Prairie Fire

newsletter of

PRAIRIE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY
2010 Whenona Drive
Madison, Wisconsin 53711

...As the prairie stretches out before us, we become one with the
sky, let us reach out, inspire, and be one with the natural
world and with one another. PRaire's BOND OF UNION

Prairie Smoke (Sieversia fons)

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DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT PRAIRIE FIRE WILL
BE SUNDAY, OCT. 18TH. SUBMIT NOTICES
FOR THE PERIOD 23RD - NOV. 5TH.

CALENDAR

Friday, Oct. 9 through
Sunday, Oct. 11

UPHAM WOODS RETREAT-
NO SERVICES AT PRAIRIE
(see PROGRAM and related stories)
6:00 PM - YR U U (7th to 12th grades)
meets at First Unitarian Soc.
West Living Room. Call Diane
Derouen (238-3766) for info.

Sunday, Oct. 18

10:00 AM - "WHAT WILL I BE?: FINDING
ONE'S SELF AT AN EARLY AGE"
with guest Betty Franklin.
6:00 PM - YR U U (7th to 12th grades)
meets at First Unitarian Soc.
West Living Room. Call Diane
Derouen (238-3766) for info.

Wednesday, Oct. 21

6:00 PM - PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEETING
at the home of Jim Novak,
2117 Linden Ave. Meeting
includes a potluck dinner.
Bring a dish to pass.

Saturday, Oct. 24

8:00 PM - THEATER PARTY: MEDEA (see
related story)

Sunday, Oct. 25

10:00 AM - "INTERGENERATIONAL SERVICE:
UNITED NATIONS CELEBRATION"
(see related story)
2:30 PM - YR U U OUTING at Vitense Golf-land
(see related story).
6:00 PM - YR U U (7th to 12th grades)
meets at First Unitarian Soc.
West Living Room. Call Diane
Derouen (238-3766) for info.

Friday, Oct. 30

6:30 PM - FISH DINNER CIRCLE - at the
Washington Host. Call Pat
Watkins (262-7970) by Wed.
Oct. 28 for reservations.

Sunday, Nov. 1

10:00 AM - "*
4:30 PM - VESPERS SERVICE AT PRAIRIE
Child Care Provided. Finger
Food Potluck afterwards.
5:00 PM - Spanish Speakers' Potluck
meets at First Unitarian Soc.
West Living Room. Call Diane
Derouen (238-3766) for info.

It's a Tradition...

At the Sunday morning service at Upham Woods, we will again be doing a keylog
ceremony. So - be thinking of someone or something that you are thankful for,
or that was meaningful to you within the last year. We will be sharing these
things (the keylogs) at the service.

- Marty Drapkin
What Will I Be?

Betty Franklin, executive director of the Madison Urban League, continues the "Children of Change" series of Sunday Services on Oct. 18th. Speaking on the topic "What Will I Be? - Finding One's Self at an Early Age", she will describe how the League helps minority youth explore choices about their futures. The League is developing community mentoring programs to provide experiences with many types of lifestyle, educational and economic choices.

Betty Franklin recently received the state 1987 Social Worker of the Year award. Past president of the Madison NAACP, she is an active member of Mount Zion Baptist Church. Formerly with DHSS, she held many positions including chief of the budget management section in the Division of Community Services.

Theater Party

Mark your calendar and join the PLAYREADERS for the University production of Medea on Saturday, Oct. 24th. The play will be performed in the Mitchell Theater in Vilas Hall on the UW-Madison campus. If you plan to attend and would like to be included in the after play festivities, let Pat Watkins know at 262-7960 (days).

United Nations Celebration

At this intergenerational service on Oct. 25th, we would like children and adults who have something special from another country to bring it to the service to share with Prairie. UNICEF Halloween boxes will also be distributed to the children at this service.

- Aileen Nettleton

C. M. D. Annual Meeting

The Central Midwest District of the UUA will hold its annual meeting at the Unitarian Church of Evanston, IL, on Nov. 6, 7, and 8. Former UUA President Eugene Pickett and UUA Executive Secretary Kay Montgomery will be the featured speakers along with several workshops and special events. Details are listed in a brochure available at Prairie. The registration deadline is October 28.

** CONTEST **

!! Win Valuable Prizes!!

In order to have a new look to our upcoming Prairie T-Shirts, we are holding a contest to create a new design. The design must be no more than 8" square or round, only one color, include the words "Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society", and be camera ready when submitted. The winner will receive lots of valuable publicity and a free Prairie Shirt of her/his choice. Designs must be submitted in final form to Faye Glessner no later than Wednesday, Sept. 30.

