# UAUS URANTIA ASSOCIATION of the UNITED STATES

**UAUS Council Quarterly Meeting Via Zoom**

**Saturday, June 27 2026, at 1:00 PM CT**
**APPROVED MINUTES on Saturday, September 26, 2026**

## In attendance: Quorum: ⅓ of the members

| **Roster** | | |
|---|---|---|
| James Perry | Virginia/Carolina Readers | Absent |
| Will Sherwood | Virginia/Carolina Readers | Yes |
| Bob Solone | GLMUA | Yes |
| Jay Peregrine | GLMUA | Yes; Left at 1:30 PM |
| Marc Boucher | HULA | Yes |
| Marian Fieldson | HULA | Absent |
| Joyce Anderson | NY-PENN | Yes |
| Dave Neufer | NY-PENN | Yes |
| Linda Huff | UBSCONE | Yes |

| **Others** | | |
|---|---|---|
| Alice Wood | President | Yes |
| Marc Boucher | VP | Yes |
| Matt Hughes | Treasurer | Yes |
| Xue Wood | Secretary | Yes |

President Alice Wood called the meeting to order at 1:02 pm CT with a brief period of silent reflection followed by a prayer.

Xue Wood took attendance and Alice Wood declared a quorum.*

## Minutes

The Minutes of the March 28, 2026 Meeting of the UAUS Council (formerly known CLP) were approved as submitted following a motion by Will Sherwood which was seconded by Joyce Anderson.

# UAUS URANTIA ASSOCIATION of the UNITED STATES

## Overview

1. **Website / branding:** proposed move to **urantiausa.org** as a simpler public URL; current site remains uayus.urancia-association.org (subsite) and linked/managed by UAI. Alice is coordinating with the website manager to secure/verify the domain and fix SSL/redirect issues.
2. **Treasury & investments:** Treasurer reported **starting balance $69,618.77**, **current balance $66,788.97** (as of June 27). Year-to-date receipts **$530**; recent expenses totaled **$3,359.80** (Zoom, 990 filing, entertainer, Garden School scholarship). Board authorized Jay, Alice, and Matt to research and invest **up to $50,000 in CDs** and exploring interest-bearing options for the rest.
3. **Programs & outreach:** Garden School scholarship of **$3,000** awarded; approved distribution of **12 books** in Northern California around the July conference route; small Summer Serenade pivoted into a Study Group Serenade model (musician visits virtual/in-person study groups) starting after July 4.
4. **Events / travel reimbursements:** Approved reimbursing travel for UAUS representation at conferences (Asilomar, Texas fellowship). Reimbursements require receipts; estimate for Alice's Texas trip up to **$730** pending receipts (registration + flight).
5. **Governance / staffing:** UAI is creating a split secretary role: a proposed paid assistant secretary (clerical) and an unpaid board secretary. UAUS is still seeking a board secretary candidate.

### Website & domain

- Alice shared the refreshed UAUS site content: mailing list CTA, bylaws/minutes, membership/donate/volunteer forms, newsletter archive. She removed some legacy public content (obituaries) but retains backend access.
- Current URL pattern is a UAI-managed subsite (uayus.urancia-association.org). Alice discovered urantiausa.org is owned by UAI and noted it links to the subsite; team prefers the simpler **urantiausa.org** for public use.
- SSL/security showed a non-secure indicator previously; Alison asked the UAI website manager (Christine Winkler) to secure the urantiausa.org domain before switching public links.
- Recommendation accepted: **keep both URLs active** during transition to avoid broken links; update external links to point to a canonical URL once secured.

- Next step: Alice to pursue switching the public URL and coordinate with Christine; site links and newsletter link behavior to be fixed prior to public switch.

