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

Prairie Smoke (Sieversia flava)

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

Volume 25, Number 22 - Nov. 3, 1987

DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT PRAIRIE FIRE WILL
BE SUNDAY, NOV. 15TH. SUBMIT NOTICES
FOR THE PERIOD NOV. 20TH - DEC. 3RD.

CALENDAR

Sunday, Nov. 8th
10:00 AM - "GROWING UP IN MODERN NIGERIA"
Michael Afolayan, UW student
from Nigeria.
11:15 AM - YRUU DOUGHNUT SALE
12:00 AM - Canvasser's potluck lunch
1:00 PM - BUILDING FUND DRIVE!
4:30 PM - VESPERS SERVICE at Prairie
Child care provided. Finger
food potluck afterward.
5:00 PM - Spanish speaker's potluck at
Rosemary Dorney's.
6:30 PM - YRUU (7th-12th graders)
at First Unitarian Society
West Living Room; call Diane
Derouen, 238-3766, for info.

Saturday, Nov. 14th
6:00 PM - PRAIRIE SERVICE AUCTION and
Dinner. (see related story)

Sunday, Nov. 15th
10:00 AM - CHILDREN AS ORACLES OF CHANGE
presented by Terry Krause.
11:15 AM - YRUU DOUGHNUT SALE
6:30 PM - YRUU (7th-12th graders)
at First Unitarian Society
West Living Room; call Diane
Derouen, 238-3766, for info.
6:30 PM - UU ORIENTATION: "Sharing Ourselves"
led by Sharon
Scratchish.
4337 Milford Rd. 271-5192

Wednesday, Nov. 18
6:00 PM - PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEETING AND
POTLUCK MEAL at Julie Bonser's home, 5213 Milward Dr.

Saturday, Nov. 21
7:30 PM - PLAYREADERS MEET at the home
of Pat Watkins, 2419 Norwood.
All welcome.

Sunday, Nov. 22nd
10:00 AM - (to be announced)
12:00 AM - POTLUCK DINNER: Bring a dish
to share.
1:00 PM - FALL PARISH MEETING (see
related story)
6:30 PM - YRUU (7th-12th graders)
at First Unitarian Society
West Living Room; call Diane
Derouen, 238-3766, for info.
6:30 PM - UU ORIENTATION: "What's a
Unitarian Universalist?" led
by Mary Mullen and Rick
Ruecking
4337 Milford Rd. 271-5192

Monday, Nov. 23
7:30 PM - PRAIRIE BOARD MEETING at the
meeting house. All welcome.

Saturday, Nov. 28
YRUU LOCK-IN AT WEST YMCA
call Diane Derouen, 238-3766,
for information and time.

Sunday, Nov. 29
6:30 PM - UU ORIENTATION: "Prairie:
Past, Present, and Future"
led by Ruth Calden.
4606 Waukesha St. 233-5717

Friday, Dec. 4
6:00 PM - Fish/Ethnic Dinner Circle
will meet at the Saigon
Restaurant (see story).
Growing Up in Modern Nigeria

Our guest speaker on Nov. 8th will be Michael Afolayan, a UW student from Nigeria. He will share experiences about growing up in Nigeria and observations about living in Madison.

PRAIRIE SERVICE AUCTION

On Saturday, Nov. 14, the Prairie Service Auction will kick off at Prairie Society meeting house. Beginning at 6:00 PM pizza, drinks, and snacks will be sold. Bring the whole family for food and group singing.

Then the main event will commence as good Prairie people offer their talents to the highest bidder. Some of last year’s successes will be available again: meals of ethnic specialties, income tax preparation, baked goods, home repairs, firewood cutting, and much more...

Bring your checkbook, because payment will be made right at the event to keep records and commitments straight. Call Brent Haglund (233-5199) for more information, or to offer skills/items you wish to have in the auction.

Children as Oracles of Change

In the Emperor’s New Clothes, a story teller used the unencumbered wisdom of a street urchin to reveal to the empire that its naive and vain ruler was parading in the buff. This folk tale has many social interpretations. Are there other truths we can learn through the medium of our children? This program will explore how society’s unmet needs are transferred to its children and thereby can be predictors of the future. This service, a part of the Children of Change series, will be presented by Prairie Member Terry Krause on November 15th.

