

Prairie Fire

newsletter of

PRAIRIE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY
2010 Whenona Drive Madison, Wisconsin 53711

... As the prairie stretches out beneath 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

Prairie Smoke (Siversonia flora)

Richard Bonser, Editor	274-3248
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Meeting House	271-8218

Volume 25, Number 9 - May 5, 1987

DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT PRAIRIE FIRE WILL BE SUNDAY, MAY 17TH. SUBMIT NOTICES FOR THE PERIOD MAY 22ND - JUNE 4TH.

CALENDAR

Sunday, May 10

10:00 AM - "AGING IN AMERICA" with Carol Ryff, Ph.D., UW Madison Dept. of Psychology.
4:30 PM - Vespers Service, at Prairie. Bring a candle & holder. Child care provided. Finger food meal afterward.

Friday, May 15

5:30 PM - The Fish Dinner Circle will meet at the Hatch Cover on Century Ave. in Middleton.

Sunday, May 17

10:00 AM - "AGING: THE BEST IS YET TO BE?": Readings/discussion.
4:30 PM - Vespers Service, at Prairie. Bring a candle & holder. Child care provided. Finger food meal afterward.

Tuesday, May 19

5:00 PM - Program Committee meeting and potluck supper. Fredericka's house, 4337 Milford Rd.

Thursday, May 21

5:00 PM - LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE meets at Prairie.

Sunday, May 24

PRAIRIE CANOE TRIP - No Service at the Meeting House.

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PLEASE CALL 274-3248

Friday, May 29

6:00 PM - PRAIRIE PLAYREADERS annual fish fry and playreading.

Sunday, May 31

11:30 AM - THE PLAN FOR PRAIRIE: by the Long Range Planning Committee and Architect Ed Solner.

Aging in America

On May 10, Ms. Carol Ryff, Ph.D., a professor in the UW Department of Psychology, will speak on "Optimal Aging" and give us a better, more balanced perspective on the subject. She stresses moving forward positively from the achievement phase of life.

Fish Dinner Circle

The Fish Dinner Circle will meet at the Hatch Cover Restaurant on Century Avenue in Middleton at 5:30 PM. Please call Pat Watkins at 233-5795 by Wednesday, May 13, and leave a message for your reservation.

Aging: The Best Is Yet To Be?

On May 17, the service will consist of readings, music and a discussion of aging in Prairie. Music will be provided by the Ethnic Connection. A special collection will be taken to help the General Assembly Delegates pay for their expenses.

Board Bash Report

A big thank-you to those who attended and helped put on the Board Bash (especially Barb Barley). We earned \$160, which will go toward helping the General Assembly delegates attending this summer's assembly in Little Rock, Ark.

5-5-1987 PF

Annual Meeting Results

Forty members were present at the annual meeting on April 26. The election results are as follows:

President	Mary Mullen
Vice President	Pat Watkins
Treasurer	Barb Park
Secretary	Cheryl Robinson
Finance Committee	Faye Glessner
Religious Education	Peg Stevenson
Program Committee	Jim Novak
Social Action Comm.	Shirley Grindrod
Housing & Property	Pat Meller
Denomin. Affairs	Fredericka Schilling
Membership Comm.	Rita Reffner
Long Range Plan'g.	Jack Jallings
Comm. on Committees	Aileen Nettleton Dodie Chapru Cinda LaMar

General Ass'y Del. Cinda LaMar
Judy Spring

Lay Ministers Linda Lewis
"Children of Change"
Lance Green
"Secular Humanism"
Julie Bonser
"Alcoholism / The UU
Concept of Evil"

The bylaw amendment proposed by the Finance Committee was adopted as submitted. Complete minutes of the meeting will be available at a later date.

Vespers Notes

I was born in a drouth year. That summer my mother waited in the house, enclosed in the sun and the dry ceaseless wind, for the men to come back in the evenings, bringing water from a distant spring. Veins of leaves ran dry, roots shrank. And all my life I have dreaded the return of that year, sure that it still is somewhere, like a dead enemy's soul. Fear of dust in my mouth is always with me, and I am the faithful husband of the rain. I love the water of wells and springs and the taste of roofs in the water of cisterns. I am a dry man whose thirst is praise of clouds, and whose mind is something of a cup. My sweetness is to wake in the night after days of dry heat, hearing the rain.

-Wendell Berry

Going out to beg this spring day, I
stopped to pick violets-
Oh! The day is over!

