



**Prescott Unitarian Universalist Fellowship**  
**945 Rancho Vista Dr., Prescott, AZ 86303**  
**928-778-6672**

<p align="center"><b>Apr 7</b> Sunday 11 am</p>	<p><b>“Before I Die”</b></p> <p><b>Michelle Souza</b> and <b>Kelly Paradis</b> will speak on the <b>Before I Die Project</b> for Prescott’s upcoming Chalk It Up event. Learn the history and fill in the blank: Before I die, I want to _____. Music: Kanikapilas.</p> <p>Coordinator: Sue Tone.</p>
<p align="center"><b>Apr 14</b> Sunday 11 am</p>	<p><b>"The Great Turning"</b></p> <p>We UU's and our life affirming Principles are reflected in the Great Turning. <b>Maria Flurry</b> will accompany us on a musical and experiential journey through a growing movement of creative and meaningful acts for the sake of the Earth.</p> <p>Coordinator: Glenna Hudson</p>
<p align="center"><b>Apr 21</b> Sunday 11 am</p>	<p><b>The Levity of UUism: "Herding cats and other UU humor."</b></p> <p>Al Schober will present a sermon by the reverend Dr. Tony Larsen. If you think about it, there is a lot of humor in being a Unitarian Universalist so we will explore this avenue of UU life. Music: Sadie Norkin.</p>
<p align="center"><b>Apr 28</b> Sunday 11 am</p>	<p>Longtime UU <b>Lydia Garrett</b> will be talking on <b>“This I Believe.”</b></p> <p>She will share what brought her to the Unitarian community some 60 years ago. She shares her experience as a European immigrant to the bewildering multitude of non catholic churches in our United States. Music: Adrienne Bridgewater.</p> <p>Coordinator: Eunice Ricklefs</p>

## Caring Network

If you have any needs, such as shopping, running errands, transportation needs, or other help, or if you just need to talk with someone, please call someone from the Caring Network.

Eunice Ricklefs at 928-771-9559

Marion Pack at 928-642-6788

## PUUF Facilities Available

PUUF facilities are available for use for small gatherings.

Refer to the [PUUF web site](https://puuf.net/facility-rentals), <https://puuf.net/facility-rentals> for rental information.

**Board of Trustees meeting** will be on April 21, 2024, after the Sunday Service.

### PUUF (go to) POINT PERSONS

<b>Archives/Library:</b> <i>Vacant</i>	<b>Membership:</b> Glenna Hudson
<b>Building Maintenance:</b> Dale Hudson	<b>Music:</b> Glenna Hudson
<b>Grounds Maintenance:</b> Al Schober	<b>Caring Committee:</b> <i>Vacant</i>
<b>Programs:</b> Eunice Ricklefs	<b>Social Action:</b> <i>Vacant</i>
<b>Facilities Schedule:</b> Mark Mathewson	<b>UUSC:</b> Eunice Ricklefs
<b>Website:</b> Mark Mathewson	<b>PAWS/PASS:</b> Eunice Ricklefs
<b>Coming Up @ PUUF/Newsletter:</b> Mark Mathewson, Sue Tone	<b>Hospitality:</b> Debra Mathewson

**We have openings for “Point Person” positions if you are interested please contact a board member, thank you.**

# PUUF NEWS

April 2024



## Board of Trustees

### President

Al Schober  
928-925-1938

### Vice President

Sue Tone  
928-642-7867

### Treasurer

Mark Mathewson  
509-429-8635

### Secretary

Debra Mathewson  
509-429-6421

### Trustee

Jerry Matiatos  
928-237-8033



### PUUF Office

928-778-6672

### Administration

Mark Mathewson  
509-429-8635

### Coming Up at PUUF

Mark Mathewson  
509-429-8635

### Newsletter

Sue Tone  
928-445-3162

### Facilities Scheduling

Mark Mathewson  
509-429-8635

Jerry Matiatos  
928-237-8033

### Lay Ministers

Glenna Hudson  
928-636-4877

Jerry Matiatos  
928-237-8033

## Discover What Makes Us Unique Featuring this month's remarkable PUUF member

*This is a series of newsletter feature articles about PUUF members so we can get to know each other on a deeper more expanded level – before we learn of all the interesting things we wished we knew about before reading the obituary.*

A family background and schooling in Catholicism with Mass every Sunday was enough religion for this PUUF member. "I endured 12 years of Catholic education and the indoctrination

that involved. I

tried, I really did try, to believe the dogma that was pushed on us. I just could not do it," he said.

