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Prairie Fire

March 25, 1979
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Newsletter of the Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society

Leland Bullen, Editor-Mailer: 838-8055

CALENDAR

*Sunday, April 1, 10:00 a. m. --"Celebrate Lost Authors!" Bring a short reading from your favorite lost and neglected author, and a short biographical statement. Let me know at 231-2183 or Tues., Thurs. 1-2:30 at 263-3788. Annis Pratt.

Thursday, April 5, 7:30 p. m. --Board meeting at home of Jim and Shirley Lake, 738 Western Ave.

*Sunday, April 8, 10:00 a. m. --"Sandro Botticelli--Renaissance Art, Religion, and Magic" (illustrated with slides) Lois Hagstrom.

Sunday, April 8, 8:00 p. m. --Easter concert with choir and small orchestra, First Unitarian Society.

*Sunday, April 13, 10:00 a. m. --Easter Family Program. Conducted by Holly Loring and Eileen Nettleton.

*Sunday, April 22, 10:00 a. m. --"The Nude: A Study of Ideal Form in Art" Lois Hagstrom.

Sunday, April 22, 7:30 a. m. --Parish Meeting.

R. E. CORNER Holly Loring, Director

The snow was a small setback in our journey towards spring, but keep on trucking! There's plenty of life downstairs: preschoolers made stained glass windows and were treated to a puppet show. K-2 continued their study of Johnny Appleseed, and 3-5 made recycled paper. Middle schoolers got on to the always intriguing story of the discovery of Troy via Greek legends. Hope to share some of these discoveries with all at Easter.

If you have a few spare moments... how would you like to blow some eggs for dyeing. We're planning a dipping session for the Sunday school on April 8.

Also on April 8, 3rd-5th graders will be heading for the bio-domes in Milwaukee on a field trip. If you might like to join us or can help drive, give me a call at 251-6221.

A TV series entitled "Jesus of Nazareth" will be broadcast beginning Sunday, April 1, at 2 p. m. on Channel 15. It is "critically acclaimed" and might well be worth a gander if you're interested.

High school people: Keep Sunday, April 22, open for an afternoon of kite flying. If you're interested in planning for a get-together for lunch, please call me. Youth conference coming up April 27-29 in Urbana, Ill. For more info call Stacy Sandler at 233-7854.

Channing-Murray, a group of university-age people, students and non-, will meet for supper and simulation games at 5:00 p. m., Sunday, April 8, at the First Unitarian Society meeting house.

Folk music enthusiasts: Kids' folk music day March 31, 1:30 p. m., at Dugeon school. I'll be playing, along with other local musicians and story tellers. Also, Gordon Bok, Maine folk singer, will be performing in Madison on Tuesday, April 13, at 8:00 p. m. in the Great Hall, Memorial Union. Tickets are available at the Wild Hog Coffeehouse, Discount Records, and the Union box office.

AGENDA FOR PARISH MEETING

(to be held Sunday, April 22, 7:30 p. m.)

- (1) Elect new officers for the church year 1979-80.
Slate of nominees proposed by the Committee on Committees will appear by next newsletter.
- (2) Remove some oversights and inconsistencies in the amendments to the by-laws. The proposed changes will appear in the next newsletter.
- (3) Discuss where to locate this coming year. We may not be able to make a definite decision, but we wish to have the option to make a decision at the meeting.
- (4) If time permits, discuss possibility of summer program.
- (5) Report on progress of committee to update membership roster.
- (6) Financial report.
- (7) Discuss results of Long Range Planning Committee's questionnaire.
- (8) Discuss results of R. E. questionnaire.

(Not listed in order of consideration) Others are invited to add items.

BY-LAWS REVISIONS TO BE PROPOSED AT PARISH MEETING

The following revisions to the By-Laws will be moved. They represent corrections and clarifications, and the movers believe they make no major substantive changes.

