



# Prairie Fire

Newsletter of

Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society

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Volume 19, Number 2, January 26, 1982

## CALENDAR

Sunday, January 31

10:00 a.m.--"On Keeping a Journal" by Judy Spring.

10:00 a.m.--Religious Education classes.

7:30 p.m.--Public forum on Creationism in the Schools, at Prairie. (See story)

Wednesday, February 3

7:00 p.m.--Program Committee at Dorothy Lee's.

Sunday, February 7

10:00 a.m.--"Economic Democracy" by William O. Hart.

10:00 a.m.--Religious education classes.

Saturday, February 13

7:00 p.m.--Work party, followed by social dancing. Bring records and goodies to share.

Sunday, February 14

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

10:00 a.m.--Nursery available.

Saturday, February 20

8:00 p.m.--The Playreaders at Jack and Mona Birong's, 599 Glen Dr., Tel. 233-5995.

Jeoff Sandler, son of Ralph and Rebecca Sandler, received praise in a Capital Times review of "On Golden Pond", playing at the Civic Center. Jeoff also made a convincing Howard in our Playreaders' "Inherit the Wind" last Sunday.

NEXT PRAIRIE FIRE DEADLINE: FEB. 7

## R.E. CORNER

Today we felt like the proverbial postman--"neither sleet nor snow nor heat nor gloom of night..."--although it was mainly the absence of heat that posed the problem on this sub-zero Sunday when the church school children took their little trees decorated with origami cranes to the Oakwood Nursing Home. The response of the residents there was most rewarding; surprise at seeing us on such a cold day, delight in meeting and talking with children, admiring the unusual table decorations, and enjoying the cookies the children baked last Sunday. We sang "Love is like a magic Penny" in both the chapel and the dining room. We also visited Avis Parrish, a long time Prairie member who lives in an apartment in the Oakwood Retirement Center and were delighted to see her looking so well.

Many people helped with this interim project and we are indebted to all: Carol and Bob Dopp and Dana Dopp (who helped make more origami cranes at home), Bob Nelson, Aileen Nettleton, Alice Bullen, and Diane Chambliss and Erin Bosch (who opened their kitchens to the children to bake cookies).

Next Sunday, January 30, regular church school will resume again. The K-2 group will continue to learn about "God's Folk," a U-U curriculum about very admirable people; the 3-5 group will continue with not only Old Testament stories but also some Greek mythology, while the middle school group will consider some of the difficulties posed in making value-laden decisions. One book that would be very useful for the group is Simon's Value Clarification, which is missing from our library. It would be helpful if it could be returned soon.

Pat Cautley

## SYMPATHY TO THE LAKE FAMILY

Our sympathy goes out to Jim and Shirley Lake and their son, David at news that Jim's father died on Friday, January 22 after a long illness.

## FORUM ON CREATIONISM IN THE SCHOOLS

As a follow-up to the January 24 play-reading of Inherit the Wind, we will sponsor a public forum at Prairie on Sunday evening, January 31. Kenneth Dowling of the Department of Public Instruction; Bob Siegfried of the UW History of Science Department, Becky Young, Madison School Board member, and Paul du Vair, high school biology teacher and former WEA president will be the panel members. This program will present ways the public can support the separation of religion from science in the classroom.

## THE PRAIRIE COOKBOOK IS COMING!

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The cookbook committee is working on rounding up your favorite recipes, so if you have'n't turned yours in yet please do so right away. Our ten categories include the following:

main dish	snacks/appetizers
bread	desserts/sweets
soups	vegetables
*salads	*sauces/dressings
*beverages	children's corner
*most needed ones	

A system of symbols will designate these

5 sub-categories: Quick  
Natural/whole-some  
Ethnic/Regional  
Expensive  
Vegetarian

We hope everyone will submit lots of their favorite recipes but at least one. Choose something special: an old tried and true favorite such as one you would use for a circle dinner. They go to either Metje Butler, 215 E. Mifflin St., 53704 or Rachel Siegfried, 5209 Tolman Terr., 53711, or the recipes can be given to them at Prairie. Also we welcome your specific requests for your favorite recipes of other Prairie people.

## NAME THE COOKBOOK!

What would you like to name our cookbook? The C.B. committee would like lots of good ideas to choose from and so is sponsoring a contest. The name could reflect that the book will carry both recipes and words which have inspired members; it could be clever or catchy, whimsical or serious, or it could carry a message. The winning name will gain a free cookbook for its innovator.

## SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE OPPOSES ANTI-ABORTION LEGISLATION

January 27, 1982

The Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society of Madison, Wisconsin, Social Action Committee wishes to add our endorsement of the aims of the Reproductive Rights Coalition in inviting Senator William Proxmire to Wisconsin to hear objections to his co-sponsorship of anti-abortion legislation.