Circle Dinners Begin...

Circle dinner groups have been formed and, we hope, are off and running. Each group has a ‘first organizer’ who is responsible for contacting the rest of the group to arrange the first potluck. If you have signed up but haven’t been contacted, call either Ruth Calden (233-5717) or Rita Reffner (231-1816) or look on the master list posted at Prairie.

If you missed the signup sheet, you can still sign up by putting your name and phone number on the sheet at Prairie or by calling Ruth or Rita at the numbers above. At present, there is room for a couple or two single persons in a small group of 3 couples who prefer not to include children in the circle.

Here’s a few suggestions that have helped groups to jell in the past. Most groups function best with some planning for the time after dinner. Ask your members to bring a favorite record, slide, photo, readings, or musical instrument as a way of getting to know each other in more depth. Your group might also like to go to a movie, play, or concert before dinner or to discuss a topic of mutual interest.

Fall Orientation

Do you ever wonder what Unitarianism is all about? Do you wish you knew more about Prairie? Would you like to meet some new and old people from Prairie? Come join us for discussion and snacks on Sunday evenings at 6:30 on Nov. 15, 22, and 29th. We will meet in different homes, starting at Fredericka Schilling’s, 4337 Milford Rd., just 1/4 block from Prairie. If you have questions or would like to come for 1, 2, or 3 evenings please call Fredericka at 271-5192. The topics are:

4337 Milford Rd. 271-5192

Sun. Nov. 22 - "What’s a Unitarian Universalist?" led by Mary Mullen and Rick Ruecking
4337 Milford Rd. 271-5192

4606 Waukesha St 233-5717

Fish/Ethnic Dinner Circle

This informal group meets once a month in a restaurant for food and fellowship. It is ideal for those who do not cook or have no place to entertain, but wish to be part of a dinner circle. The next meal will be at the Saigon Restaurant on Friday, Dec. 4th, at 6:00 PM. Details will be printed in the next Prairie Fire.
Parish Meeting 
Agenda

Take your choice! All Prairie members and friends are asked, urged, appealed to, invited, implored, entreated, and perhaps even begged (if they don’t feel obligated) to attend the regular fall parish meeting on Sunday, Nov. 22nd, at 1:00 PM at Prairie. The meeting will be preceded by the regular morning service at 10:00 and a POTLUCK at 12:00. Child care will be provided during the meeting.

The important business of the fall meeting is approval of the operating budget for 1988. The entire agenda is as follows:

1. Approval of the minutes of the Sept. 20 parish meeting.
2. Treasurer’s report.
3. Election of a Denominational Affairs Chairperson.
4. Standing Committee Reports: 
   a. Program Committee
   b. Religious Education
   c. Housing and Property
   d. Denominational Affairs
   e. Membership
   f. Social Action
   g. Long Range Planning
5. Report on the Upham Woods discussion of the need for a minister, administrator, or secretary. Action as appropriate.
6. Finance Committee Report
7. Discussion and approval of the 1988 Operating Budget (see attached proposal).
8. Report by the Capital Fund Raising Committee. Action as appropriate.
9. Old Business
10. New Business (Items not on this agenda must be requested in writing by 10 members. No bylaw changes can be considered since none were submitted by the deadline.)
   a. Discussion of need for capital budgeting for major maintenance and repairs.
11. Adjournment

Committee Members Still Needed

On Sept. 28th, the Prairie Executive Board created a Building Remodeling Committee and appointed Al Nettleton, Tom Robinson, and Rick Ruecking as the first three members. This committee will work with the architect and contractors to carry out the remodeling plan when the Board gives the go-ahead signal. If you want to be involved in the process, notify Al, Tom, or Rick, or call president Mary Mullen at 271-5192.

Building a Dream...

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 expand our R. E. space and will make all major facilities in our building handicapped accessible. To raise the necessary funds, 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 and elected Jack Jalilings and Dick Bonser as co-chairs, and Rachel Sigfried 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 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.

