



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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Volume 22, Number 14 July 3, 1984

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, JULY 8

9:00 a.m.--Potluck Breakfast
10:00 a.m.--"Impressions of Nicaragua" by
Nan Cheney, Dan DiPiazza, and
Gaiska Usabel

SUNDAY, JULY 15

12:30 p.m.--Potluck picnic with the Sauk City
Free Congregation (Unitarian).
Directions printed elsewhere in
this newsletter.

TUESDAY, JULY 17

7:30 p.m.--Board Meeting. The board will
meet on the second Tuesday of
each month. July's meeting will
be held at the Jallings, 4761
Schneider Drive, Route 1, Oregon.
Phone 835-3746.

SUNDAY, JULY 22

9:00 a.m.--Potluck breakfast
10:00 a.m.--"How Do You Say It: American Dia-
lects," by Joan Hall

SUNDAY, JULY 29

9:00 a.m.--Potluck Breakfast.
10:00 a.m.--"Making It On Our Own" a panel
of women will tell it like it
is--their experiences of being
divorced or widowed.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 25

8 a.m.-? p.m.--Save this date for Prairie's
GREAT GIGANTIC GARAGE SALE.

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CLIPBOARDS

BUILDING CLEANUP

July 8 ?? & ??
" 22 ?? & ??
" 29 ?? & ??
August 5 Anne Reardon & ??

KITCHEN CLEANUP

July 8 Gerald Beroldi & ??
" 22 Alice & Lee Bullen
" 29 Barb Park & ??
August 5 Rosemary Dorney & ??

CHILD CARE

July 8 Alice Bullen
" 22 Anne Reardon
" 29 ? ?
August 5 ? ?

Nancy Healy signed up but not
for a specific date.

SUNDAY, JULY 15, POTLUCK AT SAUK CITY

To find the Sauk City Unitarian Fellow-
ship take Highway 12 to Sauk City. Turn rt.
on Water Street at the traffic light just
after the bridge. Go several blocks to Polk
Street. (We think it is about ½ mile -- the
sign may be difficult to find.) Turn left on
Polk St. The church is on Polk between John
Adams and Jefferson Streets.

Please bring a dish to pass and your own
dishes and silver.

NEXT PRAIRIE FIRE DEADLINE: JULY 15

NEW DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

At the June meeting of the Board, Mary Beth O'Halloran was appointed as the new Director of Religious Education to replace Dayle Haglund. The Religious Education Search Committee made the recommendation to the Board on the basis of written applications and interviews. The Committee was very impressed with the quality of applicants who applied for the position.

By way of introduction, Mary Beth is one of our more recent new members of Prairie and participated in the orientation sessions for members. As a part of her philosophy of religious education, Mary Beth wrote, "My philosophy of education is to provide for young people all the opportunities I want for myself and to teach them how to use these opportunities for themselves. These opportunities include the chances to investigate their own and other religious systems, to study ethical systems and their application to typical problems, to find out about the values of their parents and alternative values, and, perhaps most importantly, to learn how to continue such investigations on their own and how to make decisions on ethical and religious questions."

Mary Beth brings a range of professional and volunteer experiences to this position. Most recently, she has been a counselor at U.W. - Rock County for students with special problems and children's therapist at the Janesville Alternative Women's Shelter. She has taught music, religious education, sex education, values clarification, transactional analysis, and worked extensively in Girl Scout programs.

Mary Beth's formal education has been in philosophy of religion, comparative religions, and social sciences. She is presently working toward a PhD in Counseling Psychology with a minor in Educational Administration at U.W. - Madison.

We also learned Mary Beth is an avid bicyclist in addition to interests in other outdoor sports and nature.

We hope you all get to know Mary Beth as she works with our children and program. Welcome aboard, Mary Beth!

Aileen Nettleton
R.E. Committee, Chair

LOCAL PRESS TAKES NOTE OF UNISEX MARRIAGE SANCTION AT UUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The Capital Times, in an AP story Friday, June 29, reported the UUA General Assembly's sanctioning of spiritual unions between gay and lesbian couples. The story quoted UUA president O. Eugene Pickett as stating: "The vote affirms the Unitarian belief in the dignity of every person," and the Rev. Robert Wheatley, "This is not a matter of civil rights in the terms of legal rights. This is a human rights issue in the sense of affirming human beings, to acknowledge and affirm and celebrate their commitment together."

In a special collection at Prairie's meeting of June 10, \$66.50 was raised to help the victims of Barneveld's tornado.

GREAT GIGANTIC GARAGE SALE

Start saving and potting up plants for the big event, Aug. 25. House plants, perennial flowers, and herbs, especially, will be useful. Rachel Siegfried, 271-2173.

WELCOME BACK, JUDY AND KRISTI!

Judy Spring, who has been working at the National Organization for Women (NOW) headquarters in Washington for more than a year, and her daughter, Kristi, have returned to Madison. We've missed them both and are glad to have them back.