

Prairie Fire

newsletter of

PRAIRIE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY
2010 Whenona Drive Madison, Wisconsin 53711

... As the prairie stretches out to the horizon and becomes one with the sky, let us reach out to each other and be one with the natural world and with one another. PRAIRIE'S BOND OF UNION

Prairie Smoke (Sieversia flora)

Richard Bonser, Editor	274-3248
Mary Mullen, President	271-5192
Alison McKee, R.E. Director	238-3302
Meeting House	271-8218

Volume 25, Number 16 - Aug 11, 1987

DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT PRAIRIE FIRE WILL BE SUNDAY, AUGUST 23RD. SUBMIT NOTICES FOR THE PERIOD AUG. 28TH - SEPT. 3RD.

CALENDAR

Saturday, Aug. 15

1:00 PM - PLAYREADERS Organizational Meeting (see article).

Sunday, Aug. 16

9:00 AM - POTLUCK BREAKFAST
10:00 AM - "REPORT ON LITTLE ROCK"-
Highlights of the General Assembly. Cinda Lamar and Lynda Lewis.

Sunday, Aug. 23

NO SERVICE AT PRAIRIE TODAY.
4:30 PM - PRAIRIE PICNIC at John and Shirley Grindrod's home.
(see related story)

Saturday, Aug. 29

Orientation/Training for R.E. Teachers

Sunday, Aug. 30

10:00 AM - "WORDS FROM BEHIND BARS":
writings of Jail and prison inmates. Marty Drapkin.

Monday, Aug. 31

7:30 PM - Prairie Board Meeting at the Meeting House.

Sunday, Sept. 20

11:30 AM - SPECIAL PARISH MEETING
See Related Story

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED
RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED

Return to:
Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society
5213 Milward Drive
Madison, WI 53711

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Madison, Wis.
Permit No. 1604

Jack Jallings, Archivist
4761 Schneider Dr.
Oregon, WI 53575

TO CHANGE ADDRESS OR STOP PRAIRIE FIRE,
PLEASE CALL 274-3248

Potluck Breakfast

There will be a potluck breakfast at 9:00 AM every Sunday that Prairie meets this summer. Come and break bread with us, and bring a dish to pass.

Fall Tune Up Time

Tune up your piano for the fall! Bob Park's brother Warren will again be visiting in the Madison area from his home in Minneapolis. He is an excellent piano tuner and will be available to service your piano at a bargain rate. He will be in the Madison area from Aug. 8th to the 11th. Please call Bob Park at 635-7519 if you are interested.

Little Rock Report

Join us Sunday morning on August 16 for a first hand report on the highlights of the UUA General Assembly held in Little Rock, Arkansas, this past month. Cinda LaMar and Lynda Lewis will share their experiences as Prairie's delegates.

Cinda, who is coordinator of the young adults' Channing-Murray group, directed a workshop about organizing successful student groups. Lynda attended every last minute of all morning sessions about business and resolutions. From dawn to past midnight all week, the wide selection of services, programs, workshops, celebrations and parties offered opportunities to satisfy the diverse interests of UUs. Next year's meeting will be in Palm Springs, California.

On the Sick List

Member Jack Jallings is out of circulation for a while with a recurrence of a slipped disc in his back. He might appreciate a call from his friends while he is convalescing. Get Well Soon, Jack!

Prairie Picnic

The picnic will be held on Aug. 23 at the Grindrod home, 5235 Harbor Court (near the Spring Harbor boat ramp). Bring a dish to pass and your own meat to grill. The grills will be ready to use at 4:30 PM but swimmers, boaters, and talkers are encouraged to arrive earlier. You may be able to talk John into a sailboat ride...

And If That's Not Enough..

Prairie member Judy Spring and her housemate David Wernecke invite all Prairie folk to a two day picnic and camp-out at their home in conjunction with the Baraboo Steam and Gas Show on Saturday, Aug. 22 and Sunday, Aug. 23. The show will be held at the Sauk County Fairgrounds, and will include antique threshing machines, cars, tractors, saw-mills, and other steam and gas powered devices of uncertain purpose. There is a small gate fee for the show. The Fairgrounds are located on Hwy. 33 on the east side of Baraboo, near K-MART.

