

5313 Main St.,
McFarland, WI 53558

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Madison, Wis.
Permit No. 1604

Prairie Fire

Newsletter of the
Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society
2010 Whenona Drive
P.O. Box 5362 Madison, Wis. 53705
Leland Bullen, Editor 838-8055
Aileen Nettleton,
President of the Society 238-6053

Barbara Steinau/Bob Park
Rt 3 Box 325-C
Poynette WI 53955

VOL. 17, NO. 10, MAY 14, 1980

Calendar

SATURDAY, MAY 17

8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.--Prairie Lawn Sale, at Meeting House. (Bring items for sale Friday evening 7-9 pm.)

SUNDAY, MAY 18

10:00 a.m.--Women and Words--coordinated by Norma Briggs.

7:30 p.m.--Voice recital by Holly Loring and Margaret Hadley, Pres. House, 731 State St. (Library Mall). See invitation.

After service--Bake sale by Middle-Schoolers. See announcement.

SATURDAY, MAY 24

7:00 p.m.--Party hosted by Suzie and Marty Drapkin for Prairie friends, UW Press friends, volleyball friends, and friend friends, at Prairie Meeting House, See invitation elsewhere.

SUNDAY, JUNE 1

10:00 a.m.--"The Consequence of the Inconsequential"--Rev. Robert Hoagland.

SUNDAY, JUNE 8

10:00 a.m.--Summer Family celebration. Please plan to bring flower sets to plant.

Next issue of Prairie Fire, May 28.
Please bring written announcements to the May 25th meeting.

R. E. Corner Holly Loring, Director

- The children, the teachers, and I had fun putting together the "House and Garden Song" for the dedication on May 4. We hope you enjoyed singing along with us.
- A time for reflection...June 1st., during the latter half of the program, all teachers' and R.E. committee members will have a chance to give and get feedback on their classes--how they went and when they didn't, suggestions for the future, and whatever else needs to be talked about. Please be thinking about these things in the next few weeks--we'll meet downstairs (room as yet undesignated).
- On Sunday, May 18, after the program, two more volunteers are needed to assemble the remaining shelf for the 3-5th room. Please speak to either Holly or Damon Smith if you can help. Thank you.

PRAIRIE LAWN SALE

The lawn sale, sponsored by the Social Action committee, is for the purpose of raising money for the committee's emergency fund and for the UU Service Committee. Our quota for the Service Committee is \$175.

In connection with the lawn sale, a bake sale will be held. The success of the sale is dependent upon the amount everyone is willing to contribute.

The sale will be held Saturday, May 17, from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Items for sale should be brought to the Meeting House Friday, May 16.

Call Barb Steinau (635-7519), Linda Schaldach (831-5547), or Rachel Siegfried (271-2173) for more information.

President's Memo

FIRST UNITARIAN SOCIETY GIVES

"LOAN" TO PRAIRIE

John Mathis, president of First Society, presented us with a check of \$8,000 last Sunday. These funds were given us as a loan toward building improvements, which would only become repayable if we dissolve or sell the building. This represents the strong support from members of First Society for the continuing growth of our Unitarian fellowship as we extend roots in the community. To paraphrase one of their members, "Now is a time we need more people with the values Unitarians hold.

Our grateful thanks to our friends at First.
--Aileen Nettleton

NEW PRAIRIE SONGBOOKS

Amazing Grace! The new Prairie songbooks are ready for use-and we now can sing again.

We hope you like the selection of songs, the art work and the music and guitar chords that go with each song.

The Songbook Committee has spent a great deal of time assembling the songs, collecting drawings and doing the printing and xeroxing of each page. Although it was very time consuming, it was a lot of fun.

Prairie members and friends can help defray the cost of each songbook by contributing \$4.50. (Pay George Calden). There will be a space in each copy where you can write in your name as a contributor.

PRAIRIE'S SINGING MY LORD, KUM BAY YAH!

The Songbook Committee - Mike Briggs, Leland Bullen, George Calden, Dodie Chapru and Holly Loring.

--George Calden

COGITATIONS OF A LONELY METAL HEART

"Gee...it sure has been lonesome out here in the country, all these months. 'Course, I suppose I should be grateful; at least the ducks and ducklings have enjoyed my sheltering being. Boy, they sure scurry when my people finally come and take me out. Can't say I blame them, though; one of my little wheels would really make a pancake out of them.

