

NEW FEATURE:

*Mockingbird Essay Test: See if you can meet our exacting standards...*



Inside, it's a large minivan, really.

Our substitute theme speaker referred us to Meg's writings on changing our stories of drudgery, pain, and lost luggage<sup>1</sup> to tales rife with metaphoric meaning. Inspired, I decided to change the story of our trip to SI to an epic tale of peaceful passage from the Great White North<sup>2</sup> to the Kingdom of Kenyon.

By 9am, everyone was packed and ready to go. As we added more luggage, the van magically expanded<sup>3</sup>. My husband said, "That's OK. Of course you'll need all those silk skirts and a medieval princess gown. Who wouldn't? The tools and sports equipment can stay behind."<sup>4</sup>

As we drove, our eleven-year-old son begged us to play the old Peter, Paul, and Mary tapes again and we all sang along in three part harmony.<sup>5</sup> Between songs, we discoursed about Unitarian history and argued over the existence of God. Due to our respect for one another, we agreed to let god be a big black lesbian in the sky and left it at that. She plays for the Steelers<sup>6</sup> and knows all things, including the combination for the bike lock.

At the border, the customs man said, "It's good to have the

three of you back." Then we all shared a laugh over the excess cases of beer in the trunk<sup>7</sup> and the anti-war pamphlets. "You Canadians sure are funny," he said as he read our "Bush, another great reason to move to Canada" bumper sticker.

Since we were short on cash, we exchanged origami peace cranes for food along the way. I can still see the look of grateful surprise on the face of the server at Denny's. "Come back soon," she called as we waved goodbye, and we promised we would some day.

Stopping later at Applebees we were amazed to find that the Sports Channel had been replaced by Discovery Channel and the servers were all Buddhist monks. The tea ceremony took a little longer than we expected but it was two days well spent... Much better than the tea ceremony at Tim Horton's.

Arriving at Kenyon without getting lost<sup>8</sup>, we were pleased to learn that we were staying in the new residence with the Jacuzzi suites and breakfast service... you know the one. The Registrar<sup>9</sup> asked us not to mention this but we're too darned grateful to keep it to ourselves. Best of all, our son has his own room with a laundry suite. House elves bring back clean clothes and fragrant shoes daily.

Could it get any better, I wondered<sup>10</sup>. Ron, Sven, and Gus, the new luggage helpers appeared. They are body builders from Kent who adore middle aged women. They carried me and the baggage upstairs and unpacked.

Meanwhile, my husband was busy registering people and reported that there were few complaints<sup>11</sup>. The three families

MOCKINGBIRD SONG

SI in the morning, starts too early,  
SI in the night can go too long.  
SI at the mealtimes is exhausting,  
SI without pub time is just wrong.

--Dawn Colorado

sharing a room in Hanna have learned to co-exist. The Voluble Moo Goo Gai Pan registered under the pseudonym Shih Ying-Fa, to avoid confusion. Who knew there would be two guys with the same name?

The story goes on and on as most stories do, but you have have been patient, gentle reader. We can talk about that botched hemorrhoid another day, perhaps next year's Summer Institute. Suffice it to say, "I coulda died, eh?"<sup>12</sup> but I did not. This entire story is true if not accurate. It's my story and I'm sticking to it.

-- Tru Patreau

Footnotes:

1. or lost speaker, as the case may be.
2. Oh, my God, is it still winter up there?
3. but externally looked like a sporty convertible.
4. Come on, how much space does a roll of duct tape, a can of WD 40 and a frisbee take up?
5. Puffing is legal in Canada, eh?
6. Note to our Cleveland readers, this is so totally not the opinion of your editors.
7. Microbrew, of course.
8. no GPS required, which is good, as they don't seem to work in Knox county.
9. Formally known as the Exalted Office of the Registrariat.
10. A free beer, perhaps?
11. This concept is ridiculous, even for the Mockingbird.
12. or not.

