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Prairie Fire

Newsletter of the
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VOLUME 18, NUMBER 2, JANUARY 28, 1981

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1

10:00 a.m.--Slides on Korea. John and Shirley Grindrod.

FRIDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY, FEB. 6-7-8

UUA Religious Education Conclave.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8

10:00 a.m.--"A Religious Education for All Seasons" a family service conducted by delegates to the Religious Education conference being held at Prairie Feb. 6-7-8. Please bring finger foods.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15

10:00 a.m.--"What's Wrong With Medicine?" small groups coordinated by John Grindrod.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17

7:30 p.m.--Board Meeting, home of Pat Cautley, 4805 Regent St.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18

7:30 p.m.--Program Committee, home of Dorothy Lee, 625 W. Lakeside.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21

7:30 p.m.--Prairie Play Readers, at the Hagstroms, 916 Shorewood Blvd.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22

10:00 a.m.--"Whither Medicine" John Grindrod.

Welcome to new member Kate Seiler. We're glad to have you as one of us, Kate.

R. E. Corner Pat Cautley, Director

• Although plans for next "semester" have been completed, the classes at the 3-5 level and the middle school will spend one more Sunday (Feb. 1) working on the banner they have been designing with Pat Whyte-Lehman and Judy Spring. It should be an interesting experience for all to see how Pat goes about putting the designs together and creating a unified whole out of these separate parts.

• However, on February 1 the K-2 group will meet with their teachers, Megan Kroeger, Lianna Munson, and Bob Park. All three are continuing from the fall semester--really an act of devotion to the group!

• February 8 will be a Family Service, conducted by some of our visiting R.E. experts, so the other classes will begin on February 15. David Lisman will be teaching "Why Do Bad Things Happen?" to the 3-5 group, assisted by Judy Spring and Shirley Lake. The group will examine the answers to this question (why misfortune, grief, and suffering happen) by a variety of religions and cultures from both long ago and today, and in the process will develop their own ideas.

• The focus for the middle school will be "The Church Across the Street," in which the beliefs and practices of other religious groups represented in our community are studied and contrasted with Unitarianism. Attending services in some of these other churches will provide a background for understanding some of these differences. Three people will share the leadership of this class: Shirley Grindrod (who continues from the fall), Gerald Beroldi, and Glenn Chambliss.

• As I write this I keep feeling that the con-
(Continued, next page)

R.E. CORNER, continued

tent for these classes is something that has intriguing implications for adults also. Some time we would like to share with the adults some of the interesting (and even exciting) ideas that are being bounced around in the downstairs rooms on Sunday mornings.

PRAIRIE TO BE HOST TO UUA R.E. CONCLAVE

Prairie is hosting an R.E. Conclave of R.E. District Directors from all over the country on the weekend of February 6-8, starting by Friday noon. Their schedule is a very concentrated one, with work sessions Friday afternoon and evening, all day Saturday and evening, and Sunday afternoon and evening. Our building will be well used, and we are sure that this will be a rewarding experience for all who have any opportunity to talk with these individuals.

After the service on Feb. 8, everyone is invited to bring finger food (cheese, fruit, etc.) to share with each other and with the R.E. delegates. This will be a wonderful opportunity for us to get acquainted with this special group of people who are coming from all over the country.

A RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR ALL SEASONS

If our philosophy of religious education is viable, then it must be as applicable to 90 year olds as it is to 9 year olds. Our service on February 8 will be led by some of the delegates to the Conclave of R.E. District chairpersons which is meeting at our society that weekend. Through story, song, poetry, and narrative they invite us to join them in an exploration of a Unitarian Universalist philosophy of religious education. Challenging? Yes! Our children, kindergarten and older, will participate in the service with us.

SPECIAL HONOR

A member of First Society, Geneticist Sewell Wright, 91, was awarded the Darwin Medal Dec. 1 by the Royal Society of London for his lifelong and outstanding work in the mathematical theory of evolution. He is known in First Society for being there every Sunday after walking the two-and-a-half miles from his home in all but the worst weather!

PRAIRIE HOUSE CLEANING

Members are asked to stay after the program on Sunday, Feb. 1, to give the building a good cleaning. Wear appropriate clothes and bring brooms, brushes, and cloths. Thanks

--Bob Nelson

UU SINGLES POTLUCK

February 1, at First Society, Pat Becker will present her special interest area. February 15, at Prairie, Les Lyons will talk on "Something About Entomology."