-Ryokan

Channing-Murray Notes

The Madison Channing-Murray group, coordinated by Prairie member Cinda LaMar, will be presenting a workshop at General Assembly entitled "Make Mine Pepperoni: Campus Collage". Cinda and three students are already committed to attending, and funds are available to help students with the cost of attending. College age UU's interested in participating should contact Cinda at 238-9984.

Prairie Playreaders Annual Fish Fry And Playreading

Prairie's Playreaders will meet at 6:00 PM on Friday May 29 at a restaurant yet to be determined. After eating, we'll go to the home of Rosemary Dorney at 4205 Odana Road for dessert and the reading of a short play (also to be announced - see next Prairie Fire). Not to be confused with the Fish Dinner Circle Group, which has met this past year, the Playreaders' annual fish fry has been held for many years to give people who enjoy reading plays more opportunity to socialize than between-the-acts usually allows.

YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE A "REGULAR" TO JOIN US ON THIS - OR ANY OTHER OCCASION. It's a fine chance, also, to see whether play-reading is your cup of tea (fillet of fish?) since, due to the time taken up by dinner, we read a shorter play than usual.

It will also, almost certainly, be my last Playreaders' fish fry, since there is little likelihood I'll still be in Madison next May. So I'm hoping to see lots of you, especially any new people who will help fill in for me in the future. I've been with Playreaders since its inception (was, in fact, a "founding mother") and I will miss it sorely.

I'm sorry not to have names of place and play, I promise them for the May 19 issue of Prairie Fire. Meanwhile, please let me know, any of you who are certain, if you'll be coming - phone 238-4382.

-Rosemary Dorney

REGISTRATION FORM FOR 1987 ANNUAL MEMORIAL WEEKEND CANOE TRIP

The 1987 annual Memorial Day weekend canoe/camping trip will begin on Friday, May 22, and end Monday, May 25, 1987. This year's trip will be on the Fox River, with camping at the Call of the Wild Campground on Buffalo Lake (actually a wide part of the Fox River). You can canoe with us either day and/or camp all or part of the weekend.

We have a wooded group of sites reserved on the lake in the Call of the Wild Campground from 4 p.m. Friday until 1 p.m. Monday. Showers are available at the main building, which also has a bar and grill, a nice big fireplace, and some electronic games. Pets are permitted on a leash. The campground is 60 miles north of Madison.

You will be responsible for providing your own canoe this year (extensive checking found no source for rental canoes in the area of the campground). There are numerous places to rent a canoe in Madison (look under "Boats-Renting & Leasing" in the Yellow Pages). Also, if you indicate that you need a canoe or a canoe partner on the form below, we will put you in touch with those available.

Canoeing will begin at 11 A.M. on Saturday, May 23, at an old stone dam called Government Bend (marked on a map you can get from Barb). We will return all vehicles (except one) to the campground once we drop off our canoes, so if you are meeting us at the put-in at Gov't Bend, be there by 10 A.M.

We will follow the Fox River north for approx 12 miles until we end up back at the campground. The current is steady, but slow. Many species of waterfowl and wading birds can be seen along the river. Just before we enter Buffalo Lake, we will go past Packwaukee Island, which is known for wood duck, coot, sandhill crane, and green and great blue heron.

Sunday's trip will begin at 11 A.M. at the put-in in Montello, WI (go to rte 22 and follow it to just south of the dam/river, turn east onto Water St., go about one block and the put-in is on your left.) We will then drive all vehicles (but one) to the takeout point on the north shore of Lake Puckaway. Again, if you plan on meeting us at the put-in, be there by 10 A.M. so we can do the shuttling.

We will follow the marshy Fox R. approx 3 miles, portage at the Grand River Lock & Dam, and continue on for another mile to the Grand River. Here we may take a diversion up the Grand R. into the Grand River Wildlife Area. Returning to the Fox, we will continue along it for 2 miles, cross Lake Puckaway and take out. Total trip length on Sunday is approx 8 miles, depending on how far we venture on the Grand. Canoeing is, of course, available on Buffalo Lake, right from the campground. Some canoeing on Buffalo Lake may be had Monday morning.

