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# Prairie Fire

Newsletter of the  
Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society  
Madison, Wis.

Leland Bullen, Editor 838-8055

Aileen Nettleton,  
President of the Society 238-6053

Vol. 16, No. 17, Oct. 18, 1979

Pat Watkins  
2419 Norwood Pl  
Madison WI 53705

Services are held at Woodland Montessori School, 1124 Colby Street

## Calendar

SUN. OCT. 21 10:00 a. m. --The Control of Knowledge--Part II. Today. Erwin Knoll,  
editor of Progressive Magazine.

SAT. OCT. 20 10:00 a. m. -5:00 p. m. --Fellowships and Small Societies Day, North Central  
Area Council UUA, to be held at First Unitarian Society. Emil Gudmanson.

SUN. OCT. 21 7:30 p. m. --Parish meeting, 1124 Colby St. Please submit agenda items to  
Warren Hagstrom or Aileen Nettleton.

FRI. -SAT. -SUN. OCT. 26-27-28--Upham Woods Retreat.

MON. OCT. 29 8:30 p. m. --R. E. Committee meeting, home of Shirley Lake.

SUN. NOV. 4 10:00 a. m. --Energy Future and Social Choices I. Rod Stevenson.

FRI. SAT. SUN. NOV. 9-10-11 Central Midwest District Conference, Wausau. Please contact  
Aileen Nettleton if interested in attending.

MON. NOV. 12 7:30--Board meeting at the home of Joan Hall, 2724 Regent St.

SUN. NOV. 18 10:00 a. m. --Energy Future and Social Choices II. Rod Stevenson.

### FALL PARISH MEETING

All Prairie members are urged to attend the fall parish meeting to be held Sunday,  
October 21, 7:30 p. m. at Colby Street. The annual budget will be presented for adoption  
and long range plans, including the possibility of purchase of a building will be discussed.

Refreshments will be shared. Bring cheese, crackers, wine or cider if you like. Come  
and share in the future of Prairie!

### SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE WILL MEET WITH PRO-CHOICE GROUP

The next meeting of the Social Action Committee will be a combination meeting with  
the Protect Abortion Rights community meeting on Nov. 7 at 7 p. m. at the Lysistrata  
restaurant, 325 W. Gorham St.

## R. E. Corner with Holly Loring, Director

• For at least the next two Sundays I will be talking about UNICEF with all the children, dealing with global interdependence and situations of poverty, hunger, and disease that affect so much of our world's population. It relates to what the adults have been discussing upstairs this year. Do be open to hearing and sharing with your children about these difficult questions.

### THE DOWNSTAIRS SCENE

#### Part Two

THIRD, FOURTH, and FIFTH GRADERS are using Images for Our Lives--Judeo-Christian Heritage I, a curriculum based on biblical material and developed by Unity Church-Unitarian in St. Paul. The writers believe that "the stories and teachings from the world religions (including Judeo-Christian) provide a wealth of images which, when approached from a non-literal but liberal religious perspective, give profoundly useful images for the enrichment of our lives and the clarification of life's problems and concerns. Selected stories are presented as they stand in the tradition, then opened up to relate them to specific life concerns of the children. The curriculum seeks to encourage the child to ask, "What does this story say about life, my life--how to live it well and fully?" Creative activities, such as the songs and art projects, and discussion provide the means of exploring the stories in a personal, child-centered and values-oriented way. David Lake and Niko Schauer are the regular attendees of this group, which is led by Pat Cautley and Mary Sarko. During September they have probed into the stories of Noah, the Creation, and Moses.

RENNIE'S RAP SESSION: Middle schoolers have been looking at the possible answers to the question, "How can I know what to believe?" with Lola Gregg. In a letter to the group and their parents, Lola outlined the purposes and goals of the course as she sees them.

Purpose: To offer opportunities for discussion which will open avenues of thought and give bases for further understanding of each participant's own beliefs and those of others.

- Goals: 1. To make it possible for participants to feel comfortable in discussing beliefs and fears, etc.
2. To instigate open-minded (tolerant) and rational search for individual answers.