# The Mockingbird

## UUAARRPP Activities Continue

*Joint SI/UUAARRPP Dance a great success, if too short.*



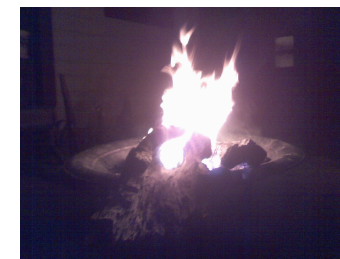
Announcing their return with an ear-splitting screech, the U-Tones rocked the SI community last night at the first inaugural joint UUAARRPP / SI Dance. G.I.M Gnarley of the Geezers stepped in to interpret song lyrics for those whose hearing aids were blown out by the band's opening number, "Cry of the Eagle."

Even the youth and young adult dancers enjoyed the performance, proving that age is not a barrier to boogying down.

We look forward to a long tradition of joint events, especially as many of us get new joints ourselves. Sorry it didn't run longer, but hey, we gotta get our sleep.

### MORE OLYMPIC NEWS--ART SPACE GOES FOR THE GOLD

In visual arts, arch rivals Art Space and Body Art were at it again this year. Vying for gold, the Art Space folks created 357 crocheted toilet paper covers in 3 hours, 22 minutes – a new SI Olympic record. Not to be outdone, team Body Art tattooed every man, woman, child, squirrel and skunk in a one-mile area. Despite such outstanding feats of artistic display,



*SI olympic torch lighting, or Mango Chalice Chicken?*

neither team won gold. Top honors went to team Duct Tape, which created a new dining hall for Kenyan College out of – you guessed it – duct tape. In more physical competition, the water rafting team won gold after besting the bike trail team. Seems the bikers stopped for ice cream, which really slowed them down on the second part of their course.

### UUs get Piqued

Spam Hens-n-Chicks has done it again. Calling on his Uncle Maurice's family traditions to develop a new wrinkle on the tired old UU Summer Institute game of Peek, Spam has discovered the game of Pique, which some of you played tonight.

Pique is played much the same as the previous game,

but in this case the prizes are mostly those items

found to particularly annoy Unitarian-Universalists.

Your Pique prize bag may contain global warming, social conservatives, dogmatic theologians, or even God Talk. Remember: no returns!





FORUM, OPINION, COMMENTARY, TALK-BACK, JOYS AND CONCERNS...

**Z Workshop Musical Aid**

I'd really like to thank Hal Twizzler for starting the nap workshop earlier this morning than usual. I really needed to catch up after the late night before. I wonder, though, can Amazing Grace be played or sung any slower? I think it would be a better sleep aid even slower, thanks.

-- Sop "Annie" Napper

**Magical Influence?**

Has anyone noticed one of the trombone players in the Folk Orchestra appears to be Harry Potter, disguised with a beard? (Harry -- get it?) It doesn't look like he's really playing, so maybe this is just a disguise. Can this really be true? Is he watching over the Hogwarts program, or is he here to help locate our real theme speaker?

-- H. Granger

**Theme Speaker Talk-back**

What's up with our morning speaker? She said "say your piece, then let it go," but she herself goes on and on and on...

-- Hugh Jim Bissel

**Hogwarts to the rescue again**

In an effort to help performer Windy Persimmons find a decent man so she can write more happy love songs and cash in on the lucrative sappy pre-tween demographic, the Hogwarts folks are practicing the old rarely-used incantation, *Eliminatus Neanderthalus*. The incantation can sometimes take several months to take effect, so they've also included complimentary tickets to their platform 9 1/2 at the Amtrak station, which may help her find a train. Good luck, Windy!

-- Prof. Swizzlestick

**Dear Mockingbird,**

I want the next guy in my life to be a UU. any advice on how to

catch a UU man? Are they worth having?

--WP

Dear WP,

The SI poll shows 34% yes, 32% no, and 34% undecided. Good luck.

**Fairy "litter" my eye**

Further work at PITA Labs has determined the odd geofacts, in addition to the electromagnetic effects, are attracted to paper in our nametags. Look at the secret code number on your nametag. Avoid getting close to an SI 08 "rock" with the same number, and be sure *never* to do so when carrying scissors.

**Note to Hummingbird writers**

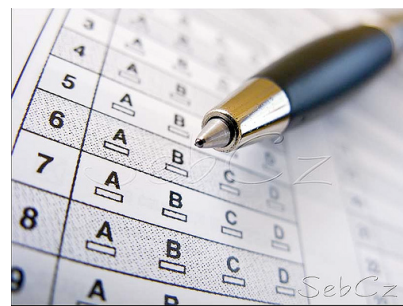
We received your applications, guys. We'll get back to you, thanks

KEEP THOSE CARDS AND LETTERS COMING...