Join the Circle

Circle dinner groups are now being formed for the church year. These are informal groups of six to twelve adults (children are sometimes included) which meet once a month in the home of one of the members for a group meal and social evening. These groups are open to all members and friends of Prairie, and their composition changes every year. If you are interested in being in a circle dinner group, please sign up as soon as possible. There is a signup sheet at Prairie, and there will be one at the Upham Woods Retreat as well. Call Ruth Calden at 233-5717 for more information or to sign up for a circle.

Committee Members Needed

At the Sept. 28th meeting of the Prairie Executive Board, a Building Remodeling Committee was created and three members appointed to it. The members are Al Nettleton, Tom Robinson, and Rick Ruecking. This is the committee that will work with the architect and contractors to carry out the remodeling plan when the Board gives the go-ahead signal after fundraising is complete. If you have special expertise of any kind, or just a desire to be involved in the process, notify Al, Tom, or Rick, or call president Mary Mullen at 271-5192.

A Second Chance

We are planning to issue a revised Prairie Cookbook for those people who missed getting one of the first editions, those who are new to Prairie, and for relatives who have been coveting your copy of the first edition for years. IF YOU WANT TO GET ONE OR MORE COPIES OF THE REVISED COOKBOOK, PLEASE CALL Faye Glessner (261-7173) or Rachel Siegfried (271-2173) AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. We need to plan the printing order.
Hospitality Understudy Needed

Our Hospitality Chair, Fran Remeika, has informed the Board that this is her last year in that position. To ensure a smooth transition, she'd like to have an "understudy" who would then offer to serve Prairie in this capacity come next spring when the Board appoints the new Hospitality Chair after the elections. Please contact Fran at 845-7292 or Mary Mullen at 271-5192 for more information.

Getting Oriented?

Interested in Orientation to U-U? Help is needed in planning orientation meetings which will be held in November. Also, members are needed for the Denominational Affairs Committee- a minimal time commitment is involved. Call Fredericka Schilling at 271-5292.

Gone to Rest

We are sorry to report the death of long time Prairie Member Rebecca Clark this past week after a protracted illness. Although in considerable pain at times, she retained her spirit and love of life to the end. She prepared her own memorial service, which was attended by family and friends on October 3, 1987. She made life richer for many of us, and we are all a little poorer for her passing. Requiescat in pace et lux aeternam.

Our deepest sympathy also goes to the families and friends of other Prairie members who have recently lost those who are near and dear to them: to Hugh and Frank Iltis, who lost mother and grandmother this summer; to Sydney Mannering, who recently lost her mother; and to Pat Meller, who lost her father this past week.

Off to a Running Start!

Prairie Society took a bold, forward looking step at the Sept. 20th parish meeting when a decision was made to undertake an $85,000 building renovation project. The improvements will greatly improve our R. E. space and will make all major facilities in our building handicapped accessible. As a result, the Prairie Executive Board created a Building Fund Committee at its meeting on Sept. 28th.

The committee met for the first time on October 4th to elect a chair, and was told at that time that pledges of more than $5,000 had already been received. The committee elected Jack Jallings and Dick Bonser as co-chairs, and Rachel Siegfried and Secretary.

Our Goal: to raise as much as possible of the funds required by January, 1988, so that the board can negotiate a loan from the Veatch Foundation for the balance and get bids for construction during the summer of 1988. Prairie members and friends will be contacted by the committee in the weeks to come, seeking cash donations and pledges (to be redeemed in 1988) to make up the required amount.

The Next Step: there will be a Building Fund brainstorming session from 1PM to 2PM on Saturday at the Upham Woods retreat to come up with ideas on how the money can be raised (in addition to the necessary pledges from our members). Come and share your ideas with us. Join the committee if you're interested - many hands make light work!

Building Committee Report

Thanks to all who showed up to help on the work day - Oct. 3. We have also made a list of current needs for building maintenance. This list will be available for you to find a project that suits your abilities. What can you do for Prairie?

R. E. Corner

On Oct. 11th, there will be no R. E. classes. Come to Upham Woods and be with all of your Prairie friends.

Nursery

In Sept. you had a chance to work together to make a mural. On Oct. 18, you and your friends will work together to make yourselves Fall Placemats. Come dressed to go outside to gather leaves for the mats that you will make this morning.

K-1-2

Jennifer introduced the story of Elijah and King Ahab to you at your last class. During this class, you will learn more about Elijah and Ahab. Possibly you will have a chance to play "Pop Goes Elijah".
When you come back to Prairie (after your Upham Woods Weekend) on Oct. 18th, you will celebrate Maulid al-Nabi. This is a celebration of the birthday of Mohammed. Mohammed was the founder of the Moslem religion. Peg will help you celebrate this holy day and teach you a Moslem prayer.