PROGRESS REPORT: As of Nov. 2nd, Pledges amounting to $18,660 had been received by the Committee!

A Special Pledge...

In addition to a Building Fund Pledge, a Prairie member has pledged an additional $100 to create the new “prairie plant” garden. The best part of this is that this member has also PLEDGED TO MATCH OTHER “PRAIRIE PLANT” GARDEN PLEDGES up to a maximum of $500. If you are interested in re-establishing our symbolic prairie, your extra gift for that purpose will automatically double in size!!

Hospitality Understudy Needed

Our Hospitality Chair, Fran Remekia, 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.
Special Show and Sale for Prairie

Bill Grover has announced that he will open his studio in the Old Dane County Home (just East of Verona) for a pre-Christmas Show and Sale of pottery and sculpture. As a special incentive to Prairie Members and Friends, he will donate 10% of whatever we spend to the Prairie Building Fund.

CMD Annual Meeting

Helpful workshops, stimulating speakers, wonderful food and entertainment, great conversation, democratic participation, new friends and old - you'll find all of this and more at the annual meeting of the UUA Central Midwest District Nov. 6-8 in Evanston, IL. A Brochure is available at Prairie. Make your reservation early, as space in home or hotel is limited.

Budget Issue...

I would like to add to the budget $200 to provide for lawn mowing next spring, summer, and fall. Volunteers have been almost non-existent for this particular chore. If you agree, help support the motion at the Fall Parish Meeting on Nov. 22nd.
- Rachel Siegfried

Notes from the 6th, 7th, & 8th Grade

Grades K-1-2
On Nov. 8th, Jennifer will be introducing the story of Harriet Tubman to you. Harriet Tubman was a brave woman who stood up against slavery. Jennifer will tell you Harriet's story and lead you in some activities that will help you remember what Harriet did for us all.

Grades 3-4-5
On Nov. 8th, you will conclude your study of the Hindu religion with Rick. (Remember that after class there will be a field trip to the Children's Museum.)

Nov. 15th will bring you to the study of the Wampanoag. The Wampanoag were members of the Algonquian Indian group that lived in Massachusetts at the time of the Pilgrims. As you can imagine, they had quite an influence on the Pilgrims.

Notes from the 6th ~ 7th ~ 8th Grade

We talk about different things. We talk about different religions. We talk about different Unitarians in religious history. The 6th, 7th, & 8th graders have come up with a definition of a Unitarian: "A Unitarian is a person who is all mixed up and doesn't know what to believe in, so they come here." Anyone else feel that way?!

UNICEF DRIVE

Please turn in all UNICEF money no later than Nov. 7th to Alison McKee.

Special Field Trip Planned

On Nov. 8th, the children of the 3-4-5 grade class will go on a trip to the Children's Museum as a way to wrap up their study of Hindu traditions. Friends and family are invited to join the class for a picnic at Prairie (bring your own lunch) at 11:30. Following the picnic, at 1:00, you will all gather at the Children's Museum to see the exhibit on Indian life.

Nifty Gifty Helper Needed

An adult is needed to help with a soldering project for older children on the Nifty Gifty day, Dec. 6th. For more information, call Metje Butler at 244-3659.
A Note From The Treasurer

This is an active time of year with pledges, the Capital Fund Drive, and the upcoming service auction. It would be very helpful if everyone would label their checks - for example: '87 pledge, '88 pledge, Building Fund, Capital Fund, etc. This will ensure that your money gets into the right slot in the books.

You do not have to wait to put your checks in the basket - they can be mailed direct to the Treasurer. Her address is:

Barbara Park
W10804 Wildwood Way
Poynette, WI 53955

Lost And Found

The grey hat and gloves which were left at Pat Watkins' house after the Medea Theater party can be recovered from the red plastic bag on the top of the ladies' room coatrack.