THINGS TO BRING:

CANOE, LIFE PRESERVERS, PADDLES, WATER, SNACKS, SUNSCREEN, WIDEBRIMMED HAT, RAIN GEAR, BINOCULARS, BIRD BOOK, CAMERA, FOOD, including lunches to pack to take canoeing (NOTE: THERE ARE SEVERAL RESTAURANTS IN MONTELLO FOR DINNER), GRILLS &/OR CAMPSTOVES, TENTS, SLEEPING GEAR, INSECT REPELLANT

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RESERVATION FORM

NAME _____ PHONE _____

persons (adults & children) ___ x \$2 per # nights ___ = \$ _____

Which nights will your party be there? FRI ___ SAT ___ SUN _____

Do you need a ride? _____ Can you take riders? _____ How many? _____

Do you need a canoe? _____ Do you have an extra canoe? _____

Do you need a canoe partner? _____

Please make your check payable to Barb Barley, and deliver it to her by Sunday, May 16, if possible. Either hand deliver or mail to 186 Dixon Street, Madison 53704.

Teachers Needed

The RE Committee still needs teachers for the 87-88 school year. The K-1-2 group (7-9 children) will be using "The Adventures of God's Folk", a curriculum based on Biblical and North American folk traditions. The 3-4-5 group (14 children) will be using "Holidays and Holy Days", a curriculum based on the origins and meanings of different holidays and holy days. The 6-7-8 group (6-9 children) will be working with "World Religions", a new UU curriculum. Please contact Allison McKee (238-3302) or Barb Golden (231-1490) or Aileen Nettleton (238-6053) if you are interested in teaching.

R. E. Corner

Nursery and Preschool

On May 10 and 17, you will be concluding your R. E. year with Barb and Katie. They plan to continue looking at the season of Spring with you and enjoying some of this great weather.

During the Summer, Barb and Katie will not be your teachers. Some adults will volunteer on a weekly basis. You will have a chance to meet many of the other adults who attend Prairie.

Grades K-1-2

On May 10, Shari and Lindy plan on taking your class to the Arboretum for a day of exploring. Bring a coat or jacket and shoes that will be good for tramping in the woods. Also bring a bag for collecting things.

On May 17, you will have a party to conclude your year together. There will be games to play and fun to have, so come and join the last class of the year.

Grades 3-4-5

On May 10, you will be winding up your work on decision making. You will also have time to make plans for your party on May 17.

On May 17, come and celebrate with an end of year party. Some of you will be moving to another class in the Fall, so it will be a last chance for you all to be together.

Grades 6-7-8

On May 10, your teachers hope to have another speaker for you - someone who went on a trip to the Soviet Union to tell you about their travels.

On May 17, you will complete your year with a party. For some of you, it will be your last year in an R. E. class, so it will be a time to say good-bye to many of your friends.

Let's Give Blood!

Thanks from the American Red Cross - and many recipients of blood! Half the Prairie members who volunteered have taken the time to donate blood in recent months. Any Prairie member age 17 and older can donate if qualified. Remember to sign the Club Book for Prairie at any Blood Center or Bloodmobile.

Over 100 clubs supply a significant amount of Badger area blood needs. The cost of receiving blood locally is low because of the generosity of donors. Call the Red Cross, 233-9300, or Lynda Lewis, 271-2173, if you have questions.

Welcome and Dedication Books

On April 19, David Grover and Steven Hall were welcomed by the Prairie Community in a short service. As part of the service, and in the Prairie tradition, the children were given books. These books are to be filled with favorite poems, original poems, prose and art works from the entire Prairie community. The books, and a sample of a completed book, will be on the back table for the next three to four weeks. Please bring your contributions for Steven and David's books during this period.

New Member

Please extend a warm Prairie welcome to our newest member- Julie Johnson, whose address is Rt. 2, Box 269M, Baraboo, WI, 53913. Her phone # is (608) 356-6181. Please add her name to your directory.

New Address

Although they haven't moved, Bob and Barb Park have a new address. As a result of a change in the numbering system, their address now is:

Robert & Barbara Park
W10804 Wildwood Way
Poynette, WI 53955-9741

DIRECTIONS TO CALL OF THE WILD CAMPGROUND

Take I90 West to the exit for highway 78 (past Portage). Follow signs to Hwy 51 North. Follow Hwy 51 past Endeavor, then exit on County D. Go east on County D through Packwaukee, across the bridge (that goes across Buffalo Lake). Turn right on Freedom Road (which becomes Lakeview Drive); follow this road until it deadends in the Call of the Wild Campground (about 2 miles). Once in the campground, head toward the lake, go past the main building, and turn left. Our sites are about 1/4 mile down this road on the right.

