



Prairie Fire

Newsletter of

Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society
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Volume 21, Number 11, May 31, 1983

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, JUNE 5

10:00a m --KEEPING THE WORLD SAFE FOR PREDATORS AND BRINGING THE CRANES BACK, Jan Petrie of the Eagle Valley Environmentalists. See story.
10:00a.m.--Child care available

Friday, Saturday, Sunday, June 10, 11, 12
Canoe trip. See story for times and details.

SUNDAY, JUNE 12

NO SERVICE BECAUSE OF CANOE TRIP

TUESDAY, JUNE 14

7:30 p.m.--Meeting of old and new Executive Boards

SUNDAY, JUNE 19

10:00 a.m.--"IM CELEBRATION OF NATURE"
A program of music and readings.
Mary Mullen. See story next page.
Child care available.

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I'd like to express my thanks to everybody for making my term as president so enjoyable. I think that it's been a good year, one in which we've seen a growth in our membership and no major crises (or even too many minor ones).

Special thanks to the members of the Board, who not only worked hard all year long, but also did a creditable job of providing your president with nourishment at our Board meetings. Let's all have a nice summer.

--Marty Drapkin

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KEEPING THE WORLD SAFE FOR PREDATORS

Jan petrie of the Eagle Valley Environmentalists will show the movie "Eagle Country" and be available to answer questions about the goals and programs of EVE, and Conrad Liegel of the International Crane Foundation will show slides and talk about the relevance of crane survival to human welfare.

PRAIRIE SPRING CANOE TRIP: JUNE 10, 11, 12

The spring canoe trip will run from the boat landing at Lone Rock to the boat landing at the city of Boscobel, with an overnight stop at the village campground in Muscoda. The two trip segments are approximately fifteen river miles each so there should be no difficulty in completing the trip for even novice canoeists. Some canoes are available for rent from a business in Muscoda for those who do not want to haul one out from Madison.

The trip will begin unofficially on Friday evening, June 10, at the public campground located in the village of Muscoda. The trip organizer, Dick Bonser, and any others who want to get an early start will set up the base camp, have a potluck dinner, and spend the evening talking around the campfire, singing, and telling stories about incredible past adventures. On Saturday, June 11, the trip will officially begin at the Lone Rock boat landing at 9:30 in the morning. Most cars will be driven to the campground at Muscoda after unloading, and the drivers will return to Lone Rock in a group for the trip. The trip to Muscoda will take from five to eight hours, depending on how high the water is and how energetic the canoeists are. A local community group in Muscoda will be holding a chicken barbecue in the park by the camp-

(Continued next page)

CANOE TRIP, CONTINUED.

ground on Saturday, which can provide dinner for canoeists too tired to cook after a day on the river. After breakfast on Sunday, most cars can be taken to the takeout point at Boscobel and the drivers returned to the campground for the final leg of the trip. The run from Muscoda to Boscobel is shorter than the one from Lone Rock to Muscoda, which will leave time to break camp and pack for the trip home.

Things to bring: A dish to pass for Friday night. Food for your group for five meals. Musical instruments you can play. Favorite stories to tell at the campfire. Swimsuit. Mosquito repellent. Suntan lotion. Raincoat (You never can tell in Wisconsin). Tent and sleeping bags (for the comfort lovers there is a hotel in town and a motel is expected to be open across the river by the time we are there). Fishing tackle. A canoe (if you have one). A picnic cooler (to keep your lunch fresh and your beverage cool).

Facilities: The campground is located right on the river in a grove of pine trees next to a city park. It has piped water and electricity, and there are shelters for cooking and eating if there is rain. There are also good bathrooms and showers for those who want to "freshen up." Stores are within walking distance if you forgot something, and one of the local restaurants, the Blackhawk Inn, is justly famous for its excellent food.

Costs: Approximately \$1.00 per person per night for camping fees. Canoe rental fee of \$ per day plus hauling charges if the rental agency transports you to or from the river.

DON'T MISS THIS ONE. THE FEW WHO CAME LAST YEAR HAD A BALL!

