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Denny Davidoff



Denny was Senior Consultant on Interfaith Alliance Foundation staff and Director/Founder of LEADD. She was among the Founding Directors of the Interfaith Alliance in 1994. Denny is currently a member of the Trustee Council of the World Conference of Religions for Peace, a Consultant to Meadville Lombard Theological School (Unitarian Universalist) in Chicago, and former Board Chair of the Unitarian Universalist Church of the Larger Fellowship. Her volunteer career with the Unitarian Universalist Association began in 1971. She has served the movement as Treasurer and President of the UU Women's Federation, Chair of the General Assembly Planning Committee, Trustee-at-Large and as the elected Moderator of the Association from 1993 to 2001, presiding over the Board of Trustees and the annual General Assembly. She is an active member of The Unitarian Church in Westport, CT. After graduating from Vassar College in 1953 where she majored in political science, Denny wrote promotion copy for The New Yorker, TIME and LIFE Magazines. In 1959 she transferred her writing skills to the Connecticut advertising world and eventually founded her own advertising, marketing and public relations agency, Davidoff & Partners, Inc. which she sold in 1990 in order to pursue a fuller volunteer life. She continues to consult with businesses on issues of marketing to this day. Denny and her husband Jerry live in Norwalk, CT.

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E.Edwin Brooks, Jr.



Ed hails from Virginia, earning his B.A. Degree in contemporary civilization from Washington & Lee University. After college he joined the Peace Corps and taught for two years in an orthodox Hindu boarding school in India. He returned to the U.S. to take up studies at Yale University Divinity School, receiving a B.D. Degree in 1969 with an emphasis on teaching religion in high school and in pastoral counseling. Ed is an ordained minister in the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. His teaching career at Northfield Mount Hermon School, Northfield, MA, spanned thirty-six years, where Ed taught courses in biblical studies and world religions. He also collaborated with colleagues to develop interdisciplinary courses in the areas of genetics and ethics, violence and nonviolence, and environmental studies. From his Peace Corps experience Ed has developed an ongoing interest in the practice of Hinduism in village India. Since his retirement in 2005, he continues to pursue interests in international education and interfaith dialogue.

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Virginia K. Brooks



Ginny retired in 2005 from the Northfield Mount Hermon School, Northfield, MA, after a 36 year career as Teacher, Dormitory Director and Chaplain. She taught courses in the introductory study of religion, biblical studies, human development and personal growth, and feminist theology and collaborated with colleagues to develop interdisciplinary courses in women's studies, freshman humanities, and alternatives to violence. As co-Chaplain with her spouse, Ginny developed a broad ministry of hospitality and pastoral care for interfaith groups, peace and justice initiatives, spirituality and worship. She served as Chair of the Religious Studies Department from 1974-1980 and 1997-2005 honing her skills in administration, mentoring, curricular development, and the process of institutional change. Ginny earned a B.A. in Religion,

magna cum laude, from The College of Wooster and a B.D. with focus on Biblical Studies and Christian Education from the Yale University Divinity School and is an ordained Presbyterian minister. She has traveled extensively, particularly in India where she and her husband spent five weeks earlier this year.

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Jerry Davidoff- Founding Father of LEADD- July 1- 1926-November 7, 2009



A lawyer, a patriot and deep supporter of racial equality and religious pluralism. His formal education included a B.A. from the University of North Carolina and a law degree from Yale. He was in the private practice of law for 45 years, during which, among other involvements, he served as president of the local bar association, was a founder and board member of Connecticut Women's Educational and Legal Fund and of the Connecticut Divorce Mediation Council. Civic activities included nine years on the Westport, Connecticut, board of education, two years as chair, service on the town's legislative body for four years, and chairing the board of the Westchester Institute for Training in Psychoanalysis and Psychotherapy for five years. A trustee, secretary and executive committee member of The Alban Institute, Jerry served the Unitarian Universalist Association as an elected member of the Ministerial Fellowship Committee for eight years, six years on the Commission on Appraisal, and served as chair of several committees for the UUA's board of trustees. He had a positive impact on the lives of LEADD students for the first 4 years of the program. He inspired thoughtful discussion about how we treat each other. We miss him!

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Glen Johnson



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