- (1) Article V Section A, add the following sentence: "At least two weeks notice must be given for business meetings."
- (2) Article VI Section A, revise to read: "A. The officers of the Society shall be: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Immediate Past President, and the Executive Board including the foregoing and the elected chairpersons of the following standing committees: Finance, Housing, and Property, Long Range Planning, Program, Religious Education, and Social Action." (added wording underlined)
Executive Board including the foregoing and the elected chairpersons of the following standing committees: Finance, Housing and Property, Long Range Planning, Program, Religious Education, and Social Action." (added wording underlined)
- (3) Article VII Section A, add subsection 6: "6. Long Range Planning." (Some wording about functions may be added at the meeting.)

Proposed by Shirley Lake:

I would like to suggest the following By-Law change, to be considered at the parish meeting. It is a substitute for Article VII, C, 2, a regarding the manner in which the Committee on Committees is elected. Offered in a constructive spirit, it is an idea I've had ever since starting at Prairie.

"The committee shall consist of five members and serve a term of one year. One member shall be from and elected by the outgoing Committee on Committees; one member shall be from and elected by the outgoing Board; the other three shall be elected from the floor at the Annual Meeting."

This By-Law proposal would bring about two basic changes. It would require that there be five members on the committee whether we are operating with lay ministers or with a professional ministry, instead of only three members in the professional ministry option. Since in effect the committee selects the officers for Prairie, I feel that three is too few people to be making these important decisions.

The second change is in the makeup of the committee, having one member chosen from and by the outgoing Committee on Committees, and one member from and by the Board. I feel that this is very important to insure continuity, balance, and experience on the committee. This By-Law proposal would still have the majority of the committee elected from the floor.

FIRST SOCIETY TO PRESENT PRE-EASTER CONCERT

A concert in celebration of Easter will be presented twice on Palm Sunday at First Unitarian Society, at 10:00 a.m. and at 8:00 p.m. featuring the Society's choir and chamber orchestra.

The program will be opened with Brahms' motet, "Varum Ist Das Licht Gegeben?" sung by the choir. The choir and orchestra will combine to present "Come Ye Sons of Art" by Purcell, and the orchestra will complete the program with the playing of Beethoven's overture to "Consecration of the House."

WOULD YOU LIKE TO GET LESS ADVERTISING IN THE MAIL?

Congressman Robert Kastenmeier, in response to a letter from Metje Butler, has sent information regarding a service of the Direct Mail/Marketing Association by which householders may have their names removed from mailing lists of member companies. By writing to the association's Mail Preference Service, a person may request that he or she receive less mail advertising (or more!).

Another service, the Mail Order Action Line, also operated by the Marketing Association, will assist consumers in handling mail order complaints, according to the announcement.

The Association does not handle complaints of obscene mail or remove names from the lists of various fund drives. The latter are not members of the Association, and the Postal Service is the place to complain of obscene mail. The address of both services is 6 East 43rd Street, NY 10017, phone (212) 689-4977.

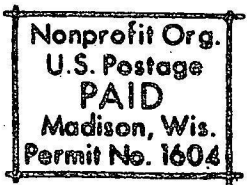
...and speaking of literature in the mail, we have received a mailing from the "Infant Formula Action Committee" concerning the Nestle' Company's promotion of their baby formula in Third World countries (which we had known of before but had done nothing about.) Assuming that many members of Prairie are already familiar with this story, which involves the sale of formula to parents who really cannot afford to use it and who do not have the sanitary facilities to mix it ... I will not quote from the literature here, but will bring it to the next meeting for anyone who is interested. But I would like to list some of the Nestle' connected products which members may not wish to purchase:

Taster's Choice, Nescafe, DeCal, Sunrise Coffee, Pero, QUIK, Choco Chill, Nestle' Chocolate, CRUNCH, Nestea, Souplime, Maggi Products, Swiss Knight Cheese, Stouffer products, Stouffer restaurants & hotels, Berringer Bros. wines, Los Hermanos wines, Libby, McNeill & Libby products, Cross & Blackwell products, Deer Park Mountain Spring Water, Lancome Cosmetics, L'oreal Cosmetics.

(Next Prairie Fire deadline April 8)

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