

The 2018 Jay and Mickie Scholtus Memorial Service (January 28, 2018) will concern an issue that we all should know and/or learn about: the local watershed emanating from the Kinnikinnic River.

But first, let's remember the Scholtuses—Jay and Mickie. This couple “retired” in River Falls -or at least they claimed to retire. Actually they seemed to work in retirement every bit as much as they did when they were technically employed. The couple were, for several years, influential in many local liberal organizations. When they arrived in River Falls, they discovered that the local chapter of ACLU was not so active as they thought it should be. They promptly joined and brought that organization up to their standards. And so it was with several organizations until they discovered a vacancy in River Falls. Unable to believe that a community as attractive, active and supportive of issues such as gay rights, people of color, religious diversity and the environment as River Falls did not have a Unitarian Universalist Congregation!

Perhaps the Scholtus' biggest contribution to the River Falls area was to lead in establishing what we now know as the Unitarian Universalist Society of River Falls. The efforts of the two of them led to the fine organization we have now.

After Mickie died, Jay wished to insure her memory at UUSRF. He established a fund to finance a memorial service in her name each January. So it has been ever

since. Occasionally, the fee for this service has “technically” been paid to the speaker, BUT, even more often, the speaker has passed his/her honorarium to the cause he/she represents (preserving the land a Native speaker represents from commercial exploitation, supporting Medical missions (i.e. Doctors without Borders) to distressed lands, etc.)

All is well, EXCEPT for one sad fact! After many fine “Scholtus Memorial Services”, the fund has run dry. This year—and henceforth- the fee for the Scholtus Memorial Service must come out of the UUSRF general budget.

One hopes that an annual service in memory of the Scholtuses can continue, but we will have to find another source of funding - at least the part that goes where the speaker designates.