Oh, but I really miss all those happy times with the family. Why did they have to grow up and switch to back-packing? I suppose nothing stays the same. Even I'm not the same, though I think I'm holding up awfully well, for my age. I do have a

fair amount of rust on my roof supports, and a rash or two on my rear; but a little wire-brushing and paint would put me shīnīng āgāin. 'Course there's that little matter of the mildew freckles on my canvas roofing from the time they kept me up most of the summer; but the re-waxing job they did made me waterproof again. Besides, I've heard it said that freckles can be charming; if you can't lick 'em, like 'em, I always say...

Early mornings are nice enough, I suppose. But a rooster can hardly compare with the concert of the wild birds greeting the sun; and what a peaceful sight it is to see the soft-colored mists roll and rise off the lake, and feel the warm sun bake away the dew-drops on my canvas sides and hard top.

Wonder how long I'll be sitting here, stored, un-used. Here comes the farmer. Gee...he's whistling. He doesn't seem to mind the loneliness out here. But me, I was meant for fun and good times...for sharing, and adventure. Oh, I wish they'd come back. My storage bins feel so empty. The only thing in my stomach bin is that old navy hammock. Oh, remember the fun they used to have with that, dumping each other out on the ground? That is, until the oldest got like a big grasshopper, with legs so long he couldn't be dumped! Boy, did they used to laugh over that.

And I think I still have some of the pretty rocks they used to pick up in one of my bins...and some of the containers they used to keep frogs in, to take them home to visit before they let them go. Remember the butterfly flopping around in the milk? My ice-box really wasn't quite cold enough to quiet it down much, for the ride home.

I remember how fun it was when they brought visiting kids and all six of my sleeping spaces were in use at once! Good thing a couple weren't too tall, though, cause of course, only four of my beds are full length. But there was plenty of room for pillow fights and sardine-the-sleeping-bag...Oh, and remember the nice softly rainy nights when they sat at my table and played "SORRY", with the Coleman lantern glowing warmly, and that guitar-picking for background music? And the times they all brushed their teeth in my sink at once, because it was so wet out. Remember that storm when the big colliè got scared and busted out of my canvas sides to run

(Continued next page)

(Cogitations, continued)

around in the rain, thunder, and lightning? They were sure glad I was a camper, and not a tent, when they got him back in again, all wet! Then they lit up my nice warm furnace and made hot chocolate on my little stove. That made everything so cozy. Oh, those were the days...Boy, it'd sure be neat if some nice new family would adopt me; I don't think my old one's coming back...and it sure is awful not to be needed...Gee..."

FOR SALE: 1971 E-Z Brand tent camper with stove, ice-chest, sink, furnace, table, and storage bins. Sleeps four to six. In good condition, despite some rust on exterior and mildew spots on canvas roof-parts. Was \$1138.80 with tax, new. Agency list for similar layout and age is \$750 retail. Their suggested price for this camper is \$595.00. To be displayed at Prairie's sale, May 17th. 8:00-3:00. Prairie receives 5%.

--Metje Butler



You are invited to attend a

VOICE RECITAL

*Margaret Hadley and Holly Loring
present*

*Solos and Duets by Vivaldi, Mozart,
Duparc, Massenet and others*

with accompanist Sandra Stevens

Sunday, May 18, 7:30 pm

*Madison Campus Ministry Chapel
Pres. House, 731 State Street
(Library Mall)*

Reception following.

BAKE SALE

May 8 - after meeting

To raise funds for re-decorating our room

THE MIDDLE-SCHOOLERS

Dear Prairie friends, Press friends,
volleyball friends, and friend friends.

COME CELEBRATE SPRING

The evening's festivities include:

- Slides of a recent trip to France which seeks to answer the question "Can 45 teenagers and 4 adults live in one bus for two weeks and retain their sanity?" or "French people and food I have known and loved."
- Music by the Prairie Chicken Pluckers, folksinger Holly Loring, Madison's own Bill O'Brien, and other surprises.
- Beginning folk, square, and disco dance led by Ruth and George Calden. Most dances done without partners, and guaranteed to make you want to tap even two left feet!

Saturday, May 24, 7:00 p.m., Prairie Unitarian Society.
Susie and Marty Drapkin, hosts
RSVP 1422 Chandler, Madison 53711

Please indicate what you will bring. Price of admission: A loaf of bread, a jug of wine (thou? wilderness?) a hunk of cheese, a thermos of tea or some fruit.

Come and stay as long or as little as you choose.