We confirm the right of women to control their own bodies. We are concerned that every woman should be able to make her own moral choice rather than others making decisions for her. We further feel that poor women are discriminated against because they must rely on public facilities when women who can afford private care have their needs fulfilled.

We feel that legislation won't stop abortions, but only stop safe abortions; women will lose their lives as a result of unsafe abortions; doctors will choose to be humane rather than leave abortion to the "butchers." and thus will break the law.

Other considerations we have are the high costs of raising children with birth defects; the suffering of the children; the mental anguish of the child and its parents; the strains on family relations which can lead to breakdown of families.

We should ask ourselves what kind of society we would like to have--one where the children are healthy and loved or a society where women must once again face the hard choice of risking their lives or bearing and rearing an unwanted child.

We are opposed to all restrictive anti-abortion legislation, but feel especially the issue of abortion, which concerns profoundly personal and moral decisions, should not be included in the Constitution.

--Norma Briggs, Leslie Lyons, Co-Chairs, and 30 other signers.

## HARRINGTON TO SPEAK

Veteran organizer and author, Michael Harrington will speak in Madison on Tuesday, February 2, at 7:30 p.m. in the Memorial Union on the UW campus. His topic will be, "New Opportunities, New Dangers: Progressives and the Crisis of American Capitalism." Harrington, chair of the Democratic Socialist Organizing Committee since 1973, is best known as the author of The Other America, a study of poverty in the U.S. His Madison talk, sponsored by the Wisconsin Student Assn., Union Directorate, Democratic Socialist Alliance and Dane County Democratic Party, is free and open to the public.

## SOCIAL ACTION NEWS

Save Sunday evening, March 7, for a program on the use of tax refusal to protest the military budget and the nuclear arms race. It will be presented by members of the Dane County Conscience and Military Tax Resistance, who will have some interesting tales of their experience with the IRS. Until then, a selection of literature on tax refusal is available at Prairie, most of it to be borrowed and returned.

Also available:

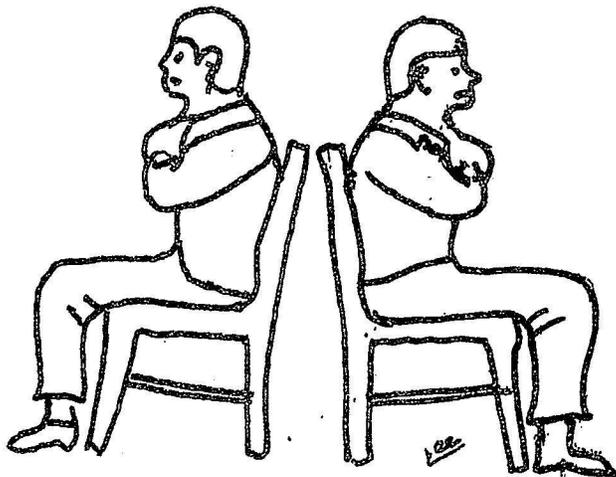
- \*Skyblue ribbons. Wear one as a symbol of hope for disarmament and support for Wisconsin Assembly Resolution #18--the nuclear arms moratorium.
- \*Copies of "A Citizen's Guide to the Second Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly Devoted to Disarmament", published by "Disarmament Times". Help yourself
- \*Names and addresses of some peace/disarmament organizations. Please consider joining and supporting one or more of them.

Apropos of our January 10 program on the right to bear arms, in a recent year handguns killed 8 people in Great Britain, 21 in Sweden, 34 in Switzerland, 42 in West Germany, 48 in Japan, 52 in Canada, 58 in Israel, and 10,728 in the United States.

Les Lyons

## REGISTRATION AND THE DRAFT

A public information meeting and group counseling session for draft-age people and their families is scheduled for Saturday, January 30, from 1-3 at Madison Friends Meeting House, 2002 Monroe St. The meeting, sponsored by the Ad Hoc Committee against Militarism and the Draft, will provide information on draft registration, conscientious objection and other alternatives, and political perspectives. There will be a question and answer period.



THE GROMYKO-HAIG PEACE MEETING

## IMPACT LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING DAY

Wisconsin IMPACT, an ecumenical effort to focus the resources and concerns of people of many religious denominations on public issues, will be sponsoring two programs in Madison on February 15 and 16. The first session is a legislative Training Day, the second a Legislative Briefing Day. The UUA is represented in IMPACT at the national level and Wisconsin UUs are now participating in the state organization.

Three folders describing the aims of IMPACT and giving the agendas of the two meetings are posted on the bulletin board.

## JOURNAL WRITING: QUOTING OURSELVES

In an age of telecommunication, why is the process of personal writing, including the journal form, becoming more popular as a practice and increasingly respected as a literary form?