Once he started driving, Sunday mornings were spent on deserted roads drag racing in his father's car with other teenagers – his father rarely attended services and didn't have a clue what was going on.



*Continued on page 6...*

## Put these POTLUCKS on your calendar!

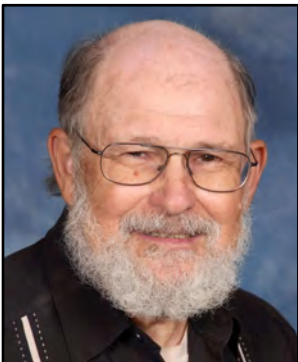
Easter Sunday, March 31, with Rabbi Nina Perlmutter was celebrated with a potluck luncheon after the service. The PUUF board and program committee would like to continue with potlucks on special Sundays (Mother's Day May 12 and Father's Day June 16, for instance) and every fifth Sunday of the month for the rest of the year: June and September, we'll talk about December later).



These are fun events outside on the deck and sometimes involve grilled hamburgers and hotdogs, and always include the best dishes PUUF members are known for – not to mention Costco! Put these Sundays on your calendar and plan on attending.

# PUUF ACTIVITIES

## President's Letter



Hello everyone. Spring is here!! Well, almost. We're still getting rain and snow this past month. Anyway, spring means planting time in our PUUF garden. The garden has been very successful in its production of veggies for the local food bank. People are able to get vegetables that have been just picked, and that adds to their enjoyment of eating, I hope. So when you are at PUUF on Sundays, please check out the garden and observe how the plants are growing.

On a personal matter. Some of you know that in December I had an A-fib situation where my heart was racing at 134 beats per minute. The heart doctor shocked it back into regular rhythm and on March 7, I underwent an ablation that cleaned up a few spots on the inner wall of the heart. The rest of the tests came back totally okay with my heart and its related system. I feel fine and am anxious to get back

to my normal routine.

I hope to see you on Sundays as we are having some really interesting programs and some great discussions and fellowship.



## Yard Sale with Rancho Vista HOA - Canceled

The Rancho Vista HOA decided to postpone the proposed yard sale in May to a date later this year in the fall. Plan ahead and start setting aside what you might want to get rid of or donate to the PUUF table or your own spot. No fee for spaces and there could be coffee and refreshments available for all.



## A Gift From June Ruth



PUUF Governing Board members announce with gratitude the acceptance of a \$38,400 endowment from the estate of JUNE RUTH. June Ruth, wherever you are, thank you for your generous spirit, benevolence, good will and friendship to the Prescott Unitarian Universalist Fellowship.



# PUUF ACTIVITIES

## Silent Meditation Practice on April 27

Cheryl Walters welcomes you to join her for “**A Day of Remembering the Self**” lead by Nischala Joy Devi, a masterful and compassionate teacher.

This silent meditation practice will be on Saturday, April 27, at the Prescott Unitarian Universalist Facility at 945 S. Rancho Vista Drive in Prescott. The cost is \$70 for the public. For PUUF members, friends and family cost is \$50

EVERYONE is welcome. If the financial commitment is too much, we will receive any form of a love offering amount.

Payment options:

VENMO: Cheryl Walters@Cwlovejoy

ZELLE: 928-499-1553

or bring cash

We will begin our journey by drawing inward, dedicating the morning to silent meditation and contemplation. A few different sitting meditation practices will be offered as well as time for silent walks and other practice options (we will not be practicing physical poses).

The afternoon will be dedicated to answering questions, sharing thoughts, and exploring ways to enhance our practices in daily life.