The singles potlucks are on a regular schedule with the first Sunday meeting at First Society at noon and the third Sunday at Prairie at 12:30 p.m. Every time a different member will be sharing an area of interest or expertise. If you are interested come on along. We've had some very interesting talks so far. It's a great way to get to know one another.

A PRAIRIE POET

Below are three poems by Langston Hoffman, 9 year old son of April and John.

IF I WERE A GIFT

If I were a gift, I would be good food and I'd be given to the starving people in Africa. Their lives were ruined by a company that only cared if it made a profit. Nestle's sold them bad milk to give to their babies and now they're all dead. Nestle's didn't think about the little babies who died, they just wanted to make money.

UNFAIRNESS

When I'm walking down the street,
I see a old house being wrecked by a big company.

Then I continue walking down the street,
I see a old man begging for some money.
I give him a dollar bill.

Then I wonder why it's so unfair
That one person should have si much,
And the other one so little?

SADNESS

The darkness litten up by young faces,
They bring sadness although they're playing.
I ask, "Where's your mom and dad?"

One looks down,
The other one says,
"Mister, I don't got no parents."

I look down at them,
I just walk away in sadness.

Attention Prairie committees, circle dinner groups, and others arranging meetings: Please list your forthcoming meetings (date, hour, place) on the UUA calendar on the bulletin board at the rear of the main meeting room at the meeting house.

MEDICAL ETHICS SPIN-OFF

You are invited to a free-for-all discussion of some of the questions raised in John Grindrod's lay ministry on medical ethics. Come to: Norms and Mike Briggs' house, 2259 West Lawn Ave., 6:30 p.m. or later. Bring a pot of food or flask of wine and all your ideas, ideals, and opinions.

FIRST SOCIETY TO SPONSOR A REFUGEE FAMILY: WE CAN HELP

From the First Society newsletter:

OUR APPLICATION TO SPONSOR A REFUGEE FAMILY from Indochina has set in motion plans to provide housing and other forms of support for the next few months, or until the family can support itself. Anticipating that we will sponsor a family of about six people, we are now interested in having a reasonably furnished apartment ready for them when they arrive or when the apartment is available. Obviously, there are many items which can be used. Most essential are beds, sheets, pillows, blankets, lamps, tables, chairs, floor coverings, and kitchen items such as pots and pans, dishes, etc.

If you can help us to obtain any of these items, or others you think will be useful, please contact either Julie Miles, 255-3277 (days or evenings), or George Zografis, 231-2596 (evenings). They'll also be pleased to answer any questions you might have.

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

Learn to waltz, polka, schottische! Tentative dates: Feb. 13, 21, 28, March 7. No partners necessary. Cost: \$2 per evening. Leader: Dodie Chapru. Proceeds go to Prairie.

R.E. BROCHURE

A booklet describing the goals and the curriculum of Prairie's religious education program is being printed this week. The brochure has been prepared by the Religious Education committee and its director, Pat Cautley. Members of the committee are: Shirley Lake and Joyce Crim, co-chairs; Alice Bullen, Carol Dopp, Lola Gregg, and Holly Loring.

The brochure is especially timely just now because of the national UUA religious education conference coming next week when it will be available to representatives at that meeting as well as Prairie members.

SOMALI TEA

Several weeks ago Prairie Fire contained a recipe for Eggplant Khoresh, the dish served at the Middle Eastern meal. Because of lack of space, the recipe for the tea served at that meal was not printed, but was promised for a future issue. It appears below:

1½ cup water	¼ teaspoon tea
3 cloves	½ cup milk
4 cardamon pods	2 slices ginger or
4 pepper corns	powdered ginger
½ stick cinnamon	

Grind up cloves and pepper corns. Break up cinnamon stick and add with cardamon pods to water.

Bring to boil for about 20 minutes, add ginger, tea, and milk. Bring to boil. Serve with lots of sugar or honey. Somalis and other nomads I have known drink the tea very sweet.

Lost and found items are on display in the kitchen. Please claim yours before we give it away.

We have a box of ice skates in the front lobby. Look them over and if you want a set, give a few dollars donation to Prairie UU.

NEXT PRAIRIE FIRE DEADLINE FEBRUARY 11