On Oct. 18th, you will continue exploring the question "How can I know what to believe about people?" You will be studying the positions on humanism which were taken by Erasmus, Martin Luther, Michael Sutjes, and John Calvin in the 1600's.

Y U U News

The Youth Group will be going to play Miniature Golf on Sunday, Oct. 25th, weather permitting. We will meet at Vitense Golfland on Whitney Way at the Beltline at 2:30 PM. If it is raining, we will still meet there, but we will go to a movie instead. Bring enough money to cover either golf or a movie (about $3.00). If you need a ride, call Erin Bosch (238-6285) or Marty Drapkin (256-1239).

Youth Conference on Disarmament

There will be a U-U Youth Conference on Disarmament from Nov. 19 to Nov. 22 at the United Nations in New York. For people 15 to 17 years old, three days of sharing and learning about the arms race. Call Fredericka Schilling at 271-5292 for more information.

R. E. Fundraiser

Get a head start on your holiday shopping list at the fourth annual Discovery Toys fund raiser for the R. E. program. Educational toys, games & books for all ages, infant through adult, will be displayed and orders taken at Prairie on Sunday, Oct. 18th. Try out the games at Upham Woods the weekend before. Contact me at 249-7075 for more information.

- Arline Ferguson

Job Change

After 10 happy years at Badger Realty Service, I have changed Real Estate companies. In order to serve my clients better, I joined Century 21, Affiliated, at 4100 University Avenue near Hilldale in the Walnut Grove Shopping Center. Please correct my business phone number in the Prairie Directory - it is now 231-4646.

- Lu Kummerow

Grow Yer Own...

Prairie member Bob Park has a 15 acre farmette for rent north of Barneveld, about 30 miles west of Madison. For further information please call him at 635-7519.
UPHAM WOODS PROGRAM  
October 9-11, 1987

FRIDAY EVENING

6:00 - 7:30  **Potluck Dinner** -- Bring a dish that does not require use of kitchen facilities; napkins provided but you need your own serving and eating utensils.

8:00 - 9:00  **Massage exchange** (Dorm Room 1) -- Repeat from last year; bring own oil, two sheets and comfortable pad, blanket or sleeping bag (from home or your dorm room). Instruction for beginners by Faye Glessner.

**Mentor Group Meeting** (Kiwanis Room) -- 9th graders will get together with Barbara Park and Lynda Lewis to decide on our program for the year.

**Night Hike** -- A first for us. Upham Woods Naturalist Interns will introduce us to the sounds and feel of a forest night. Experience the night the way the animals do it -- without flashlights.

**Slides of Egypt** (Dining Hall) -- Jack and Betty Jallings have been looking forward to this opportunity to share memories of their recent trip with us.

9:00 - 10:00  **Folk Dancing** (Commons) -- Another repeat. Arlene Ferguson will lead and teach.

SATURDAY MORNING

6:30 - 7:30  **Bird Walk** -- All you need is an interest in birds and the ability to get yourself to the Nature Center at this hour (will probably still be dark). Binoculars provided. Judy Skog will lead.

7:30  **BREAKFAST** (begins promptly at 7:30)

8:30 - 10:00  **Enameling Craft Workshop** (Dorm Room 1) -- Try your luck and talent at enameling on copper. Bring your own materials if you wish, but Dick Bonser and Metje Butler will have some for you to use.

**Introduction to Marriage Enrichment** (Dorm Room 2) -- Overview of a program that includes meetings and other support activities, to be presented by Gordon and Vera Cunningham for couples wishing to improve a good marriage.

**Youth Group Talent Show Practice** (Commons) -- You won't believe the songs that Erin Bosch and Marty Drapkin found to challenge your talents.

**Arts and Crafts** (Kiwanis Room) -- Kids of all ages will have the opportunity to help build a Prairie town (using real lumber). Sharon Scratchish and Louie have the plans and materials.

10:00 - 12:00  **Orienteering** -- Upham Woods Naturalist Interns will lead the group this year. They will teach as well as conduct a real event. All ages.

**Photography Workshop and Nature Hike** -- Learn how to focus your own eyes and then your camera on nature. Led by Jim Novak and Marty Drapkin, both of whom are recognized photographers. All ages. **BRING YOUR OWN CAMERA.**

10:00 - 11:00  **St. Francis of Assisi** (Dorm Room 2) -- No, he won't be there, but Rick Ruecking and Peg Stevenson will be, to talk about the life and faith of this famous spiritual leader. All ages welcome.
11:00 - 1:00  **Teen Canoe Trip and Lunch** -- Head for the canoes and an adventurous journey, stopping on Blackhawk island for lunch. Gail Osler and Jennifer Drapkin are your guides.