So far, they have spent time getting acquainted, talked about the term "humanist" in considering the lives of Erasmus and Luther, and worked with the idea "I am Loveable and Capable." You may have seen several people wearing "IALAC" buttons a couple of Sundays ago. I have mine on special order. Our young people attending the Middle School's Rennie's Rap this year are John Briggs, Geoff Bonser, Joella Bonser, Casey Steinau, Alex Gregg, Larry Sarko, and Tyler Tobin. Oh, if you're wondering where we got the name "Rennie's Rap," the Middle School has a tradition, begun last spring by Jack Jallings, of going out for hot chocolate and shakes most Sundays. And the first local hot spot attended was Rennebohm's, ergo....

• Middle schoolers are invited to go swimming at Lowell Hall on campus after this Sunday's program. The Briggs will be taking people down, so just bring your suit and towel and take the plunge!

• Middle school needs one additional driver for a field trip to Milwaukee's War Memorial Art Museum on Sunday, Oct. 21. Call either Holly (231-1977) or Lola Gregg (271-5706) if you can help.

• Teachers: You are invited to share the joys and woes of how goes it in your class group over a sumptuous breakfast on Sunday, Nov. 4, at 8:45 a. m. at Colby Street.

UPHAM WOODS REGISTRATION

Deadline: To be received no later than October 21. Mail to Pat Cautley, 4805 Regent St. 53705 or bring to Sunday service.

Your Name..... Total fee enclosed.....

Address..... Zip..... Phone.....

Will you be staying overnight Friday?..... Saturday?.....

No formal activities are planned for Friday night, just socializing and our usual potluck meal.

Type of lodging: Cabin (only cots provided) Names (first) along with ages of kids

..... Adults @ \$3.00/night \$.....

..... Youths (under 18 @ \$2.00/night \$.....

Dormitory (linens furnished)

1st night:..... adults @ \$6.50 \$.....

..... youths @ \$3.25 \$.....

2nd night ..... adults @ \$6.50 \$.....

..... youths @ \$2.10 \$.....

Meal rates: \$.....

..... Youths @ \$1.60/meal

..... Adults, breakfast @ \$2.00/meal \$..... Meals desired:

Adults, lunch @ \$3.00/meal \$..... Saturday breakfast ( ) Lunch ( ) Supper ( )

Adults, dinner @ \$4.00/meal \$..... Sunday breakfast ( ) Lunch ( )

Canoes are available for our use at Upham Woods. Bring your own canoe and paddles, too. Please remember to bring life preservers, one per boater, as state law directs.

.....  
 Fran Remeika has offered to lend her canoe to anyone who can transport it to the Upham Woods retreat. If you are interested, talk to her Sunday morning or call 845-7292.

.....  
 A limited amount of scholarship money is available.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Friday, Oct. 26

5:30 Check-in & assignment of cabins, etc.