The picnic will be at the Spring-Wernecke farm on the east side of Baraboo, 2.5 miles past K-MART on Hwy. 33. The house is a large white house on the south side of the Hwy. The fire number is E13119, and their names are on the mailbox. Judy and David will provide beverages, ice, relishes, grill, and snacks. They ask that you bring your own table settings, meat, and a dish to pass. Weather permitting, there will be Volleyball and Horseshoes, and the area is nice for bicycling or canoeing as well. Call (608) 356-7325 for more information, or drop in and talk to Judy or David at OMEGA School.

HELP! HELP! HELP!

Housing and Property Chair Needed!!

Housing and Property Committee Chair Pat Meller has found that she cannot continue her duties as chair. Therefore the Board (and Prairie) desperately needs a new chairperson to see that the building stays in good shape, the yard gets mowed, and rental requests are handled in a timely fashion. Pat has graciously agreed to remain on the committee with the current members. She has already turned in the 1988 proposed budget for the Committee. If you are interested, call Pat at 271-1214 or President Mary Mullen at 271-5192.

Help Wanted

The Program Committee is seeking an individual to lead the intergenerational service on October 24, 1987. The topic will be "United Nations Day". See or call Jim Novak at 249-4474 if you are interested. This is your opportunity to give your perspective on peace in the world.

Interested In Recycling?

The Prairie Finance Committee is considering running a recycling effort as both a fund raiser and an environmental preservation effort. The committee needs a person (or persons) to act as chair (co-chairs) of the effort. If interested, please call Faye Glessner at 251-5427.

Triple Header for Opening Sunday

This is your chance to see the sights on beautiful Lake Mendota with great traveling companions. We are reserving the tour boat for Sunday, Sept. 13 at 2:00 PM. This delightful fund-raising event will follow our first service of the church year, which will be followed by a potluck lunch. The tickets are \$7 for adults and \$4 for children. The one hour tour leaves from the Memorial Union and includes Picnic Point, Maple Bluff, and Tenny Park. The tour is limited to 32 people, so sign up early by calling Faye Glessner at 251-5427.

Special Parish Meeting

A special Parish business meeting will be held on Sept. 20 at 11:30 AM after the morning service. The agenda is as follows:

1. Election of a new Housing and Property Committee Chair.
2. Report of the Long Range Planning Committee on space needs alternatives. Decision by the Society on whether to proceed with remodeling or another course of action.
3. Discussion of the proposal that Prairie have a minister.

The President reminds all Prairie friends and members that anyone may speak at a Parish Meeting, but that only members may vote.

Nursery Coordinator Needed

The position of nursery-preschool coordinator is open for the coming year. The R. E. Committee is looking for a high school graduate who has experience working with preschool children. His/her responsibilities would include supervising high school nursery caregivers and teaching three- and four-year olds. Curriculum is available although time will be needed, during the week, to prepare lessons for each Sunday. The pay is \$12 per Sunday. If you are interested in the position, please contact Alison at 238-3302 or Peg Stevenson at 233-6449. Please spread the word about the job opening to anybody you think might be qualified.

Social Action Notes

Peace Education in Wisconsin

Contact your State Representative to encourage passage of SB60, requiring each school board to give pupils "an understanding of the causes of conflict between nations and the options for conflict resolution and the attainment of peace."

Nukespeak

Come to this musical comedy review, written by and starring three expressive women, at the Ark Improv Theatre, 220 N. Basset St. There will be performances on Friday, Aug. 14 and on Friday, Aug. 21 at 8:00 PM.

Directory Update

Please add Dorothy Wetherby to your list of Committee Chairs. She is chair of the Ceremonies Committee.

Please also correct your directory to show the new address for Anne (Reardon) Urbanski and Lee Urbanski. The new address is:

4629 Crescent Road, Apt. 1
Madison, WI 53711
Phone # - 271-1349

Playreaders Organize

Following up on the last Prairie Fire's announcement of the Playreaders' annual lunch and business meeting, as promised here are the vital stats on the time and place:

Place- Bishop's Buffet cafeteria,
located across from Westgate
Mall on Whitney Way.

Time- 1:00 PM, Saturday, Aug. 15th.

We will meet in the smaller room in back - the reservations are under the name of DORNEY. The serving line is active until 2:00 PM, so either come and eat, or come and have dessert, and then stay to discuss play selection for the coming year. Call Pat Watkins or Rosemary Dorney to reserve your place at the table.

