



Prairie Fire

Newsletter of

Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society
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Volume 19, Number 1, January 12, 1982

CALENDAR

Sunday, January 17

10:00a.m.--Playreaders' adaptation of
"Inherit the Wind"
10:00a.m.--Interim activities for children.
12 noon--Potluck lunch.

Friday, January 22

6:30-9:00--Game Night: Young folks, Old
folks, Everybody come!

Sunday, January 24

10:00a.m.--Legal Justice by Mike Briggs.
10:00a.m.--Culmination of interim activities
for children: trip to Oakwood.

Sunday, January 31

10:00a.m.--On Keeping a Journal by Judy
Spring.
10:00a.m.--Religious Education classes.
12 noon--Singles potluck at Prairie.
7:30p.m.--Public Forum on Creationism in the
Schools at Prairie. (See story.)

Sunday, February 7

10:00a.m.--Economic Democracy by William O.
Hart.
10:00a.m.--Religious Education classes.

Sunday, February 14

10:00a.m.--"Sending a Cosmic Valentine"

Barb, Bob, Beryl, and Don announce the postponement of the afternoon of folk dancing originally scheduled for January 17, due to the arrival on January 7 of Beryl and Don's new daughter, Andrea Bliss Heather. The potluck is still on, but not "for" the two couples.

R.E. CORNER

"A tree that it takes both arms to encircle grew from a tiny rootlet. A many storied pagoda is built by placing one brick upon another brick. A journey of three thousand miles is begun by a single step." Lao Tzu

So it is with many of our attempts to do something that matters. We are going ahead with making the little paper cranes (Japanese hopes for a long, healthy life) to hang on little trees that will serve as table decorations at Oakwood Nursing Home.

Bob Nelson helped one crew mount the little trees in plaster of Paris while I facilitated the making of more cranes.

Next Sunday the K-2 group will go to Megan Kroeger's and the 3-5 group will go to the Chambliss' home to bake cookies to take to Oakwood.

The big day for all this work and creativity is Sunday, January 24 when we all go to Oakwood.

I hope most of the children in our church school (except the pre-school group) can go, even if they haven't had a chance to help with the project. We will leave Prairie shortly after 10 and return by 11:30. We hope it will be a valuable experience for the children.
Pat Cautley

In looking at a back issue of Prairie Fire, we discovered that the closing on the purchase of Prairie Meeting House was held January 21, 1980; a cleanup of the new building was scheduled for the 24th; moving day was the 26th; and the first meeting took place January 27th. Occasion for an anniversary celebration?

GAME NIGHT: YOUNG FOLKS, OLD FOLKS,
EVERYBODY COME!

Join together as children and adults for an evening of sharing and getting better acquainted through games. Bring your favorite game. Popcorn and cider will be provided. Be prepared to have a lot of fun!

WHEN: January 22, 6:30-9:00 P.M.

WHERE: Prairie, of course!

FORUM ON CREATIONISM IN THE SCHOOLS.

As a followup to the January 17 playreading of Inherit the Wind, we will sponsor a public forum at Prairie on Sunday evening, Jan. 31. Kenneth Dowling of the Department of Public Instruction and Bob Siegfried of the UW History of Science Department will be among the panel members. This program will include the opportunity to discuss ways that the public can support the separation of religion from science in the classroom.

SYMPATHY TO THE Grindrod Family

Early on the morning of December 30, Lisa Grindrod Laabs found her 3½ month-old son Jai Sun dead in his crib. Just two evenings earlier some of us had gathered at Prairie to see Paul Grindrod's movie, The Performed Word. One of the special joys of the evening was meeting the beautiful baby, so obviously well loved and in tune with the world.

A memorial service was held on January 1 at First Society, where Jai Sun had been dedicated just weeks earlier. Our sympathy goes out to John and Shirley and to all their extended family, but most especially, to Lisa and Dirk.

SOCIAL ACTION ALERT

Wisconsin Assembly Resolution #18, calling on the President and Congress to negotiate a mutual nuclear arms moratorium with the Soviet Union, is expected to be voted on soon after the Assembly meets on January 27. AR 18 deserves strong support from all who care about the survival of civilization and want our children to have a world they can live in. We can help by:

1. Contacting State Representatives in support of AR18. The Legislative Hotline number is 266-9960.
2. Wearing a skyblue ribbon from now on to express support for AR 18 and hope for disarmament.
3. Attending the ceremony in the Capitol Rotunda at noon on Wednesday, January 27, to show legislators and the people of Wisconsin how much we care.

Project ELF is the extremely low frequency radiation antenna the Navy wants to install in northern Wisconsin and Michigan for one-way communication with submerged submarines. Opposition, led by STOP PROJECT ELF, Inc. (1444 E. Washington Ave., Madison, WI 53703, Tel. 608-256-0870), is based on the project's unproved technology, its exorbitant cost, its risks to human health, its possible environmental damage, and the likelihood that it will add to the Pentagon's ability to launch a preemptive nuclear war that would kill hundreds of millions of people.