6:30 Pot-luck: A-H desserts, I-N entrees,  
 O-Z salads

Saturday, Oct. 27

Morning: Nature walk, photography walk

Afternoon: "Energy" Peter Anderson of  
 Wisconsin Environmental Decade

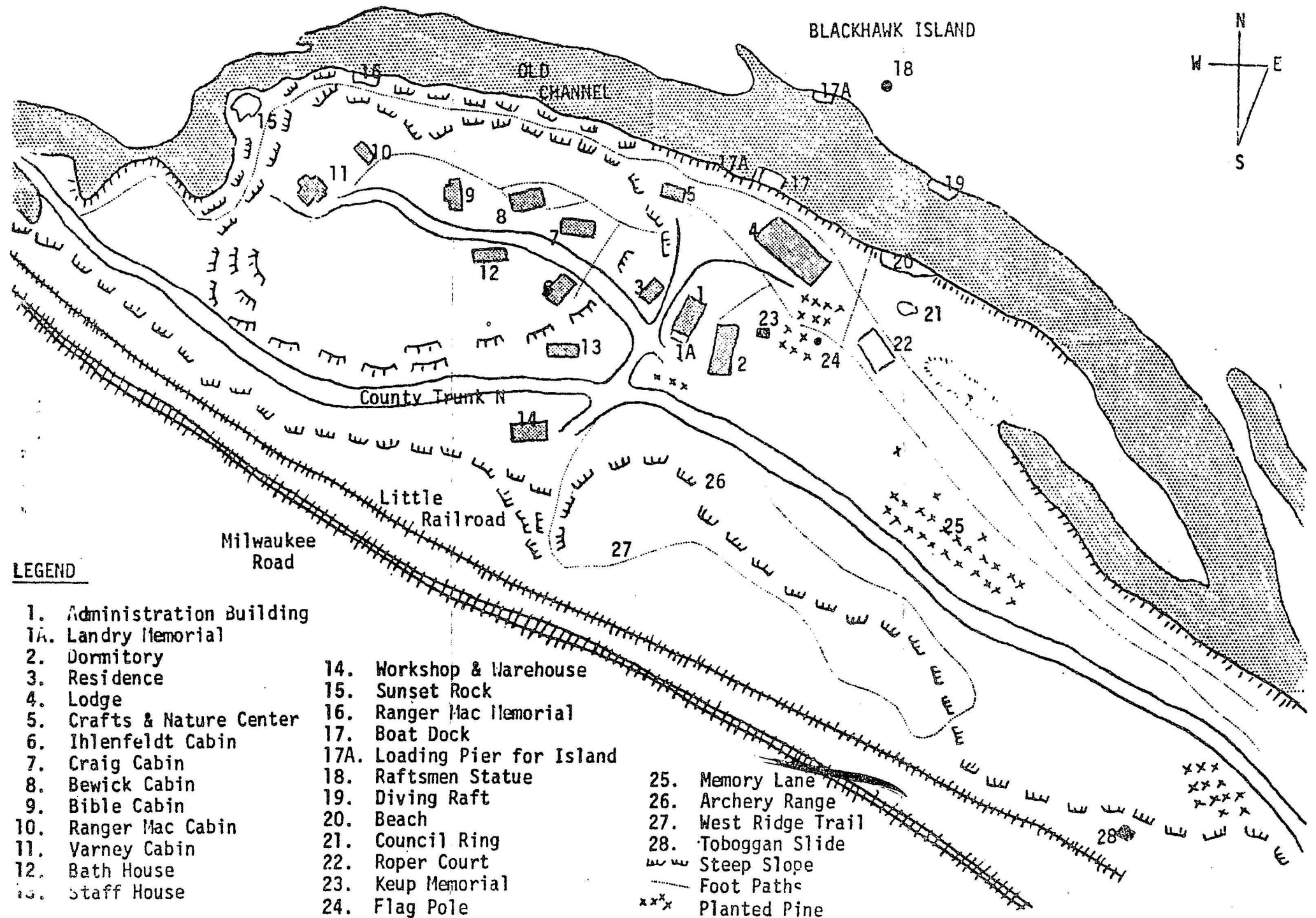
Non-competitive games, storytelling

Evening: Folkdancing

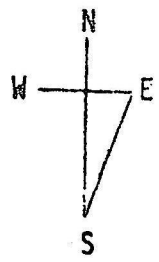
Sunday, Oct. 28

10:00 Morning service

1:00 Check-out



BLACKHAWK ISLAND



**LEGEND**

- 1. Administration Building
- 1A. Landry Memorial
- 2. Dormitory
- 3. Residence
- 4. Lodge
- 5. Crafts & Nature Center
- 6. Ihlenfeldt Cabin
- 7. Craig Cabin
- 8. Bewick Cabin
- 9. Bible Cabin
- 10. Ranger Mac Cabin
- 11. Varney Cabin
- 12. Bath House
- 13. Staff House
- 14. Workshop & Warehouse
- 15. Sunset Rock
- 16. Ranger Mac Memorial
- 17. Boat Dock
- 17A. Loading Pier for Island
- 18. Raftsmen Statue
- 19. Diving Raft
- 20. Beach
- 21. Council Ring
- 22. Roper Court
- 23. Keup Memorial
- 24. Flag Pole

- 25. Memory Lane
- 26. Archery Range
- 27. West Ridge Trail
- 28. Toboggan Slide
- x x x Steep Slope
- Foot Paths
- x x x Planted Pine

# PRAIRIE BUDGET-PROPOSAL 1979-80

Prairie's fiscal year is October 1 - September 30

with budget - expenditure comparison over past two years.