**Finance & investments**

- Treasurer's snapshot: **Opening Jan 1st: $69,618.77**; YTD donations and dues **$530**; expenses **$3,359.80**; **Balance Jun 27th: $66,788.97**. Treasurers Report is attached to the minutes.
- Membership dues breakdown discussed (example: $5/member in several local groups reported).
- Discussion on where funds are held (Bank of America noted; some legacy statement addresses varied). Options explored: CDs, money-market, brokerage (Vanguard/Schwab) and high-yield online savings (Alice suggested **~3%** savings rate). CD/brokerage CD rates in market **~3.5–4%**; brokerage/CDs via Schwab/Vanguard potentially higher depending on instruments.
- Board motion passed to authorize **Jay, Alice, and Matt** to research and implement investing **up to $50,000 in CDs** (tiered maturities recommended) and report findings; remainder of funds to be considered for high-interest savings or other safe vehicles.
- Emphasis on conservative approach: avoid risky mutual fund investments without fiduciary oversight; prefer insured/low-risk instruments and clear budgeting for planned expenditures (book distribution, scholarships, conferences).
- Reimbursements: travel and distribution expenses to be reimbursed on a receipts basis; members distributing books or traveling must submit receipts to the treasurer for reimbursement.

**Book distribution & outreach**

- Matt (with Marion) proposed distributing **12 books** in Northern California (route Monterey → Mendocino, July 9–20 window). Aim: place books in libraries (public, university) and hand copies to interested individuals.
- Past experience: library acceptance varies—some libraries accept and shelve, some place donations into sales; successful placements found (Pacific Grove library requested a copy) and prior campaigns (Hawaii tour, other efforts) demonstrate impact.
- Plan: distribute copies, collect receipts for expenses (rental car, gas, lunches), and produce a short write-up/photos after the trip for newsletter/website publicity.
- Motion passed to approve the proposal as presented (up to 1,000 copies budgeted if needed, but current plan is **12** books; reimbursement contingent on receipts).

- Outreach idea: hand out business cards or small postcards with a QR code linking to the Urantia Book/UAUS site; consider printed welcome packets or decal/cards for new signups; offer digital versions for easy sharing.

**Events & programs**

- Garden School: UAUS committed **$3,000** scholarship; candidate Robert Vasquez approved to attend Garden School for about six months; he will assist on the farm and food stand, and share a bio for newsletter publicity.
- Summer Serenade / Moonlight Worship: low turnout prompted pivot to a Study Group Serenade model — bring musicians into existing study groups (virtual/in-person) to leverage built-in audiences; start after **July 4** with a timeline and deadlines to be set.
- Fellowship conference (California) and Texas conference: UAUS members will attend and speak (Alice to represent UAUS at Texas, requesting reimbursement up to **$730** pending receipts). Approved to reimburse actual expenses with receipts.
- Suggestion to coordinate group photos at conferences (Asilomar) and provide post-event write-ups for the newsletter/website.

**Governance & implementation**

- UAI maintains the parent site and subsite relationship; working groups vs independent associations clarified:
    - A working group (UPSCONE working group) is embedded within UAUS (no separate nonprofit status) and can be chaired rather than structured as a full independent association.
    - Independent associations (e.g., GLMUA) may hold separate nonprofit status and separate budgets.
- UAI is restructuring roles: assistant secretary (proposed paid clerical role) and board secretary (unpaid). UAUS is still seeking a board secretary candidate.
- Implementation steps underway: survey to gauge interest in forming LVAs (local/virtual associations), Q&A sessions for members confused by restructuring, monthly board meeting cadence to be arranged via email.

**Communications & next steps**

- Membership outreach: run a short welcome packet / postcard / QR-code business card campaign to new and existing members (digital and print) and include donation QR on materials.
- Newsletter: include Garden School scholarship highlight, book distribution story,

call for donations for July (donations received in July to support book distribution), post-event write-ups and photos.

- Events calendar: list upcoming Jesus Birthday celebrations and other local events on the website (Linda to provide retreat write-up; group agreed to include event details for publicity).
- Meetings: UAUS council next meets **September 26, 2026**; monthly board meetings to be scheduled by email.

## Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:46 pm CT following a motion by WillSherwood which was seconded by Marc Boucher.

***The next meeting will be held at 1 pm CT on Saturday, September 26, 2026***

Submitted by
Xue Wood, UAUS Secretary