

PRAIRIE FIRE

Newsletter of the Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society

Portal Foster Center, 1806 West Lawn Avenue
Madison, Wisconsin

Volume 14, Number 1
October 2, 1977

Editor: Laura Smail, 233-2633, 5059 Marathon
Drive, Madison 53705

Mailing: Preston Miracle, 231-1649

CALENDAR

- FRIDAY 7 Oct Final day for registration for Upham Woods Retreat
(More about Upham Woods on the next page.)
- SUNDAY 9 Oct 10 AM IDEALISTS CONFRONT AUTHORITY. Eugene Debs runs for
president; while in prison and receives over 900,000
votes. David Carson, lay minister.
- MONDAY 10 Oct Last day to sign up for Circle Dinners. Call Jane
Cloak at her office, 266-2838, or at home, 257-1940
- SUNDAY 16 Oct 10 AM VOICES FROM THE DEPRESSION. A program of songs,
slides, and shared experiences
- SUNDAY 16 Oct 6 PM Newsletter deadline.
- FRIDAY 21 Oct Eve Upham Woods Retreat begins. October 21 to 23.
- FRIDAY 28 Oct 8 PM Prairie Playreaders at Rachel Siegfried's home,
5209 Tolman Terrace, Madison. 271-2173
- SUNDAY 30 Oct 4 PM Board Meeting. Place to be announced.
- SUNDAY 7:30 PM Parish Meeting at Portal Foster, 1806 West Lawn Avenue

ABOUT UPHAM WOODS

What is Upham Woods

Upham Woods is a beautiful spot on the Wisconsin River, north of Wisconsin Dells. It is owned by the University of Wisconsin and is used as a 4H camp during the summer months. This means there are quite a few cabins with cots and mattresses, a dormitory which is heated (so are some of the cabins), a big dining hall, and a large recreation room. Meals are prepared by the camp staff.

(over)

The outstanding part of Upham Woods is an island in the Wisconsin, separated from the mainland by a small slow-moving part of the river. It was given to the University by two sisters who had played on it as children, with the condition that no buildings be erected on it and no bridge be built to it. So we go back and forth on a barge. The island has a number of trails and is not only beautiful but fascinating with its variety of plant life and its rocky ledges. Since unusual plants grow on it, we are asked to stay on the trails and disturb the land as little as possible.

For years our retreat has been an opportunity to find peace and relaxation in the woods, renew old friendships and make new ones, and enrich our experiences.

Pat Cautley

Directions to Upham Woods

Share rides if you can. From Madison take I 90-94 to exit 87 (highway 13) to Wisconsin Dells. Turn left on highway 12* and go to the top of the hill where you go right on county highway A. Go about two miles, under the railroad underpass, and find the camp at the bottom of the hill on the right. Phone numbers there are (608) 254-8845 and 254-2649.

Arrangements

Potluck upon arrival in dining hall Friday night. Parents please be responsible for your children. Do not switch cabins and uproot people in the middle of the night. If you go to the tavern, make sure your child is taken care of. Rosemary Dorney and Dorothy Osteraas are the Room Coordinators and are trying to establish an older teen cabin and a mid-school cabin. Call them for information.

No refunds for no-shows on meals. Camp maps will be handed out when you check in at the Dining Hall.

We need a Child Activity Coordinator and an Adult Activity Coordinator to work in conjunction in scheduling events. And we need a Diningroom coordinator. Please call Barb Dykert to volunteer in helping to make this retreat a success. Participate and Contribute.

When so many groups use a beautiful spot, there have to be strict rules to assure its preservation or such spots are rapidly ruined. Thus, parking is permitted only in designated parking lots; drinking is not allowed on camp premises, but there is a bar two miles from camp; walk only on designated roadways and trails; and of course, don't pick the flowers.

Barb Dykert
Retreat Coordinator

*At the traffic light.

ON THE SUNDAY PROGRAMS

Several Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society members were helpful in planning and presenting the first few services this church year. The Program Committee is in overall charge.

Musical selections were planned by George and Ruth Calden and sung or played by Ruth, George, Doleta Chapru, Mike Briggs, Arnie Clay, John Grindrod, Veda Nomura.

The readers included Sydney Mannering, Ted Clark, Jane Cloak, Nellie Willard, Mike Briggs, Rosemary Dorney, Dorothy Osteraas, Rachel Siegfried, Barbara Carson, Boyce Tetz, Bea Kabler, and Lay Ministers John Ohliger, David Lisman, and David Carson.

John Smail has provided a caveat about the great person philosophy of history. Bea Kabler and Anne Gaylor helped plan the Margaret Sanger program. Theron Caldwell and John Smail provided information about Ho Chi Minh.

The next three programs in the Lay Ministry of David Carson will be concerned with Eugene Debs, who ran for the presidency in 1920 on the Socialist ticket while in prison; Rachel Carson, forced to alert the world about chemical pesticides with Silent Spring when her earlier great works did not do so; and the actions of us, the people of Prairie Society, in confronting authority on an idealistic issue.

David Carson

We ourselves can finally report personally on a Sunday program, having finally managed to get to one. To be sure we went only to check up on Charlie Davidson's new regime --why else would anyone lacking Prairie children go to a Family Sunday, especially one about St. Francis of Assisi, known to be a soupy person devoted to birds. We can report that the service did start on time and ended (in effect) on time, and it wasn't at all painful, in fact we liked it, to wait for coffee until the end. Furthermore there was a bonus because it turned out that St. Francis was the very opposite of soupy and we now number ourselves among his admirers. We also particularly admired a wolf who showed up, Roland Parrish in a Franciscan-like robe, Barbara Willard for singing one very beautiful and one very funny song, and whoever thought up the idea of walking to the zoo and back as part of the service.

LOST ON SUNDAY AT PRAIRIE

Lois Hagstrom's raincoat with her glasses in the pocket. Call Lois, 238-4970

Rose Smith, who told a wonderful story about a raccoon on Sunday, has two very special cats she's trying to find a home for. Both black. One, 5 years old, Gwydion, short hair, loving, possessive. Likes Mittens but not other cats. One, 2 years old, Mittens, long hair, big husky tail, white whiskers, very intelligent. Both neutered and have had shots. Call her at 233-0854.

Address correction requested
Return postage guaranteed

Prairie Unitarian-Universalist Society
c/O Preston Iracle
3980 Plymouth Cir.
Madison, Wis 53705

Nonprofit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Madison, Wisconsin
Permit #1604

Debbie Doob
Bob Park
Rt. 1, Box 83
Barneveld, WI 53507