11:00 - 12:00  **Kickoff Meeting for Capital Fund Drive** (Dorm Room 1) -- After a very auspicious start (more than $5000 pledged already), the CF Committee will meet with all who wish to help. This is the time to contribute your ideas and energy. Rachel Siegfried will chair.

12:00  **LUNCH** (begins promptly at noon) -- Special guests will be Scotty Meeks, First Society's Interim Minister and Colleen McDonald, their Interim RE Director.

**SATURDAY AFTERNOON**

1:00 - 2:30  **Worshipping as a Church Family** (Commons) -- Colleen and Scotty will lead the group in an exploration and experience of multi-generational worship. All ages welcome.

**Men's Issues Workshop** (Dorm Room 1) -- What's happening with the men's movement these days? Roy Schenk will report on his experiences and observations at a recent conference of the National Congress for Men, where he presented a workshop. All ages (and sexes) welcome.

**Scavenger and/or Treasure Hunt** -- We're not sure which this will be (maybe both) because there are so many good ideas. Jennifer Drapkin and Erin Bosch will figure it all out for us. One thing for sure--hunter seekers will work in teams (at least one older person per team).

2:30 - 4:00  **Banner and T-Shirt Design Workshop** (Dorm Room 1) -- Let's discuss ideas for the theme(s), design and materials to create a Prairie Banner, to be used to represent us at General Assembly and at local events, while adorning our building walls at other times. The same time and talent will be applied to coming up with new designs for Prairie bathrobes, T-shirts, etc. Lynda Lewis will lead.

**Nature Center/Obstacle Course Trip** -- Time to look into the many wonders and myriad activities available at the Nature Center. Then, hit the obstacle course. Judy Skog will lead the gang. All ages welcome.

**MEDEA** (Dorm Room 1) -- A look into human nature. Pat Watkins will lead a discussion group in preparation for our forthcoming theater party.

4:00 - 5:30  **Men vs. Ministering** (Dorm Room 2) -- The perennial Prairie topic. Which shall we have or should we have a combination of both? This is the time designated by the Board to raise this topic, which was deferred at the recent Special Parish Meeting. Dorothy Wetherby presiding.

**Middle School Breakout** (Dining Hall) -- Time for the middle schoolers to do their thing. Cinda LaMar and Al Nettleton will make it happen.

**Predation Game** -- Another first. The Naturalist staff at Upham Woods will teach us how to play this nature-oriented game. What is the unknown predator? Fun for all ages.

4:30 - 5:30  **Shapenote Singers** (Commons) -- All voices welcome (especially basses).

**SATURDAY EVENING**

5:30  **DINNER** (begins promptly at 5:30)
7:00 - 8:30 Talent Show (Commons) -- Wouldn't be Upham Woods without it! Marty Drapkin will again be our master of ceremonies and will feature YOUR TALENT. Start planning now, but last minute acts are great too.

8:30 - 9:30 Family Campfire -- We'll be hoping for good weather, but if we don't get it, we'll move inside. Upham Woods Naturalist Interns will join Prairie campfire experts in making this program a treat for all ages.

9:30 - Tavern Time -- Some of us just can't seem to break the habit of journeying down the road to Hansen's Tavern for munchies, music and mirth. PARENTS -- PLEASE MAKE ALL NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS FOR YOUR CHILDREN, e.g. SHARED CARE.

SUNDAY MORNING

7:30 - 9:00 EXTENDED BREAKFAST (eat anytime during this period)

9:00 - 10:00 Cleanup -- housekeeping duties for all.

10:00 - 11:15 Outdoor Service -- If tradition is our guide, we will share some thoughts and memories, perhaps some hopes and aspirations for the coming year. Marty Drapkin is our Lay Minister for the day.

12:00 End of scheduled program.

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NOTES:

1. All meals will be served in the Dining Hall.
2. All ages means, in general, that kids of all ages are welcome to attend and participate in the activity. Check with Bill Fetzner or the activity leader if you're in doubt.
3. If the meeting site for an activity is not specified above or announced at mealtime, meet the group on the Lodge porch at the designated time.
4. Room locations:
   a. Dining Hall -- lower floor of Lodge building
   b. Kiwanis Room -- upper floor of Lodge building, next to stairway
   c. Commons -- large room on upper floor of Lodge building
   d. Dorm Rooms (1 and 2) -- basement of Dormitory building