SOCIAL ACTION ISSUES

UUSC Holiday Cards

Once again you can purchase Holiday Cards and help out the UU Service Committee at the same time. This year's card depicts people of many races creating music to celebrate World Harmony. Please sign up to order cards or other materials (jewelry, T-shirts, tote-bags, chalices) on the form on the table at the back of the main room or call Lance Green (249-5979) by Nov. 15th.

American Players' Theater

APT needs to raise $200,000 by December 31 to continue. Contributions can be made to:

American Players' Theater
P. O. Box 819
Spring Green, WI 53588

Glass Recycling

I'm very pleased with the response so far. I just took 176 lbs of glass to the recycler and got $.02 per pound for it - a grand total of $3.50 for Prairie.

Most of you who have brought glass did fine, but I'd like to repeat the rules for everybody:

1. Glass should be rinsed, but need not be thoroughly clean. This cuts down on the amount of bugs it attracts in storage - at Prairie or at my house.

2. No metal allowed! Please remove any foil (usually around the neck of things like champagne or some imported beers) and metal rings.

3. Shiny paper and other labels are OK. Look at the back to see if it is paper or foil.

4. Sort glass by color - clear, green, and amber (brown).

Collection containers are in the men's cloak room, or you can bring it in your own box or bag.

The Response to Hunger Network is also recycling glass - they're filling it up with canned produce and jam to give to the needy. They need clean (really clean, not just rinsed) jam jars and either narrow or wide-mouth mayonnaise type jars with screw-on lids in 1/2 pint, pint, quart and 1/2 gallon sizes. I will put out a separate collection box for these type of jars.

If you have questions or comments, you can call the Response to Hunger Network at 255-2255 (1-5 PM M-F) or you can call me in the evenings at 273-4813.

-Judy Skog

Beyond War

If you have cable TV, listen to our local Beyond War program on Wednesdays at 9:00 PM or Fridays at 6:30 PM on cable channel 4. The Friday programs are repeats of the Wednesday programs.

Animal Food Drive

Remember, Nov. 8th is your last chance to contribute to the Dane Co. Humane Society by bringing dog and cat food or money to church. Look for the collection boxes at the entrance. Thanks to all who have already made donations.

(And a pat on the back for Madison UU young people for getting involved in meeting a community need. This world needs more people who care! - Ed.)

Visiting Soviets

The Madison Society for American-Soviet Friendship will host a delegation of Soviet entertainers for two days, Tuesday and Wednesday, Nov. 10 and 11. The visitors will present a program on
Wednesday evening at 7:30 at the Masonic Temple, 301 Wisconsin Ave., admission price, $5.00. Lee Bullen has tickets for sale. See him at Prairie on Nov. 8 or phone him at 838-8055 to reserve tickets.

Free to Good Home

Alice and Lee Bullen have an old IBM Executive typewriter which needs servicing. Call (838-8055) if you'd like to have it. If no one calls by Tuesday, Nov. 10th, they'll set it out on the curb.

Please Welcome -

New members Beth and Dan Thompson and daughter Meredith. Their address is 4318 Sheffield Rd. and their phone # is 271-0489. Add them in the area provided in the back of your Prairie Directory.

News from Dave Zakem

The Caldens report that Dave is now a Peace Corps Volunteer in Belize, promoting adult education and community projects in the village of San Pedro. He's adjusting to heat, humidity, and cultural differences with his usual good humor and enthusiasm. His address is:

Dave Zakem
San Pedro
Corozal District
Belize
Central America

Support for UNICEF

Prairie members and others are invited to support UNICEF through the purchase of UNICEF cards and calendars at Orange Tree Imports, 1721 Monroe Street. All of the proceeds go to support UNICEF.
# Prairie Society Recommended Budget

## Operating Expenses

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## Revenue

| Pledges                             | $19,743 | $20,647 |
| Contributions                        | 1,000   | 1,500   |
| Prairie Fire                         | 200     | 100     |
| Building Rent                        | 200     | 170     |
| Service Auction                      | 1,500   | 1,500   |
| Interest                             | 200     | 0       |
| T Shirt Sale                         | 200     | 0       |
| Other Fundraising                    | 308     | 500     |
| TOTALS                               | $23,351 | $24,417 |