Pat Watkins	Rosemary Dorney
W: 262-7960	W: 263-4220
H: 233-5795	H: 238-4382

Grass Roots Petition

A sizable number of Prairie members and friends recently declared their interest in considering, as a Society, the possibility of hiring a minister to work with us. They have prepared the following statement:

"We, the following members or friends of Prairie Unitarian Society, do hereby declare our desire for a study of the suitability of having a minister (perhaps only part-time) for the Society. We further believe that this study and consideration should be an alternative to funding a building addition at this time."

The original copy of this petition will be present at the time of Service each Sunday for the next several Sundays. If you support it, you may wish to add your signature.

(Ed. Note- Additional signatures will not be needed, since the proposal is already on the agenda for the meeting.)

The petition will be presented to the congregation at the special meeting scheduled for September 20, when the congregation will be asked to vote on further commitments for expansion and remodeling of the Church building. If you have a strong position with regard to this proposal and/or any other alternatives to building expansion, we trust you will be at that meeting and will let your views be known.

- Bill Fetzner

Help Save A Life

DONATE EXTRA BLOOD FOR LABOR DAY

Special thanks to Prairie members who already have donated blood several times. Our One-A-Week Club got off to a late start in 1987, but your regular bi-monthly donations are especially appreciated.

Summer blood donations at the Red Cross are up this year, but we must not slack off at the end of summer. The Labor Day Holiday needs extra blood supplies.

Organizing clubs at the grassroots pays off. Please join Prairie members who are making a commitment to donate blood regularly. Remember, sign the Club Book at the Red Cross for Prairie. If you have any questions call Lynda Lewis at 271-2173 or the Red Cross at 233-9300.

Mark Your Calendar!

This year's Upham Woods retreat will be held on October 10th and 11th. The Board is looking for one or more individuals to organize the program and registration for the retreat. If interested, please contact President Mary Mullen at 271-5192.

Wedding Reception

Sita Robinson and Tim Diehl will be married on August 15 in Portland, Oregon. All Prairie members and friends are invited to join them for an informal reception on August 29 at 12:00 Noon at the farm of Joe Lawrence and Barbara James in Brooklyn, Wisconsin. Bring your loved ones, your musical instruments, and a dish to share. Please RSVP to Sita or Tim at (608) 256-1151.

R. E. Corner

In the last issue of Prairie Fire, I began telling Prairie members and children what was upcoming in the way of classes for the 3-4-5 and 6-7-8 grade groups. In this issue, I want to complete my discussion of upcoming classes by sharing with all of you what will be in store for the K-1-2 and nursery classes.

The K-1-2 class will be using the curriculum entitled The Adventures of God's Folk. This curriculum has been a delight to youngsters in the past and I am sure will be a delight to our coming K-1-2 class. The curriculum attempts to expose the children to realms and forms of being by way of stories. The stories that are used come from the Bible and North American folk traditions. Each of

the stories was carefully selected so that the children would be exposed to the many different realms and forms of being that have been experienced by many different people throughout history. It is hoped that these stories will expose the children to a wider world of experience. It is, after all, this broad perspective on the world which has nurtured Unitarian Universalism. The children will have a chance to hear the tales of Bezalel, David, Solomon, Elijah, Harriet Tubman, the Pilgrims, Jesus, Sacajawea, Mike Fink, and Johnny Appleseed, to mention only a few. Not only will they have a chance to hear these stories, but they will also have a chance to play with the stories for their own purposes.

The teachers for this class will be Lee Bullen and Jennifer Parker. Jennifer is a "new" member of Prairie. Her son, Aaron Dickinson, has been a part of the class for a year now. Lee is a familiar face to all of those who are upstairs each Sunday. The children will enjoy having Jennifer and Lee with them each week.

In the Nursery, the Growing Times curriculum will be used. This curriculum was developed in hopes of giving preschool UU children experiences which will "introduce them to the joys and personal fulfillment of sharing, to help their sense of identity and positive self image, to help them develop self-expression, through experiences in art, movement, and words", and most importantly "to help them feel a part of our UU community by sharing important events, celebrations, joys and sorrows". This curriculum is the one that Prairie has relied on in the past. It has so much good material that I feel we should continue to use it on a yearly basis. The activities are wonderful and there are many to choose from. Children seem to enjoy working with this curriculum very much.

There is no teacher selected for the nursery as yet.

Teacher Training

Date Set

There will be a teacher training day on August 29th. It will be an all day event at which you will be able to do a major part of your planning for the semester. You will also have a chance to learn more about teaching in the R.E. setting. Please put this day aside and plan to join us. Others who are interested in R.E. are welcome to attend. Call Allison at 238-3302 for details.