

UUPCC Board Members elected June 26, 2010

Ann Gary, Upton MA

Ann Gary has been involved in with UUPCC since 2004, in a networking role - working to support and strengthen partnerships. Initially interested reaching out and getting involved with a far away place, Ann has become surprisingly involved “spiritually” in her partner church relationship with Csekefalva, Transylvania. She first hosted her partner minister on a trip to the U.S. in 2002. Since then, she and her family have visited Transylvania three times and again hosted a stay in the U.S in 2009. She feels a real connection with her partner village and its congregation. Her partner minister’s daughter is Ann’s goddaughter! Ann is a marketing consultant by trade who specializes in evaluating and improving relationships between major advertisers and their advertising agencies. She is a dedicated humanist, and has been a member of Hopedale, MA Unitarian Parish for the past 14 years. Ann lives in an old farmhouse in central Massachusetts with her husband, Tim House, and their son Alex. And don’t forget the dog, Baci. *“One of the wonderful things about being involved in UU Partnerships is the different levels of engagement possible: History, politics, language, customs, village life, congregational life, people, and our shared religious roots and spiritual connections...and most importantly shared experiences with individuals that can strengthen and transform each others lives.”*

Rev. Bruce J. Johnson, Norwich VT

Rev. Bruce Johnson is the minister of the UU Congregation of the Upper Valley in Norwich, Vermont where he has served since 2003. His congregation has a partner church in Mukhap, India where Bruce visited in the fall of 2008. Before coming to Norwich, Bruce served churches in Indiana, Michigan and Illinois. He is a native of Northern Minnesota and a graduate of Bowdoin College and Harvard Divinity School. He looks forward to serving on the board.

Rev. Scott Prinster, Madison WI

The Rev. Scott Prinster is a doctoral student at the University of Wisconsin, studying the interaction between religion and science in the uses of Charles Darwin's ideas. He has served congregations in Michigan and Wisconsin, and spent two years in Transylvania as the English teacher at the Unitarian seminary in Kolozsvár. He previously served on the Board of the Partner Church Council almost a decade ago, and is excited to have another opportunity to work with such an exciting program. In his spare time, Scott hangs out in Madison's coffeeshops or plays old-time music on his fiddle and banjo.

H. deForest Ralph, Houston TX

deForest Ralph has been a UUPCC board member since January 2008, completing a term vacated by Rev. Eric Cherry. He is owner of Ralph Associates, Inc., an energy consulting company. deForest has been involved with partnership work since the early 1990s, beginning with his home congregation of Emerson UU Church and their partnership with Gyergyószentmiklós, and later as a networker for the Southwest district. He has visited Transylvania several times and been a host to ministers from his partnership. He and his wife Martha organized many events at Emerson to raise awareness of their partnership and were instrumental in raising the funds to complete the purchase and remodeling of the church in Gyergyószentmiklós. He instituted the Bell Ringers appeals for the UUPCC in 2000 that helped raise over \$10,000 for our partners in faith around the world. deForest has found much joy and has strengthened of his own faith through his involvement with the partner church movement. He is pleased to be able to support the UUPCC with his board involvement.