

PRAIRIE FIRE

Newsletter of the Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society

Portal Foster, 1806 West Lawn Avenue

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CALENDAR

- SUNDAY 10 AM The Role of the Church as an Instrument of Social Policy.
18 Dec. David Lisman, Lay Minister. There was considerable discussion at the parish meeting of December 4th over to what extent and in what manner this fellowship should involve itself in social issues. Some believe it is not (or seldom) the function of the church to take collective action. Others believe that for the church not to do this is to evade one of its basic responsibilities. While, in the opinion of some, a compromise was reached over the issue of Prairie's advertising in the city newspapers in the form of a motion not to advertise in any of the newspapers under contention for the duration of the strike, there is liable to be discussion over what social action procedures our By-Laws permit. As a prelude to this, I intend to address myself to the general issue of the church and social action. I will examine some of the precedents of our Unitarian-Universalist history and then try to analyze carefully some of the important concepts of this issue. Ample time will be provided for discussion.
- 7:30 PM Christmas Caroling at the Nettletons, 645 Sheldon St. Bring any sets of Christmas music you may have, and your copy of the Messiah.
- THURSDAY 8 PM Singles Party. Unitarian singles are invited to a holiday party at Theron Caldwell's, 1228 Sherman Avenue. Bring snack food or something to add to the punch. Come alone or bring a friend.
- SUNDAY 4 PM A Christmas Memory. A candlelight service for Prairie families. Join in singing the traditional carols, share past Christmas memories, bring something to hang on the Christmas tree, and listen to a Christmas story by a contemporary author. Please bring your special Christmas sweets to share.
- MONDAY 6 PM Newsletter deadline
26 Dec.
- FRIDAY 8 PM Playreaders. At Dorothy Osteraas', 625 West Lakeside St.
30 Dec.

PERSONAL NOTES FROM ALL OVER

AT THE HEIGHT of the wind and snow last week Lois Hagstrom left Madison to go to Puerto Rico (temperature 84° according to the radio) to take care of her sister who has just had an eye operation.

"SEASON'S GREETINGS from where it's warm and sunny to all of you up in the cold Northland.

"Here's my new address and I hope I'll hear from some of you, or better yet will see some of you in the years to come. Give me time to settle in."

Lilo Koehl
223½ W. Turney
Phoenix, Arizona, 85013

DOROTHY OSTERAAS would like someone to share her two-bedroom apartment at 625 West Lakeside Street. Would just as soon you were past the grad student stage. Phone: 255-7526

RACHEL SIEGFRIED has opened a business called "Homes Management." If you are travelling or on leave and renting your house she will tend to all the small and large and worrying details involved. For inquiries call her at 271-2173, or write her at 5209 Tolman Terrace, Madison 53711.

PAT CAUTLEY, who is always doing brave and useful things quietly in the background, is the person responsible for getting the Prairie typewriter back on its feet. This took several trips to the Royal Typewriter Company on the far east side, plus a certain amount of stern persuasion. The machine has now worked gamefully through at least three issues of the newsletter. It rumbles, but contentedly. Everyone who has had anything to do with this typewriter will know that Pat's was a major accomplishment.

CROSS COUNTRY SKIING
NEAR AND FAR

Barbara and David Carson invite skiers to come ski on their rolling acres just east of Madison near Cottage Grove. Their farm is at 4341 Vilas Road, a right turn about four miles east on Cottage Grove Road.

Gordon Cunningham of First Society is organizing a cross-country ski weekend for the weekend of February 24th to 26th.

The place is Trees for Tomorrow Environmental Center at Eagle River on the edge of Nicolet National Forest. This is a conservation training center. There are four heated cabins, housing 15 people each. Delicious but fattening meals are included in the price.

(Cross-country ski weekend, cont.)

Assuming enough people go, a bus will leave at 2 p.m. on Friday, February 24th, arriving at 7 p.m. The return trip will leave at noon Sunday, arriving here at 5 p.m.

Friday evening there will be information on equipment and clothing and a cross-country ski movie. Saturday morning instruction will be given for beginners and intermediates. Saturday afternoon, you can ski on any of several trails in Nicolet National Forest and Saturday night there is a party. Sunday, free skiing or more instruction if you want it. A feature of the instruction is the use of mini-TV cameras so that you can watch yourself ski.

Cost: \$52.50 for adults, plus \$7.50 if you rent equipment. For children under 14, \$29.50, \$5.00 more to rent equipment. The bus will be round about \$16 to 18 a person.

Last year the youngest person there was 4, and the oldest was 70. It's apparently a grand weekend.

Please call Gordon Cunningham if you think you'd like to go. He can give you more information, and send you the reservation form. His number is 271-1426, evenings.

What's is so singularly successful about these programs of Warren Hagstrom's is the mixture of music and talk. Each complements the other; each alleviates the other. It's easy to get so elevated by something like the St. Matthew Passion that you forget it was written by a man who had to give music lessons and pay the grocery bill, and who would never know how much the world would revere him. He might have thrown his wig at a few of us on Sunday, as he did at the idiot organist who kept playing a note wrong; we got alot of notes wrong. But then he could have listened to Warren and realized that, after all, he'd lasted.

At the parish meeting on December 4th, Henry Pratt was elected president, a motion to put announcements of Sunday meetings in all three newspapers was voted down, a motion to put announcements in none of the three newspapers was accepted. It would be interesting if the newspapers, acting on the same principle, would refuse to accept our ad when we decide we want to put it back in.

Address correction requested
Return postage guaranteed

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