

MaleCall

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalist Men's Network
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Fair Compromise on Gays and Scouting Elusive

By Rev. Keith Kron

The Boy Scouts of America discriminate. Denying that is futile. Scouting has had a valuable impact on many young men. Denying that is also futile. Terrific battles are being fought over funding, meeting space, and morality about all of this. Many are trying to find compromises. But when it comes to discrimination, compromise is elusive. Here in Massachusetts, the statewide Scouting Council has tried to find a middle ground by instituting a "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy. Neither Scouts nor Scout leaders are supposed to talk about their sexual orientation.

Unfortunately, "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" is a half-measure, and not a very good one. "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" is strikingly similar to other forms of subtle discrimination, such as when white

(See Fair Compromise Elusive on page 6)

UU Scoutmaster: Don't Give Up On Scouts

By Dave Woods

The decision by the Boy Scouts of America to exclude gays from their ranks is a serious problem for those of us UU men who have strong ties to scouting. Personally, I was Scoutmaster to a troop in Evanston, Illinois, when my sons were young. When I asked if I'd serve, I receive some training as a kid and had no there was training jumped right in and This training was it very satisfying. us (about 60, including well-qualified trainers formed us into patrols of 10 each. We camped and operated as a patrol from morning through evening learning how to cook, camp, and ensure the safety of those in our charge. We also sang,



(See UU Scoutmaster on page 7)

Call to Preachers: Speak on Men, Win Cash

In our efforts to raise awareness of men's issues in UU congregations, UUMeN sponsors an annual Sermon Contest in which the winner takes away \$500. Please participate, and let your minister know about it! Here are the guidelines: The sermon should explore a men's issue related to the purpose and objectives of UUMeN (see page 2). It must be delivered in a UU congregation between April 1, 2001, and March 31, 2002. To enter, mail two copies to UUMeN, First UU Church, 4190 Front St., San Diego, CA 92103. The text should be single-spaced, and should be between 2,000 and 2,500 words long. In addition to the \$500 cash prize, the sermon will be reprinted and distributed at the 2002 General Assembly, and will be excerpted in a future issue of this newsletter. Ministers and lay people, men and women, are encouraged to enter.