"CELEBRATION OF NATURE" NEEDS YOUR HELP

Do you have a favorite song, poem, prose passage, or recording that celebrates nature? Or have you had an experience with nature that has made you especially appreciative of the natural world? In either case, or if you just want to help plan the final program in the environmental series--you are invited to join Mary Mullen on Tuesday, June 7, 7:30 p.m. at 4337 Milford Rd. to plan "In Celebration of Nature." (4337 Milford is a half block south of Prairie) Call 271-5192 if you have questions or suggestions.

--Mary Mullen

CHILD CARE HELP NEEDED

We will need volunteers for child care for the Sunday morning meetings during the summer.

JUDY SPRING IS "WOMAN OF YEAR"

Prairie's Judy Spring is being honored by the Wisconsin state chapter of the National Organization of Women as the 1983 Woman of the Year. The award will be presented at a banquet to be held in Appleton June 2. Judy is currently a full-time staff member of the national organization on the Chapter Development and Services team.

SANCTUARY

At our business meeting Sunday, May 22, the resolution calling for Prairie to endorse the St. Francis Episcopal church's program of public sanctuary for Salvadoran refugees was adopted unanimously. Prairie's letter of endorsement, which President Marty Drapkin read during the lengthy and emotional inaugural service for the sanctuary program at St. Francis church the following evening, said in part:

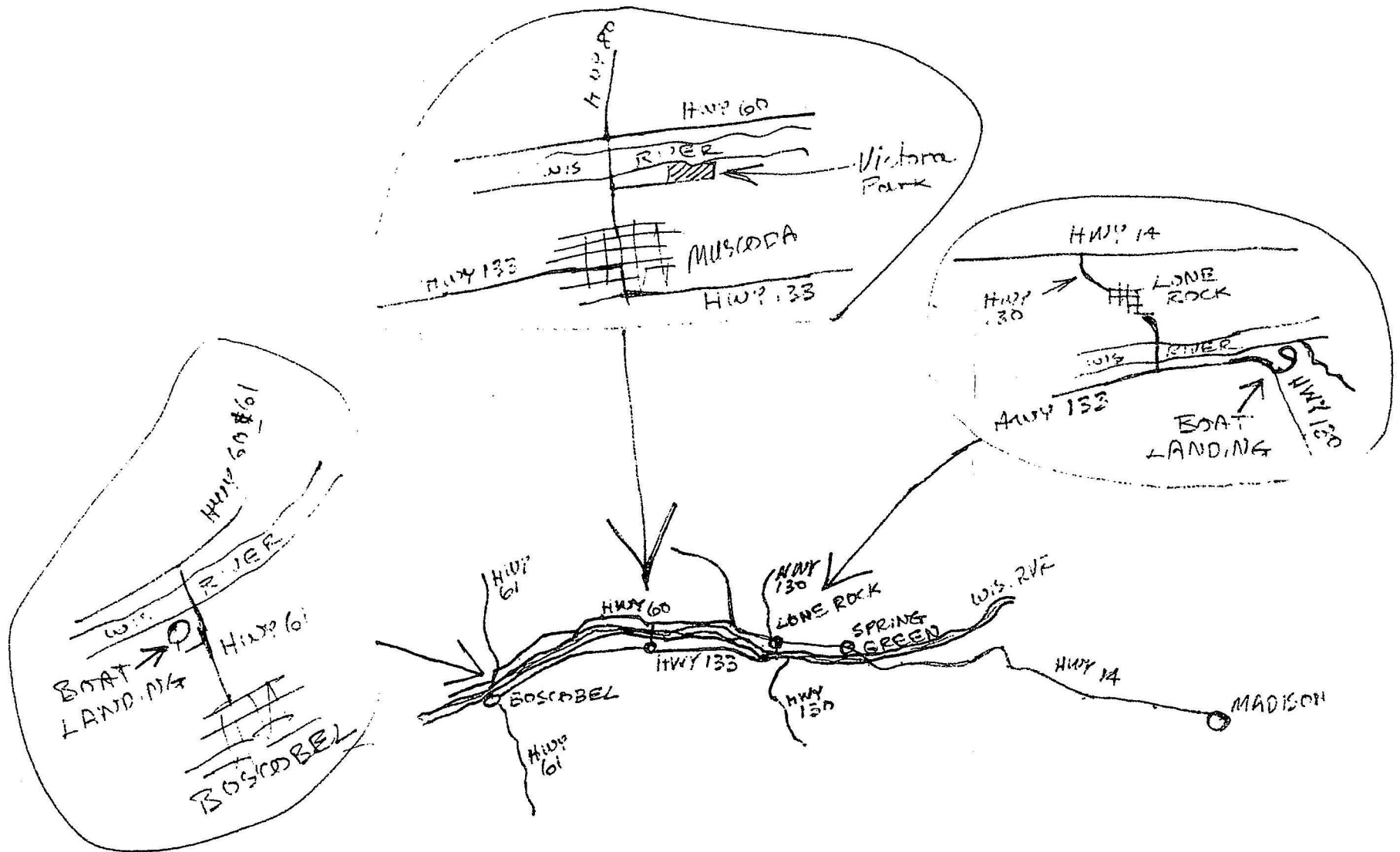
"Our endorsement is an expression of our outrage at the murder, tortures, and oppression that have been visited on civilians of those countries, primarily by their own governments with the backing of the United States, as well as our conviction that the United States has the moral and legal obligation to give political asylum to people whose lives would be in danger if they returned home.

