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Prairie Fire

Newsletter of the
Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society
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VOLUME 18, NO. 1, JANUARY 14, 1981

CALENDAR

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17

7:30 p.m.--Playreaders, home of Mona & John
Birong, 599 Glen Drive.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 18

10:00 a.m.--"Medical Ethics" Lowell Mays.
12:00 noon--Singles potluck at First Society.
8:00 p.m.--Building Committee, home of Bob
Nelson, 1813 Adams St.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20

7:30 p.m.--Prairie Board meeting, at the
home of Susan Drapkin.

HOSTS NEEDED FOR R.E. CONFERENCE

Prairie will be hosting a national R.E.
conclave Feb. 6, 7, and 8. We have been asked
to provide housing for those who attend. If
you have an extra bed contact Carol Dopp,
238-7419.

FROM THE CLIPBOARDS

COFFEE MAKING

Jan. 18--Alice Bullen
Jan. 25--Aileen Nettleton

KITCHEN CLEANUP

Jan. 18--Leanna Munson & Joan Hall
Jan. 25--Cathy Cole & Kate Seiln

BUILDING CLEANUP

Jan. 18--Les Lyons
Jan. 25--Susan & Marty Drapkin

SNOW SHOVELING

1/12-1/18--Allan Nettleton & Warren Hagstrom
1/26-2/1-- Les Lyons
2/2-2/8-- April & John Hoffman

R. E. Corner Pat Cautley, Director

• I wonder if any of the adults upstairs
have sensed the excitement being generated
downstairs by the special activities going on
this month! The children in K-2 are making
small single unit looms and learning how a
loom is threaded with the warp and how a sim-
ple raising and lowering of the loom permits
one to weave successive threads. They will be
making fairly narrow strips--just as is cur-
rently done in some parts of Africa. These
may be sewn together to make wider fabric,
although at this time the aim is for a wall
decoration. We are really indebted to Metje
Butler for her effort in making this possible.

• The older group (3rd through middle
school) had a rewarding time with Theron
Caldwell Ris using acrylic paints on canvas.
This past Sunday they met with Pat Whyte-
Lehman to start thinking and planning the
kinds of designs they will make for a Prairie
banner. This one will be a free form. We look
forward to see what emerges from this creative
effort.

• Plans for the next semester of church
school have been completed and will be de-
scribed in the next newsletter.

POWER, POVERTY, POLITICS

The first of the three sessions of the
conference exploring values and decision mak-
ing will be held Saturday, Feb. 7, from
8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. with a noon lunch, at
Lowell Hall, 610 Langdon Street. Kirkpatrick
Sale will be the keynote speaker. Fee for each
of the sessions is \$7.00 which includes the
lunch. Registration cards are available at
Prairie.

NEXT PRAIRIE FIRE DEADLINE SUNDAY JAN. 25

A LETTER FROM HOLLY

Dearest Prairie Friends: 1-4-87

Thank you all for a beautiful send-off party and for the helping hands that got me on the road on schedule. I couldn't have done it without you.

I left Madison on Thursday, Dec. 18, at 9 a.m. Eleven hours and 550 miles later I pulled into my friend's driveway in Cleveland, amidst snowflakes that had accompanied me in earnest for a couple of hours. I was somewhat incredulous that I had made it without breakdowns or other problems, since Hanna (my car) was filled to the brim with my worldly possessions.

After a night's rest I rearranged the luggage a bit to clear the front seat for my relief driver, my mother, who kindly agreed to meet me in Cleveland. I was indeed relieved not to have to drive the entire distance alone. We arrived safely in Manchester on Saturday, Dec. 20, having wisely chosen to spend Friday night in Amsterdam, N.Y. outside Albany. A large windmill perches on the hill overlooking the town and the river. It was colder there on Saturday morning than it had been all December in Madison! So much for the balmy east.

The holidays were fun--gatherings with family and friends and last minute shopping kept me busy. I went to Boston's New Years eve celebration called "First Night," and found out about the Folk Song Society of Greater Boston. Mike and Norma will be interested to hear that I've attended two Scottish dancing events and saw Gregor Trinkhaus-Randall at one of them. There are a number of coffeehouses around the area and I hope to get to play in some of them soon. They offer extended "open mike" programs known as "hoots." I've been casting about for job opportunities whenever possible and will head over to Radcliffe Alumnae Career Office tomorrow. Hopefully I'll find the right thing before too long.

Unitarian Universalist groups abound in the area. I've visited three so far. There is, of course, no substitute for Prairie, but I've located one group that bears at least some resemblance to the original--informal, friendly, musical. They have a regular minister, however.

I miss you. Be well and happy, and please keep in touch.

With warm wishes for the New Year, and much love.

Holly

P.S. It was great to get the Prairie Fire. Sorry I'm missing John's medical programs.

BUILDING COMMITTEE

The Building Committee will meet Sunday, Jan. 18, at 8 p.m. at Bob Nelson's home, 1813 Adams St. We will discuss building plans --in and out, for the spring.
Everyone invited.

Folk dancing at the First Society, University Bay Drive, occurs the first Friday evening of each month, starting at 8:00 p.m. and occasionally on other Fridays also.

Mike Briggs will do a tax workshop in early February, if enough people are interested. \$5 contribution to Prairie. Contact Mike (256-3445).

SINGLES POTLUCK

January 18, at First Society, Carol Brooks will talk about Jean Rhyf, a British writer with a socialist-feminist perspective.
February 1, at Prairie, Pat Becker will present her special interest area.

The singles potlucks are now scheduled into the spring with many interesting presentations. The regular schedule is first Sunday at First Society at noon and the third Sunday at Prairie at 12:30.

THERON CALDWELL RIS ART SHOW

"This Land Is Your Land", a showing of Prairie's Theron Caldwell Ris' mixed media paintings, has been on exhibit during January at A Room of One's Own bookstore, 317 West Johnson St. Theron has dedicated her show with respect to the Latin peoples of the world. There will be a reception for the artist on January 29, 6-8 p.m.

The next of the Friday night discussion group meetings will be held Feb. 20 at Dodie Chapru's home. There will be a followup discussion of the sessions of the "Power, Poverty, Politics meetings, led by John Ohliger.

PLAY READERS

The Play readers group will meet Jan. 17 at 7:30, at the home of Mona and John Birong, 599 Glen Drive (233-5995).

"I am only one, but still I am one. I cannot do everything, but still can do something; and because I cannot do everything, I will not refuse to do that something that I can do." --Edward Everett Hale, 1822-1909, Unitarian minister and author of "The Man Without a Country" (1863)