In the Sunday, January 31 program several Prairie members will present approaches to personal writing and discuss its historic and current value. Among the many questions to be raised are the place of personal writing in the creative process, and the reluctance people have to credit themselves with original thinking. If you have excerpts from your own writing that you would like to share, please bring them along on January 31.

## HANSONS TURN TO JAZZ

Looking for a change of pace? a special experience? Former attorney and fellow Unitarian (First Society) Gene Hanson, wife Betty, and their sons opened the Hanson Jazz Restaurant August 1st at 5404 Raymond Rd., the former Airway Tavern (turn north from Beltline at stoplight by Phillips). It is strictly a family operation, with Gene and two sons also performing as a jazz trio as time permits. The rest of the time the attractive bar and restaurant offers a background of taped jazz. The food is tasty and reasonably priced. Check out the Isthmus feature article posted on our bulletin board. Better yet, go enjoy in person! Lunch is served Tuesday through Friday, 11:30-1:30 and dinner Tuesday through Saturday 4:00-12:45, with a sandwich menu as well.

--Shirley Lake

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Ben Caldwell, former member, now an architect in New York, and Pat Brink, who will graduate from the University of California at Berkeley, are engaged. They'll be married in Berkeley, July 23.

**PRE-SCHOOL GROUP NEEDS TOYS**

Suzie Grindrod requests certain kinds of play equipment to round-out the nursery room supplies: trucks--no sharp edges  
small farm animals  
doll house furniture  
wooden puzzles

If you have any of these items at home and not in use any longer, the pre-school group would make good use of them and they would be appreciated. Thank you,

R.E.Committee

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Hazel Taliaferro asks that people write or call TV Channel 15 to request a program about animals at the Humane Society. We want to keep the needs of animals in the public eye and the Humane Society does a valuable service to the community. Also, she would like to see the continuation and enlargement of the program of pets to area nursing homes.

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Rutabago is having a sale on down jacket kits through the rest of January. If anyone would like for me to sew them up, or if they have any alterations or patching, give me a call, 271-2173.

--Rachel Siegfried, "the Prairie Patcher"

**SINGLES POTLUCKS DISCONTINUED**

The Unitarian Singles have decided that due to waning interest they will no longer meet as a separate group but will join the go-to-lunch group following Prairie meetings. Singles from Prairie and also from First Society are hereby alerted to and invited to enjoy the pleasure of this good company.

Metje Butler

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The Kickapoo Cloggers will present an evening of clogging for all on Saturday, February 27. There will be a chili supper at 6 and dancing at 7. All ages are invited. There will be a charge of \$2.00 for adults, \$1.00 for children. --Susie Drapkin

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Want to buy a computer? The UUA has just signed an agreement with Radio Shack which allows any UU society or member to purchase computers or computer materials at an 18% discount. Purchases may be made at any Tandy Corp. or Radio Shack computer store. See the letter on the bulletin board in Berkeley, CA. It was signed by Ruth in Berkeley, July 23.

**THIRD VIEW ON EVOLUTION/CREATION**

There will be a meeting on Thursday evening, February 25, on a third view of the Darwin-Creationism debate. It's part of a continuing study group loosely associated with The New World Alliance. The Third View seeks to encourage study of New Science and Old Wisdom. For information on place and time of meetings, call John Ohliger 251-8894.

**HOLD THE DATE...**

This April there will be a chance to meet Unitarian-Universalists from other churches and fellowships in our area. On April 3 and 4 our North Central Area Council will have its annual spring meeting along with workshops, worship and fellowship. If you haven't attended these meetings before this is a good opportunity to begin. It will be easy for Prairie members and friends to attend this year since Madison's First Society will be hosting the meeting. Details later.

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The new 1981-82 UUA Directory has arrived! Anyone needing lists or addresses of UU churches and fellowships, UU ministers and R.E. directors, district leaders and committee heads can find the data in this book. It is packed with information pertinent to our denomination. On random perusal I found a list of the 70 societies in our own Central Midwest District, the minutes of last year's General Assembly Meeting in Philadelphia, a description of UU camps and a list of retirement housing under UU auspices.

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This year give yourself an exhilarating experience by attending one of the many UU conferences and camps scattered over the U.S. The January 15 issue of UU World contains a map with locations of some of the camps and conference centers.

Les Lyons, Mary Lou Diehl and Ruth and George Calden have spent summer sessions at Lake Geneva, Wisconsin and the Caldens vacationed two summers at Camp Unistar, Minnesota. This years flyers on Camp Star Island, N. H. are already available in our brochure rack. And consult your upcoming issue of UU World for a more complete listing of camps and conferences.

Ruth Calden

**MORE ON THE ABORTION BILL**

At 'press time' we were unable to include the "Wisconsin Memo" from Planned Parenthood Association urging letters to the Wisconsin legislature and the U.S. Congress. Please see this item on the bulletin board.

THE GEORGE-PAUL PRICE MEETING