We hope your courageous decision and the forthcoming sanctuary program will call public attention to the injustice and illegality of present immigration policy, and hasten the day when people in Central America will be able to live their lives in peace and freedom without persecution or foreign domination!"

The May 22 meeting also authorized the appointment of a task force to organize Prairie's assistance to the sanctuary program. That will likely happen at the joint meeting of the old and new boards on June 14. Please let it be known if you would like to participate. The task force will canvass Prairie members, including you, for assistance of various kinds--time, clothing, money, etc. --and will try to dream up other ways to help. A yard sale, and a fund-raising meal, with the refugees as guests of honor, have already been suggested.

Two forms appear in this Prairie Fire for individuals to register support: (a) a monitor information sheet to record when you will be able to take a 2- or 3-hour shift at St. Francis Center (ability to speak Spanish is not required), and (b) a sanctuary support sheet to record your help in terms of money, medical services, hospitality, transportation, teaching, organizing, etc. Please return the completed forms to me so we can keep track of who has pledged what. --Les Lyons

MAP OF CANOE TRIP ROUTE AND LANDING SITES



DIRECT ACTION IN THE CAUSE OF PEACE

June 20, the summer solstice, has been designated by peace groups in the United States and many other countries as a day of international protest against the ever-spiraling arms race, which now threatens the Earth with nuclear holocaust. In addition to the many planned, peaceful demonstrations, it will also be a day for non-violent actions to disrupt business-as-usual in nuclear weapons research, design, and production. Thus June 20 presents an opportunity to express our concern in an unmistakable way, in solidarity with others throughout the world.

A group of Madison peace activists interested in local observance of this event has banded together as DISARMAMENT NOW. After considering several options it was decided that the University of Wisconsin's Mathematics Research Center would be an appropriate focus.

The MRC was chosen because of the size and nature of its contribution. Since 1956, nearly all of its activities have been directed by and funded through the U.S. ARMY RESEARCH Office. Currently, the MRC functions under a 39-month, \$7.15 million contract to provide the Army with the mathematical know-how necessary in this age of high-tech weaponry.

DISARMAMENT NOW calls upon the MRC to renounce its Army contract and has offered to help find alternative funding. They have also notified the MRC of plans to disrupt business-as-usual there on June 20 as part of the international day of protest. The group believes that by calling attention to our community's contribution to possible nuclear Armageddon, we can effectively make the point that the arms race begins at home.