	1977-78		1978-79		1979-80		COMMENTS
	B	E	B	E	B		
<u>Key Ministry</u> : leader compensation	900	900	900	900	900		
leader expenses	600	160 <sup>26</sup>	300	—	300		
<u>Religious Education</u> : Director	1100	1100	1567	1567	1708		
Nursery helpers	200	199	442	370 <sup>50</sup>	342		4 <sup>50</sup> each for two for 38 weeks
Supplies + expenses	540	410 <sup>26</sup>	495	332 <sup>33</sup>	315		
Juice + crackers					125		
<u>Program</u> : Program Committee	100	31 <sup>38</sup>	35	—	100		includes upto \$50 for Upham Woods program leader
Membership "	70	—	25	—	100		for new Prairie directory
Hospitality "	70	—	—	112 <sup>03</sup>			
Publicity "	150	22 <sup>80</sup>	250	105 <sup>75</sup>	250		
<u>Denominational Affairs</u>	325	325	325	388	400		
<u>Upham Woods Scholarship</u>					100		a new item
<u>Housing</u> : Rent	1080	1405	2025	2025	2025		
Property + maintenance	150	143 <sup>78</sup>	657	723 <sup>70</sup>	100		78-79 bought chairs
Insurance					150		
<u>Office</u> : P.O. Box					30		
Telephone	210	196 <sup>67</sup>	240	266 <sup>53</sup>	290		
Contingencies	50	88 <sup>75</sup>	50	32	100		
Minutes repr + mailing					40		
<u>Prairie Fire</u> : Secretarial	600	338 <sup>58</sup>	400	—			
Office expenses	840	692 <sup>98</sup>	800	726 <sup>59</sup>	735*		
<b>ANNUAL TOTAL</b>	<b>6535</b>	<b>6007<sup>58</sup></b>	<b>8511</b>	<b>7549<sup>43</sup></b>	<b>8110</b>		

\* 79-80 shows budget for

Prairie Fire: 21 issues @ 34.80 each:  
 at an average of 3 sides each: 10<sup>60</sup> typing + editing labor  
 16<sup>00</sup> printing  
 6<sup>20</sup> @ .3 to \$ per piece  
 2<sup>00</sup> per issue toward annual bulk mail permit of \$40

Total 34<sup>80</sup> per issue

**COUNT SO FAR**

22 units have pledged  
 \$5378 79-80 operating budget  
 \$7145 building fund  
 11-13 units not yet pledged

[In previous years, Prairie Fire costs were hidden under office expenses.]



## CIRCLE DINNERS

Circle dinner groups have been formed. They are listed below. A new idea has been put forth this year, which is that any and all groups may invite to their dinners an additional member or friend, who will enjoy an occasional invitation, but not a regular commitment. Several persons have already expressed such interest.

Calden	Hagstrom	Lisman	*Grindrod	*Lake	Park-Steinau
Nettleton	Micke-Mattarella	Jung	Stevenson	Schroeder	*Lyman-Schauer
*Hall	Whyte-Lehman	Nelson	Lawrence-Prudlo	Briggs-Smith	Briggs
Klein-Dunn	*Butler	Clay	Walker	Gordon	Jallings
Loring	Lee	*Sigfried	Mueller	Cautley	Bonser
Anderson			Hoffmann	Nomura	Schaldach

\*Starred names have agreed to contact the others in their circle and to set the first meeting date. (If they haven't contacted you by now, call them.) And happy circling. It's going to be another good year!

## CONCERNING THE EVOLUTION DISCUSSION by Gene Duncanson (from the newsletter of the Alton, Ill., First Unitarian Church)

The Alton school system loaned a room to a group which advocates creationism as an alternative to evolution. The newspaper notice I saw implied school backing. Academic standing was established by billing three Ph.D. s (I see more than that at our board meetings.)

The gentlemen (no ladies allowed?) presented a much better talk than I expected--some of the information was topnotch. They objected to what they felt was an injustice and proposed a greater injustice as the solution.

They would have creationism presented as co-equal to evolution for explanatory purposes. They then propose critical discussion of evolutionary deficiencies--knowing that the schools are barred from the discussion of religious theories. No teacher would dare discuss creationism critically--the religious community would not stand for it.

These people then are advocating the teaching of religion in a backwards way. Present two conflicting logical structures; criticize one--declare the other a winner by default.

An interesting side issue of the discussion was the definition of allowable data (for evolution, not creationism). In one grand gesture these representatives of the "hard" sciences wiped out the "scientific" credentials of the social sciences and the humanities.