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IS THE GLASS HALF-FULL OR HALF-EMPTY, ARRANGED BY MYERS-BRIGGS TYPE



Asking the Myers-Briggs type if the water glass is half-full or half-empty:

ENFJ -- There's more than enough for friends to share.

ENFP -- Whooooee! Water fight!

INFP -- But look! A crystalline vessel, filled with shimmering, life-giving nectar!

INFJ -- Senator Hophnagle used the rest of it for his mud pie project.

ENTJ -- A "full" glass of water, please.

INTJ -- Yes, that glass will be the flivvium container.

ENTP -- Voila! .157 liters hydrogen hydroxide, prepared by micro gnomes ...

INTP -- Well, it seems just a little more than half full--assuming that it is water...

ESTJ -- Hey! Whose job was it to fill up this glass?

ESFJ -- I can't believe someone would leave this dirty glass out here! Clean up this mess!

ISTJ -- It's half empty now, and it wouldn't surprise me if it dried up completely.

ISFJ -- I bet Peg would like to have some water right now ...

ESTP -- You call that a glass of water? Why, back where I come from, ...

ISTP -- So? It's water. Big deal!

ESFP -- There's a glass of water--you know, it's healthy to drink a lot of water, why, I remember when I was growing up that we...

ISFP -- (Holds up glass to the light, tilts it from side to side, tastes it, wiggles finger in it, grins slightly, moves on.)

MEET THE CANDIDATE: THE SUMMER INSTITUTE FAIRY

The Mockingbird is pleased to bring you an exclusive



We met with the SI Fairy on the campaign trail, above, and more informally later, relaxing at home.

interview with erstwhile Fairyworld Prissydential candidate, our own SI fairy (*Semper Inebriatus sp. fairyus*).

**MB:** So, Ms. Fairy, what's the hardest part of campaigning?

**SIF:** Well, the fairies have been working so hard we've hardly had time to drink--I mean 'think.' Someone is telling people if they donate \$50 to some stupid soft-money PAC they can tip kids off their bikes! So far, the fairies have caught the kids and avoided disaster, but frankly, we're getting tired.

**MB:** How do you see your competition?

**SIF:** Well, there's Tinkerbell, but she's just a ding-a-ling, of course.

Then there's the Karma Fairy, a sweet girl, who has unfortunately taken bad advice. Instead of

appearing here in person, she sent in a surrogate speaker; some southern hussy nomad named Meg Barnhouse. Unfortunately, I hear Meg had some travel issues and the replacement speaker isn't as smooth, so KF's plans were derailed. I'm sorry Meg won't make it to SI at all.

**MB:** Why do you say that? Do you know something we don't?

**SIF:** No, of course not! I misspoke. I meant to say I would be sorry if she didn't make it.

**MB:** About those stones--in my business I know a crock of "litter" when I hear it. They are strongly magnetic; has that always been the case? This seems rather new.

**SIF:** My goodness, look at the time! I must run. I have a nightlighter recruitment event to attend. Ta, ta!

FAIRY AND FAIRY "LITTER" SIGHTINGS AROUND CAMPUS

The Karma Fairy has been stumping in the woods to the southwest.

John has been giving astronomical talks off the path, in between bridging ceremonies.

Tinkerbell has linked up with disgruntled Tooth Fairies, concerned about increased expenses.



The Dogma Fairy is in town working with local churches.

The Screw-up Fairy has been seen adjusting the water mains in north campus.

Woods Elves and sprites have left copious "litter" in the lawn by Lower Gund.

MORE SI SCHOLARSHIP GLBT DISHES TO ENJOY



It may look like hummus in the Food Emporium salad bar, but it's really Meg Barnhouse's Pureed Honey Mango Meatloaf. And be sure to try Dave Clippinger's recipe for Thai Chee-Toes! Perfect for those looking to gain a few pounds. And finally, SI Workshop presenter Moo Goo Gai Pan's recipe for Moo Goo Gai Pan is on the list of approved foods for the SI Scholarship Weight LGBT program. 272.31 calories, 7 Weight Watchers points, unless made with moose, which adds a point.