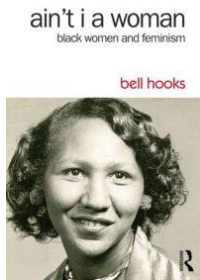
The Share the Plate collection in March will be donated to Progress Florida, a nonprofit organization promoting progressive values including social justice, economic fairness, reproductive freedom, strengthening public education, health care reform, and environmental protection. The goals are to build a stronger progressive movement in Florida, win advances in progressive public policy, generate news coverage that shines the public spotlight on progressive solutions to real problems, increase civic participation, and educate the public. More information can be found at Progressflorida.org.



Unknown Heroes

We are wrapping up African American History Month and entering Women's History Month. NCUU tries to honor these months with relevant services and speakers. It occurred to me that we might continue Sally's "Unknown Heroes" annually. Among those Sally remembered was Pauli Murray, poet and priest. Let the SSC know if you would like more. There are hundreds of stories to be told.

As a member of Veteran Feminists of America (not feminist veterans), I just received an encyclopedia of lesser known, but important, women and men, black and white.



One example: **bell hooks**, who was best known among scholars and the African American community. She recently died, leaving behind approachable scholarly and historical feminist writings, such as a new version of "*Ain't I a Woman?*" Do you want more like this?

-- Linda Myers

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee has only three members. We are seeking to fill two open positions. We meet once a month until preparations for the April annual meeting require two meetings. Anyone interested in joining us should contact Shirley Leonard, chair, at (781) 264-5098, or by email at reportersr@hotmail.com.

Newsletter Deadline

Please Remember That The Deadline For The Next Newsletter Is **March 23, 2022**. Please Adhere To This Deadline; otherwise, your material won't be included in the newsletter.

All request entries should be sent to the email address: ncuu.news@gmail.com. That will make it easier to keep all requests organized in one place. Please send the proofread text and photo attachments.

Amy

Grounds Work Day

Even though we're in a winter lull, the plants and weeds keep growing. If you are looking for a way to get out of the house, maintain social distancing (6 feet to whatever you are comfortable with), and get some fresh air and exercise, Sally and I would be happy for you to join us on the first Friday every month between sunup and 11 a.m. Even if it is for just an hour before the heat builds up, you are welcome!

Bree Hill

Learn About Your Fellow Members

A new website section is being developed for NCUU Members!

Do you have an interest, business, or hobby you'd like to share? For example, Gordon Hart has a new photo website. Amy Haiken and Mike Taylor have started a woodcraft business. Ned Davis is a ham radio enthusiast. Please contact Amy if you would like your hobby or business posted in our private section.

-- Connie Hart

Bree Receives Joan Burnett Award



John Comer Presents Bree Hill
the Volunteer Appreciation
Award from BoD for February

Nature Coast Unitarian Universalist Fellowship relies upon the contributions of all our members. We don't have a pastor and staff to do the work for us. We are a member-supported and operated community.

And that means some of our members give tirelessly of their time and talents to keep our doors open and our congregation returning.

The members of the NCUU Board of Directors have approved establishing a Joan Burnett Volunteer Appreciation Award to recognize some of our members who have contributed to the good of our congregation. We plan to give, on a regular basis, the award to a deserving individual or group.

This month, we'd like to recognize Ms. Bree Hill as the recipient of the Joan Burnett Volunteer Appreciation Award.

Bree serves on the fellowship's board of directors and chairs the Denominational Affairs and Grounds committees. But those titles barely convey the scope of Bree's involvement with NCUU.

For her work in Denominational Affairs, Bree attends regional UU meetings and reports to the board what other congregations in the area are doing. She also is a delegate to the annual UUA General Assembly.

In her work with the Grounds Committee, Bree doesn't just tidy up the Memorial Garden and plant a few annuals in warmer weather. She also is the one who figures out how our irrigation system works because no one left instructions about it when it was installed. She keeps it repaired and running efficiently.

She trims the trees by the shed so cars can park underneath and not get scratched. If few or no members show up on workdays to maintain the landscape, Bree intrepidly forges ahead because she wants the property to look beautiful and well-cared-for.

Bree sets up the chairs in the sanctuary, whether for a concert, a pre-COVID Sunday Service, or our socially distanced services now. If there's a potluck or other special event, Bree organizes the space.

Not one to shy away from giving of her time and talents, Bree also sets up the Sunday Service Board in the Sanctuary so that the hymns, the speaker's name, the affirmation number, and other information is listed.

Then, Bree tucks herself away in the office during the service to monitor the service on Zoom so that if there are any technical glitches, she can tell Gordon Hart, who is running the equipment in the sanctuary. Most people who attend a service or event aren't aware of Bree's preparation beforehand. Everything is in order when they arrive, and Bree is the one to thank for that.

These are just a few examples of the selfless service Bree offers to our fellowship.

The NCUU Board thus resoundingly chooses Ms. Bree Hill as the recipient of the Joan Burnett Volunteer Appreciation Award.

Thank you once again for all you do for our congregation. You are, indeed, a spirit of life and a weaver of our interdependent web of existence.