

PRAIRIE FIRE

Newsletter of the Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society

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Editor: Laura Smail, 233-2633

May 8 April 24, 1977

Mailing: Mills Miracle, 231-1649

CALENDAR

SATURDAY 14 May	AM	Portal Foster clean-up. Call Roland Parrish if you can help.
SUNDAY 15 May	10 AM	<u>"WHY WE BOYCOTT"</u> : Film and a talk on the United Farmers' Workers Union, which has been receiving help from the Unitarian Universalist Migrant Ministry. Two speakers and perhaps a farmer. Betty Jallings is preparing this program. The 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade class will conclude their program on "Why Bad Things Happen," by discussing "Why Good Things Happen."
THURSDAY 19 May	7:30 PM	<u>The Philosophy Club</u> will meet at Ione Hatfield's house 4316 Upland Drive. The discussion will be based on <u>Myths to Live By</u> , by Joseph Campbell (Bantam paperback).
SATURDAY 21 May	8 PM	<u>The Playreaders</u> will meet at the home of Avis and Roland Parrish, 302 Glenway (238-1725).
SUNDAY 22 May	10 AM	<u>SPRING FESTIVAL</u> . At the Prairie Site (or, if raining, at Portal Foster). Family day. Games for young and old. At this time the dedication ceremony for infants and new members will be held. Call Warren Hagstrom or Pat Cautley if you plan to participate in the ceremony.

ADDITIONS FOR THE PRAIRIE DIRECTORY

What a relief it is to have the new directory. We are indebted to Sydney Mannering and the others who put so much work into it. These names should be added:

Louise Vogel, 505 North Francis Street, 257-8881

Cam McRae, 24 East Johnson Street, 255-5810

Rod and Peg Stevenson, 628 Sheldon Street, 233-6449

Doug McNeill, 405 Cherriot Chase Drive, Apt. 6, Waukesha, Wis., 53186, 414-549-0703

THE BALLET MADISON PROGRAM

Barbara Carson gave us a preview of the ballet, "The Lost Child," at the Sunday program, May 8th. Ballet Madison's coming performance has already had two write-ups in Madison newspapers so we won't say more about it here, that is, about the program, except to urge you to go and see it.

The performances will be Friday and Saturday evenings at 8 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday afternoons at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$2.50 for adults and \$1.00 for people 18 and under. They are available at Orange Tree Imports on Monroe St., at the Forbes-Meagher stores in Westtown and Easttown, at Patti Music on State Street, and at Klitsner's on South Park. Middleton High School is at 7400 North Avenue.

THE RECORDER GROUP

The Prairie Recorder Group performed Sunday also and we most particularly enjoyed it. We thought John Grindrod was playing a bassoon but it turns out to be a bass recorder. The other members of the group are Ruth Calden, Cam McRae, Arnie Clay, and Veda Melvin. They played a piece by Lully, and two 15th century Pavannes. The music might have seemed incongruous in combination with Aaron Copland and a story of frontier Wisconsin, but in fact was not in the least so. We hope they will perform more often.

PLEA ON BEHALF OF A DOG

"Help, I am desperate! I'm leaving for Europe in a month (on May 30) and need a loving foster home for my dog, Finnian, until the end of August. I'd prefer a country home, though anywhere is okay.

"I'd be able to pay his food bill and everything for those 3 months. He's a very nice dog, really good with kids and cats, and he's really well mannered in the house. (Just ask my parents.)

"Anyway, I love him a whole lot and it would really make me sad to have to give him away. So I'm lookin for someone who would love, walk, and feed him for those 3 months. If anyone can, they can contact me through my parents, John and Shirley Grindrod, or call me at home, 257-4408.

Thanks so much,
Suzy Grindrod

ENERGY USE

Our son said the other day that we ought to live underground, in an underground house. We thought quickly and said, It would be awfully dark. He explained that there would be a courtyard and so on. What was our surprise, on going to the Alternate Energy exhibit on the University mall, Saturday afternoon, to discover, in fact, three models of underground houses (he must have been reading the ad). They weren't much bigger than matchboxes so we couldn't see inside, but they did look very cozy. We decided to build one, and also to have a windmill. The man displaying the windmill said that, Yes, indeed, if the windmill was producing energy, and you weren't using it up in the time, an arrangement was possible whereby the excess energy would be fed back into the city system and your meter would start going backwards--but that Madison Gas and Electric was not keen on this aspect of the thing.

There was also a Kickapoo stove (how fine it is to have a word like Kickapoo to use in everyday life) that, if filled with logs, would heat a

good size house for fourteen hours. And the water in that odd cement block fountain in the mall was being put to use to turn a miniature waterwheel, to push water up to a height of eight feet, and to push water through a hose, across a solar heating panel, and into a barrel. It was interesting to see how various people tested the temperature of the water that was dripping out of the hose. It was very hot.

Not part of the exhibit, but a principal attraction was the duck that is nesting in a tree bin at the Park Street end of the mall. This bin is waist high; it is filled with dirt, there is no tree in it yet, and the duck is sitting there in plain view on what one has to assume is a nest of eggs. She's been there about a week. About ten people were standing around when we got there. The duck was looking off into the distance. Noone, of course, was disturbing her or, evidently, has disturbed her or had disturbed her as of Monday morning. Yet in the Memorial Library, at the other end of the mall, are elaborate escort schedules for women who are leaving the library at night and want to be sure of getting home safely. A feeling of immense gladness that at least people leave ducks alone.

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