Prairie Fire
Newsletter of Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society

As the prairie stretches out until it becomes one with the sky, let us reach out to touch and be one with the natural world, and with one another. Prairie's Bond of Union

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CALENDAR

SATURDAY, JANUARY 21
7:30 p.m.--THE PLAYREADERS will meet at the home of Mona & Jack Birong, 509 Glen Drive, to read Harold Pinter's The Birthday Party and The Room. For information, call 233-5995.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 22
10:00 a.m.--WILLIAM BLAKE'S BOOK OF JOB by Lois Hagstrom
10:00 a.m.--Interim Activities for children
Baby and child care available

TUESDAY, JANUARY 24
7:30 p.m.--PROGRAM COMMITTEE meeting at the home of Bob West.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29
10:00 a.m.--MEXICAN REVOLUTION - PRINTS & MUSIC by Lois Hagstrom
10:00 a.m.--Religious Education classes begin for 2nd semester
Baby and child care available

TUESDAY, JANUARY 31
7:00 p.m.--Prairie Board Meeting at 2259 West Lawn Ave. All welcome.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5
10:00 a.m.--FRANZ SCHUBERT: MUSIC AMONG FRIENDS
10:00 a.m.--R.E. Classes
Baby & child care available
11:30 a.m.--Potluck lunch

PRAIRIANS HONORED IN EXHIBIT OF ACHIEVERS

A member and a friend of Prairie are cited in an exhibit honoring black women for outstanding achievements throughout American history. The exhibit, Black Women: Achievement Against Odds, was organized by The Smithsonian Institution and the Wisconsin Humanities Committee and is appearing at three sites in Madison: the Senior Center, 330 W. Mifflin, Jan. 21; South Madison Neighborhood Center, 2001 Taft St., Jan. 25; and St. Paul AME Church, 402 E. Mifflin St., Jan. 29.

Prairie member Carolyn DeJoie, formerly Assistant to the President of the University of Wisconsin, is now an Associate Professor with the University Extension Division. She has received a number of awards, including a Fulbright scholarship, and has published in numerous scholarly journals. She was cited in Who's Who in Black America (1980) and continues to serve on a number of professional boards. She is the organizer of an annual conference focusing on issues of concern to black women.

Nellie McKay, a friend of Prairie, teaches Afro-American literature at the University. In 1983 she received an award from the University System in recognition of her outstanding academic achievements and in the same year she was awarded a Ford Foundation fellowship to pursue research on black women autobiographers. Her book Jean Toomer, the Artist: A Study of His Literary Writing and Art Works, will be published this year by the University of North Carolina Press. She is also working on a book of interviews with black writers.

NEXT PRAIRIE FIRE DEADLINE: JANUARY 29
CENTRAL AMERICAN REFUGEES
The Border Advocacy Group of the Madison Sanctuary Committee is sponsoring a tour of the Texas-Mexico border area so people from Wisconsin can get first-hand experience of the desperate problems of refugees entering the U.S. from Guatemala and El Salvador and of the religious and other groups trying to help them. The tour, February 24 to March 4, will cost $300 to $450 per person for transportation. Housing will be in homes or hostels, and meals will be available at housing sites or in low-cost restaurants. Participant should be willing to spend time on lobbying and educational work after the tour. If some Prairie people are interested in going, we might try some fund-raising of our own to help pay for the trip. Please let me know.

There will be a benefit for Border Advocacy on Saturday, January 28 at the Atwood Community Center from 5:30 to 9:00 p.m. Lots of food, lots of music, and special activities for children (including, perhaps, a pinata). Tickets are $3.50 for adults and $1.50 for children. Les Lyons

FROM THE CLIPBOARDS

KITCHEN CLEANUP
1-22 Carolyn Campen & Leslie Oakes
1-29 Mike Briggs & ??
2- 5 Shirley & Jim Lake

BUILDING CLEANUP
1-22 Al Nettleton & Mel Micke
1-29 ?? & ??
2- 5 Shirley Price-Marcus & Beth

SNOW SHOVELING
Week of 1-15 Peg Stevenson
1-22 Dunn's Marsh Neighborhood Association
1-29 John Grindrod

BABY CARE
1-22 Karen Aubry
1-29 Alice Bullen
2- 5 ??

We are happy to welcome old friends back to Prairie: Barbara James & Joe Lawrence, Roland & Janet Sarko, Rose Marie Lester, and Henry & Annis Pratt. We are always happy to see new faces also, but it is heartwarming to welcome as visitors or as regular attenders those friends whom we have not seen for some time.

Jennifer Drapkin would like to babysit. She is 11 years old and is available after school and on weekend days. Her address is 1422 Chandler, telephone is 257-7056.

MEETINGS FOR NEW PRAIRIE MEMBERS/FRIENDS
A new series of meetings is planned for anyone interested in learning more about Prairie. There will be 3 meetings covering such topics as our relationship to the Unitarian Universalist Association in Boston, our Prairie history and organization, and UU ideas and principles. Barb Park will lead these discussions.

If you are interested, please sign-up on the sheet labeled "Meetings for new Prairie Members/Friends." We will get in touch with you when planning dates, times, and place for the meetings or call Alice Bullen, 838-8055 or Rachel Siegfried, 271-2173 of the Membership Committee.

PRAIRIE DIRECTORY IN PRODUCTION
Most of the information for the Prairie Directory is in the hands of the Bonzers and Karen Aubrey who is putting it on the Bonser's computer. Al Nettleton is putting the corrections into the Prairie Bylaws and a few additions and corrections will be made in the Brief History of Prairie. The Adult Activities section has been brought up to date.

If you would like to get in on the printing and binding of the Prairie Directory, speak to Alice or Lee Bullen and we will be happy to have some help when we get to those last steps.

According to Dayle Haglund, the "Interim Activities" for children are progressing very well. Walk through the lower hall to see some of the art work the children have been busy working on the last few Sundays. You will be surprised!

NOTE FROM LINDA SCHALDACH
"I appreciate receiving the Prairie Fire and thereby keeping informed about "old" friends there. Many thanks!

Since leaving Madison 3 years ago there have been many changes, but no replacements for any of you, nor for Prairie. I have evolved from nursing home work into psychiatric nursing, and feel very fortunate to have finally landed a job in a hospital with good benefits. (It's taken time and energy and luck.) -quite a bit of all three!

If any of you ever get to Portland, and let me know, I'll have the welcome mat out!

Sincerely, Linda Schaldach
16931 N.E. Clackamus, Portland, OR
97230