You are invited to join the June 20 efforts at any level: active participation in the direct action (mandatory non-violence training has been scheduled), presence as a support person or legal observer, or simply attend the rally starting at noon at the Memorial Union, followed by a march to the MRC (in the WARF building). Also, a benefit for this action will be held June 11 at the Willy Bear bar with Lynnette's Chairs playing. Interested??? Contact Lance Green at 221-8662 or William Mutranowski at 238-9962 home or 256-4146, office.

"Dissent without civil disobedience is consent." -- Henry David Thoreau

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Please don't forget pledges throughout the summer. Prairie bills keep coming, although traditionally pledge monies dwindle drastically. In order to pay the bills, we need your contributions. --Gail Ostler
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WELCOME TO NEW MEMBER

Richard Francis Baker became a member of Prairie Society on May 22. We are happy to welcome him into the Fellowship.

SOLO DISCOVERY

The next planning session for the Solo Discovery singles group will be Sunday, June 12 at the home of Les Lyons, 827 Dane St., beginning at 5:30 p.m. with a salad and sandwich potluck. All interested persons are welcomed. For more information call 251-5743.

Copy of letter to President Reagan:

Dear Mr. President:
You have spoken a number of times of the need for a constitutional amendment which would allow prayer in the public schools. I agree with you that voluntary prayer should be permitted, and I have given some thought to a possible wording of such an amendment. My suggestion is this:
"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, nor prohibiting the free exercise thereof."

This amendment would make it unlawful for school authorities or persons sponsored by them to impose their version of a proper prayer upon the children, or to forbid any child from praying whenever that child felt the need to do so.

I thank you for considering my suggestion. I pray that no child shall be prevented from exercising his or her religious freedom, nor be required to participate in the religious practice of another person, nor be humiliated when declining to participate in such practice.
Sincerely, Leland Bullen

NEXT PRAIRIE FIRE DEADLINE JUNE 12

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: Home _____

Work _____

SANCTURY SUPPORT SHEET

St. Francis House is the sanctuary site. However sanctuary itself is for the whole community to provide. The needs are spiritual, financial, material, and service-related. Please sign up to help in any way you can.

I/we will provide:

- _____ Letter of endorsement from individuals or institutions.
- _____ Money \$ _____ (health care, food, clothing, transportation, education outreach)
 Make checks payable to St. Francis House-Support.
- _____ A Bail/Bond pledge \$ _____ in case refugees are arrested by INS.
- _____ Medical Services: namely, _____.
- _____ Legal Services: namely, _____.
- _____ Spanish language (indicate level of expertise) _____.
- _____ Hospitality
 - a) refugee in home for meals.
 - b) refugee on outings, recreation.
 - c) refugee to visit my church/community.
 - d) shopping trips for refugee.
 - e) monitor -- be a companion to refugee at SFH.
- _____ Transportation
 - a) "on call" for emergencies.
 - b) car available with advance notice.

I wish to work in an organizational capacity (committee):

- _____ Media and Educational Outreach.
- _____ Ecumenical support -- help build interfaith support base.
- _____ English As A Second Language Lessons.
- _____ Bookkeeping and/or Budget Services.
- _____ I will be happy to serve wherever needed.
- _____ Other (Specialization).

Further comments or suggestions regarding my level of commitment:

Please return to Les Lyons
 827 Dane St.
 Madison, Wis. 53713
 or give to him at Prairie

SANCTUARY AT ST. FRANCIS HOUSE---MONITOR INFORMATION

If you wish to volunteer as a monitor, please fill in the following form, and return it to Les Lyons at the address on the reverse side. Thank you!

Name _____

Address _____

Phones: Home _____ Work _____ Other _____

I will have a car available--Yes or No _____

I will always be available (except in event of a personal emergency) at the following times:

Sunday _____

Monday _____

Tuesday _____

Wednesday _____

Thursday _____

Friday _____

Saturday _____

While I would prefer not to serve as a monitor at the times listed below, I can probably respond if the need is substantial:

Sunday _____

Monday _____

Tuesday _____

Wednesday _____

Thursday _____

Friday _____

Saturday _____

If you expect to be out of Madison (vacation, business, or other) between now and approximately September 1, please indicate the dates below: