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# Prairie Fire

Newsletter of the  
Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society  
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VOL. 17, NO. 12, JUNE 12, 1980

## Calendar

### SUNDAY, JUNE 15

9:00 a.m.--Potluck breakfast at Meeting House  
9:45 a.m.--George and Ruth Calden will present  
a talk, with slides, on Cuba and the refugees.

### FRIDAY, JUNE 20

6:00 p.m.--Playreaders Annual Fish Fry Event,  
Hilltop Inn. To share rides, meet at Linda  
Schaldach's house, 4124 Keewatin Trail at  
6:00 p.m. They will return there at 8 p.m.  
for reading the play. Reservations needed  
by June 16. Call 831-5547. Join us for an  
enjoyable evening.

## R. E. Corner

To get you thinking, some background notes on teaching in the R.E. program: We recruit teachers for three age groups (1) K-2, (2) 3-5, (3) middle school. Ideally, we like to have three teachers on each "team," one team per group. A three-person team approach benefits teachers by allowing for continuing contact with the adult programs. Every third Sunday you can be upstairs, and we plan to record the services this year so you'll hardly miss anything! Shared preparation (three heads are better than one, or at least don't get tired as fast) is another benefit of the team approach, as well as getting to know two other adults well. Once class is over on Sunday, you can join in the coffee hour and share your joys and frustrations (I can't deny they exist) with the adults who missed your program!

We ask for a one semester commitment, so

September-December equals approximately 16 Sundays, with some family program Sundays that you will not be responsible for. The director and the religious education committee try to provide ample support and guidance; we're there to help you. The year begins with an overnight retreat for teacher training.

This year we'll be holding periodical group meetings with teachers to get feedback on how its going, and to give help where you want help. Teachers are welcome to be on the R.E. committee or come to a meeting to discuss any joys or woes.

Are you a potential teacher? We look for interesting people (and I have yet to meet an uninteresting Prairie person) who feel that children are important and that they're worth getting to know as individuals. Your perspective can be widened as you listen to what kids have to say. You can learn about something new, maybe something you always wanted to know about, as you wonder with the children: "Why do bad things happen?" The children will grow and so will you. You may even find yourself enthusing at the end of class that you had such a great morning that you forgot about wanting to be upstairs! So consider...what you might miss if you aren't teaching this fall. At least consider. Middle schoolers who received Flaming Chalice emblems, the symbol of Unitarian-Universalism, on June 8 are Geoff Bonser, John Briggs, and Brett Caldwell. Congratulations! The presentation marks their graduation from eighth grade and the transition into our nascent high school program. I hope they will continue to be Prairie regulars, and that their interest and enthusiasm will help get a youth group off the ground this fall. Anyone for a September camping trip?

(Continued, next page)

CALENDAR, Continued

JUNE 22

9:00 a.m.--Potluck breakfast at Meeting House

9:45 a.m.--"Registration and the Draft"

JUNE 29

Outing, to be announced .

JULY 6

9:00 a.m.--Potluck breakfast at Meeting House

9:45 a.m.--Program in observance of Madison Peace Festival

JULY 13

Outing, to be announced

R.E. CORNER, continued

• Three copies of the 1979 R.E. questionnaire are now available for your perusal in the R.E. library (under the bulletin board downstairs). Do take a look, be ye teacher, parent, parent-at-large, or any combination of the above.

• Thanks to Fleming Crim, Lee Bullen, and Damon Smith. They get last week's unsung heroes award for completing the second R.E. bookshelf!

• Teachers and anyone else who has R.E. materials or books at home: Please bring them back so we can begin preparations for next year with our resources on hand. Thanks!

Dear Prairie Friends,

Caught speechless as I was on Sunday, I want to take this opportunity to thank you so much for your gift, the lovely Prairie smoke pendant created by Metje Butler. I will treasure it and the memories it represents. My two years at Prairie have been good ones for me; I hope they have been so for you.

Although at this point I turn my responsibilities over to my able successor, Pat Cautley, I look forward to being with you into the fall as I plot my course from this friendly harbor.

Love,

Holly Loring

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Barb Bailly is looking to rent a room within walking distance of Hilldale. Also have tabby, housebroken and trimmed nails. Call 238-5919 or Hilldale Cleaners.

TREASURER'S REMINDER

Checks for pledges and contributions should be sent to our new treasurer, Nina Mattarella, 636 Sheldon St., Madison, 53711. If you have not yet made a monthly pledge and wish to do so, please notify Nina or Julie Bonser, Finance chair, phone 274-3248, to help us better plan for the remainder of the fiscal year. Thanks!

CASTING CLASS CHANGES

The steam casting class, to be taught by Metje Butler, will be held on Tuesday or Wednesday evenings instead of on Saturday mornings as previously planned.

Only two people have committed themselves to the class by sending in their form and payment, so we do not know whether we have the necessary eight people or not. There have been up to seven other people who would be interested "if enough people sign up" and that will make it happen if they do.

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Ra, a black labrador, friendly, and used to living indoors, is looking for a home. He is not accustomed to small children, but would get along very well with older children. Avis Parrish would like very much to find a place for him with a Prairie family. Call her at 238-1725.

COORDINATORS NEEDED FOR UPHAM WOODS

Mel Micke and Nina Mattarella have agreed to do the preliminary work of planning the annual retreat at Upham Woods again this year, but have asked to be relieved of the on-site part of the job so that they can participate in the weekend activities. Any volunteers?

HELP ASKED FOR PLANTING PLANNING

Rachel Siegfried and Barbara Steinau, co-chairing the planting sub-committee, invite Prairie members to serve with them in planning the landscaping for the meeting house. R.E. people are especially wanted because of their desire to have a fenced area.

SUNDAY PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN

Prairie children will participate together as a multi-age group this summer on Sundays when programs are scheduled at Prairie Meeting House. Activities will include trips to the Arboretum for study and enjoyment. At least one adult and a teenager are needed to work with the kids every other Sunday. Diane Chambliss and Aileen Nettleton will help coordinate and plan with volunteers. Give us a call if you are interested in a Sunday with our kids!

AN EVENING OF STORYTELLING

Prairie Society and the Dunn's Marsh Neighborhood Association will cosponsor a program of storytelling by Reid Miller Thursday, July 17, at Marlborough park. The storytelling will begin at 7:00 p.m. and will be preceded by a potluck meal at 5:30. Those who plan to eat should bring a dish to pass and their own meat. Grills will be available.