Now is the time to protect our families and ourselves from the risk of thermonuclear holocaust. We can do that by:

1. Joining and supporting STOP PROJECT ELF.
2. Registering opposition to ELF with state and federal legislators and the Administration.
3. Attending the legislative hearing at the State Capitol on January 18 in support of Senate Resolution #14 and Assembly Resolution #26, both of which call for the dismantling and removal of the existing Wisconsin ELF facility.

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No, SSD2 is not a Star Wars robot. It is the Second Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly on Disarmament, scheduled to run from June 7 to July 9. Watch for more news. Meanwhile, our Unitarian Universalist United Nations Office's 1982 Seminar, "Choosing Our Future", April 15-17, will emphasize SSD2 and disarmament, and will also consider economic issues, global news flows, women and development, and other topics. The registration fee is \$50 (\$40 for UU-UNO members) and moderately priced lodging is available. New York, anyone?

Now available on Sunday mornings:

- Current issues of "Disarmament Times" and "Window on the World".
- The International Peace Petition, calling on Presidents Reagan and Brezhnev to end the nuclear arms race and eliminate existing stockpiles of nuclear weapons.
- A limited supply of skyblue ribbons. Take one to wear as a sign of hope for disarmament and support for AR 18.

Les Lyons

In this issue we are including an insert announcing a career/life goal workshop for First Society. This not only alerts our members to an opportunity in which they may want to participate, but partially repays our friends for their hospitality in hosting our arts-crafts sale and carrying our announcement of the event in their newsletter.

SOME COMING PROGRAMS

While next Sunday's production of Inherit the Wind by the Playreaders was not planned as part of the current lay ministry on the Bill of Rights, its theme, a community's persecution of a young teacher for presenting the theory of evolution in his classroom fits in perfectly with the series, as well as being a timely reflection of current efforts to bring religion into the public schools.

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Returning to the Bill of Rights series on January 24, Mike Briggs will discuss the Constitutional amendments which provide protection for individuals suspected or accused of crimes. The fourth through the eighth amendments fall in this category. Mike, an attorney, is a hearing examiner for the Department of Social Services and works with people who become involved with the justice system, especially in cases of parole revocation.

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A break from the Bill of Rights series will be a discussion by Judy Spring on the keeping of a personal journal, something many of us have either started or intended to do. Her program is scheduled for Jan. 31.

On February 7, William Osborn Hart will be our guest. Mr. Hart is chair of the Democratic Socialist Party of Wisconsin and has been a candidate for public office a number of times representing that party. His first effort was in the race for clerk of the Sauk County court. He has also run for the United States Senate against William Proxmire and for Governor of Wisconsin, opposing Patrick Lucey. He jokes that if he had won any of those contests he would have asked for a recount.

In considering protections that ought to be in the Bill of Rights, Mr. Hart's topic will be "Economic Democracy."

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After we send a "Cosmic Valentine" on February 14, Katherine Clarenbach will speak on the endangered Equal Rights Amendment and future strategy if the amendment fails of passage. Her program will be on February 21.

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The final program in Alice and Lee Bullen's series on the Bill of Rights is tentatively scheduled to be a program on current threats to the amendments.

The R.E. Committee requests help in the next few months with a problem that faces Prairie for next year. Pat Cautley, R.E. Director, has asked that we start a serious search for a new R.E. Director for next year. We have appreciated her great interest and care for the R.E. program and we will miss her downstairs as she has been missing the upstairs programs for a year and a half.

Please, Prairie members, consider: who would make a good R.E. Director? We would appreciate suggestions. We have a job description and we do pay our director--it is not entirely a voluntary job though the pay is not great!

Give your suggestions to Pat Cautley, Carol Dopp or Alice Bullen.

THE THREAT OF GLOBAL EXTINCTION

Madison Audubon Society is sponsoring a symposium on species extinction, "The Threat of Global Extinction," on Saturday, Jan. 30, 9 a.m.-5 pm., at the Wisconsin Center, 702 Langdon St.

Speakers will include: Ron Sauey, International Crane Foundation; Tim Moermond, UW Professor of Zoology; Stanley Temple, UW Professor of Wildlife Ecology; and our own Hugh Iltis, UW Professor of Botany.

For information contact Madison Audubon Society, 111 King St., Madison 53703, or call 635-4160.

Registration will be \$5, \$2 for students. Preregistration is advisable since only 200 seats are available.

Relevant books, most at 10% discount, such as Extinction, by Paul and Anne Ehrlich, Endangered Birds, by Stanley Temple, the Global 2000 Report to the President, can be obtained from Madison Audubon Stores, Glen and Diane Chambliss, 238-3766.

NEXT PRAIRIE FIRE DEADLINE: JANUARY 24