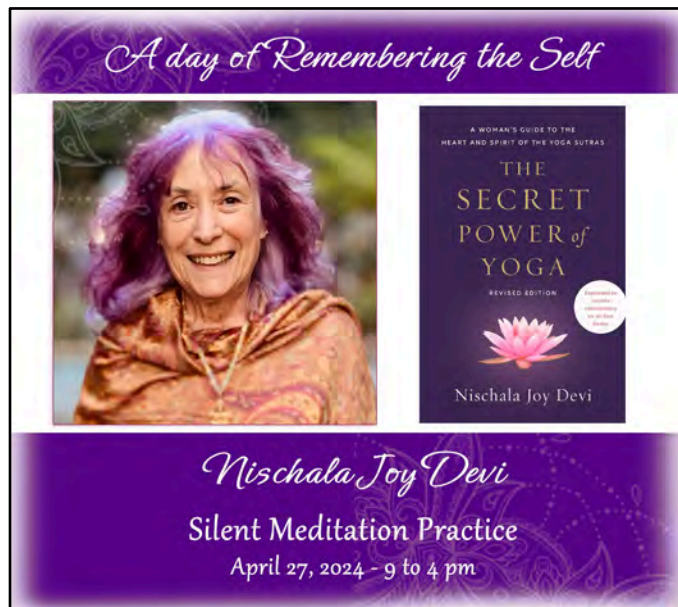
Please join us for this unique opportunity to study with a masterful teacher in a small intimate setting.

- Please bring meditation cushions, blankets, and a journal.
- If you have a copy of *The Secret Power of Yoga*, please bring it with you.
- Please participate in a vegan/vegetarian potluck for the lunch break.

Please feel free to reach out to me at 928-499-1553 or [cwlotusbloom@gmail.com](mailto:cwlotusbloom@gmail.com) for more information about this wonderful event.

My website (<http://lotusbloomyoga.com>) will always have the most current information about all my yoga retreats, events, and classes.

Bright Blessings!



# PUUF ACTIVITIES

## This Month's PUUF Member *continued from page 3*



High School photo of Al

Al Schober aka Joseph John Storm has a fascinating history of growing up adopted in Lancaster, Penn. Until recently, he didn't know who his birth mother or father were. His adoptive mother Helen died when he was four years old after giving birth to his brother, Tom, who was raised by his dad's sister across the street.

"My father was a very quiet person, rarely scolding unless I really screwed up like giving my brother firecrackers and he was caught by the police. Or the time that I blew out the mufflers in his car. But there was actually very little punishment for these offenses, just a talking to. Dad never instructed me in any growing-up tips or how to live a life with other people as he, I later realized, had fallen into a depression after Helen died that never lifted. I thought he was angry with me, but later realized that he just could not express himself or show emotion," Al said.

He attributes this upbringing to becoming an introvert, saying he didn't mingle with many people except the local neighborhood gang. He went to one high school dance, the senior prom, and called it "a disaster."

His neighborhood was predominantly white, and he had little exposure to Black or Jewish classmates. At an early age, Al said, he pretty much accepted

people as they were.

"There was only one Black girl in my high school and certainly no Jewish students. When I was about 16, I had a girlfriend who lived next to a Jewish family, and they had two teenage girls. So I got to interact with them and got to know them. Wow, they were just like the rest of the kids in the neighborhood, and that was a lesson right there that guided my attitude about other kinds of people."

In terms of childhood hobbies or interests, he remembers, "I rushed home every day to watch Dick Clark and all the kids who were dancing, and wished that I was there in Philadelphia with them."

Al has been an amateur astronomer for 70 years, ever since he looked up at the sky at about ten years of age wondering "What are those lights up there?" He enjoys holding star parties, showing people the sky. He also administers a Facebook astronomy page with almost 300 members. "I give them current information on what's happening in the sky and equipment to observe the sky. I own six telescopes and one more on the way in a few weeks," Al Schober, TN (the Telescope Nut), said.



After graduating high school, he attended one semester of college at Penn State extension to learn electronics. "It was just not for me. I had absolutely no interest. All I learned there was how to use a slide rule and to play chess. My father was not encouraging in my following astronomy. He said, 'You'll never make any money at that profession.'"

So Al found work in grocery stores and advanced into management, which he enjoyed even being the introvert he was. After moving to Arizona, he worked 11 years for A.J. Bayless until they folded, then picked up odd jobs. Some of those jobs involved painting houses, which he liked, and he began his own painting business. At age 80, he still takes on "small jobs."

Al has been married three times. With his first marriage, he has two daughters, Vickie and Diane. The second marriage was to a woman who had six kids. "Let's just say I was not very settled in my life at that

*continued on page 7...*

# PUUF ACTIVITIES

## This Month's PUUF Member *continued from page 6*



Al and Annette

time or even had any idea who I was or what I needed out of life.”

Then he met Annette and was together with her for 36 years, 4 months, and 1 day until she passed eight years ago. “I credit and thank Annette for her persistence in turning me into a human being,” Al said. Annette had a four-year-old daughter, Terra, whom he adopted when Terra was seven.



Al and daughter Diane

She dialed up the Unitarian listing by mistake.

“Albert Lovejoy answered. Just so happens that Albert and Eunice were having some UUs over that evening for a slide show of their recent trip to Central America and we were invited. Remember I was still a devout introvert as far as public gatherings,” he said, “so I felt pretty out of place. We met some really good people who seemed to me to have an inner peace about them, and I decided to learn more about them and UU.”

After the UU split into two entities, Al and Annette rarely attended, but stayed in touch with their friends. However, Annette presented her writing and poetry several times with The Mad Women Poets and Al gave a talk on building his house in Ash Fork.

“After Annette passed, I called Glenna to arrange to have her memorial service at PUUF and it felt so much like I was home that I rejoined soon and have been with ‘my family’ ever since,” he said.

Al currently serves as president on the PUUF Board of Directors, and also as president of the Juniper Wood Ranch land association where he lives. “That seems also to be a lifetime appointment. But it's also a fun thing as we are only a social club that holds events and potlucks. It seems that the introverted person has disappeared somewhere along the way, because even fifteen years ago I could never have seen myself as president of two organizations!”

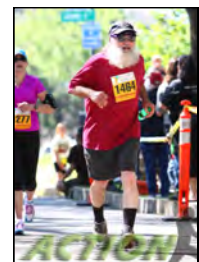
He credits Annette for teaching him to be a “thinking and involved person with society.”



Bernadine, Al's birth mother



Al discovered “new” family members, including his half-brother, Bernie Shopf



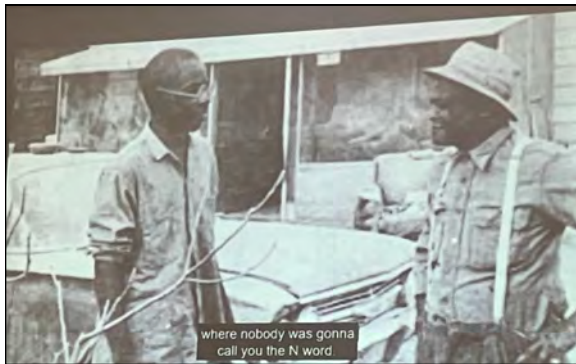
Al ran his first 10K race at age 69. Today he keeps himself to a “fast walk.”



# PUUF PROGRAM RECAP

## March 3: Black in America

Eunice Ricklefs provided two episodes of a PBS series called **Black in Arizona**. They talked about the history of arts and culture in Phoenix, including neighborhoods such as Okemah in South Phoenix, large murals, restaurants, the Black Theatre Troupe, and music. “Music is how we soothe. Music is how we survive. Music is more than just a sound.” The videos were followed by sharing personal experiences of people and places mentioned in the program.



Meg Bohrman sang three songs including *You're your Eyes on the Prize*, and *Nothing More* in which we all sang: We are love. We are one. We are how we treat each other when the day is done.



## March 10: Maria and Henry Flurry

Maria brought her bass recorder to play Lone Wild Bird as she talked of a trip through Montana where she felt separated from nature despite the beautiful scenery. She credits a book, *Coming Back to Life* by Joanna Macy and Molly Young Brown, to helping her connect again to Mother Earth. Maria gifted everyone with a rock for strength and groundedness. She and Henry gifted us with their music.





# PUUF PROGRAM RECAP

## March 17: Objectification of Women in Advertising

Sue Tone spoke on the objectification of women (and men) in advertisements to sell products. Following a short TED Talk by Jill Killbourne, people looked through and discussed magazine ads that many found offensive or just plain silly. Conversation continued afterward and touched on critical thinking, Oscar night dresses, and the effects on today's teenagers. Music videos began with You Are So Beautiful, Creep, and ended with R-E-S-P-E-C-T.

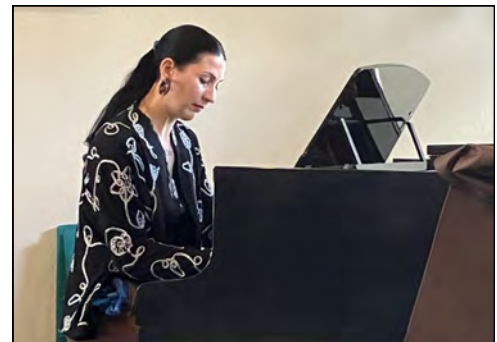
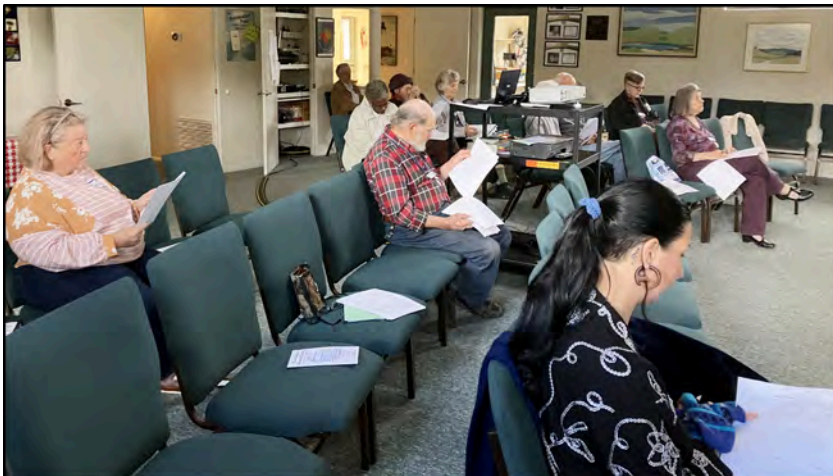


Here is an example of how women's bodies are used to sell Skecher athletic shoes - posed with lots of leg showing but no athletic activity - and the Skecher ads with men involved in outdoor physical activity - which is exactly what the shoes are used for.

## March 24: Jane Jones, End of Life Doula

Jane Jones recently completed an 8-week online Death Doula course through the University of Vermont. She shared the circumstances around her parents' death which led her to the study of dying. Jane passed out packets of information to consider when writing up "comfort care" if incapacitated, some legacy questions for those left behind, and an Advance Directive for Conscious Dying. She also can provide these in electronic form.

Morgan Cooper provided the music.



# PUUF PROGRAM RECAP

## March 31: Rabbi Nina Perlmutter

Third time is a charm! Although Rabbi Nina had to postpone twice due to snow – and it snowed yet again the night of March 30 – she was able to present on the Jewish tradition of questioning.

Why question? Answer: Why not? Rarely are questions answered with a yes or no, yet we live in a culture that doesn't like gray areas. The Jewish religion adds a third possibility – it depends. Nothing is perfect, not even God. So we are mandated to be questioners. Rabbi Nina reminded us that we question "for the sake of heaven," to gain understanding, not to insult.



Sue Daniel and Bev Worthman provided spring music, including the sound of birdsongs. The service concluded with joining hands and singing Let There Be Peace.



Just when we thought it might be possible to enjoy a potluck fellowship on the porch March 31, it snowed/rained and the temperature dropped considerably. Nevertheless, the bounty of food shared inside was enjoyed by all.

The next potluck is scheduled for May 12, Mother's Day.

Al Schober tests the macaroni and cheese as Jessica Thomas and Bev Worthman look on.