

Prairie Fire

newsletter of

PRAIRIE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY
2010 Whenona Drive Madison, Wisconsin 53711

... As the prairie stretches out, 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 (Sieversia flora)

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Meeting House	271-8218

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DEADLINE for the NEXT PRAIRIE FIRE will be SUNDAY, DEC. 27TH. Submit notices for the period Dec. 31st - Jan. 8th.

CALENDAR

Thursday, Dec. 17

12:00 AM - CHANNING-MURRAY LUNCH at the Memorial Union.

Saturday, Dec. 19

7:30 PM - PLAYREADERS MEET at the home of Lynda Lewis, 5209 Tolman Terrace. (See related story)

Sunday, Dec. 20

10:00 AM - INTERGENERATIONAL SERVICE (No Announcements Today)
6:30 PM - YRUU (7th-12th graders) at First Unitarian Society West Living Room; call Diane Derouen, 238-3766, for info.

Sunday, Dec. 27

PRAIRIE WINTER SPORTS DAY (no R. E. classes or YRUU)

Monday, Jan. 4

7:30 PM - BOARD MEETING AT PRAIRIE (no meeting in December)

Friday, Jan. 8

5:30 PM - Fish Dinner Circle Meets Location to be announced.

Saturday, Feb. 4

All Day - Cross Country Ski Outing and Building Fund-Raiser at the home of Dave and Marcia Johnson in Coloma, WI.

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

Guest At Your Table

The Guest at Your Table boxes will be collected at the intergenerational service on Dec. 20. Please bring your full boxes to the service.

Holiday Fun With Playreaders

An appreciation of plays is your ticket to join the Prairie Playreaders. We plan to meet at 7:30 PM on Dec. 19th, at Lynda Lewis', 5209 Tolman Terrace. Call Lynda at 271-2173 if you want information or directions.

Our play will be Quartermain's Terms, a 1981 award-winning comedy by British playwright Simon Gray. The play is set in the 1960's in a school teaching English to foreigners. Playreaders have previously read Gray's Butley and Otherwise Engaged.

For Members Only... THE WORLD

"THE WORLD" is the Journal of the Unitarian Universalist Association. It is published bi-monthly in a magazine format. It should come automatically to all members of Prairie. If you are a member, and have not received your copies this past year, please call Sharon Scrattish at 437-5915 so she can followup on the problem.

Members who have back issues of "THE WORLD" which they have finished with are asked to bring them to Prairie for members or friends who have not been receiving them. Please put the back issues on the table at the rear of the auditorium.

Finance Chair Needed

For the fourth time this year, the Prairie Board has been struck by a resignation due to work conflicts. This time, our able Finance Chair Faye Glessner is going off to foreign lands. Faye has done a wonderful job, but we know that several other talented Prairie members could fill her shoes - especially after a conference with Faye on the nuts and bolts details of the job. If you are a person who wants to keep Prairie on an even keel financially, talk to Faye (251-5427) or to President Mary Mullen (271-5192). The Prairie Board hopes to appoint a replacement at its Jan. 4th meeting.

Address Change

We have received a change of address for faraway Prairie People Tony and Teri Prudlo. Their new mail address is:

Anthony J. Prudlo
Taylor Education Center
APO New York, NY 09086

Cross-Country Skiing Weekend

First Society has invited Prairie people to join their cross-country skiers in a skiing weekend to be held in Eagle River from Feb. 5th to the 8th. If you're interested in details, check Prairie's Bulletin Board under EVENTS or call Gordon or Vera Cunningham at 271-1246. Families are welcome. THE DEADLINE FOR SIGNING UP FOR THIS EVENT IS DEC. 18TH!

Committee Members Still Needed

The Building Remodeling Committee currently includes Al Nettleton, Tom Robinson, and Rick Ruecking. This committee will work with the architect and contractors to carry out the remodeling plan. The views and skills of Prairie women are specifically solicited! If you want to be involved in the process, notify Al, Tom, or Rick, or call president Mary Mullen at 271-5192.

Fish Dinner Circle

The Fish Dinner Circle will meet next on Friday, Jan. 8th at 5:30 PM. Everyone is welcome at this monthly event. There are no "members" of this circle which meets at different restaurants each month. See the next Prairie Fire for the location and details of the next dinner.

X - C Skiing

Save Feb. 7th for a special Prairie Event! Dave and Marcia Johnson invite Prairie folk to visit beautiful winter-time Coloma for a day long cross-country ski outing. The event is a special building fund 'fund-raiser'. More details on this will be printed in a future Prairie Fire.

R. E. CORNER

Preschool and Nursery

On Dec. 20, there will be an intergenerational service upstairs. If you would like to be upstairs, you may. Otherwise Sue and Yasmine will be downstairs for your class.

On Dec. 27, there will be child care provided for you if necessary. It will be Winter Sports Day at Prairie.

Grades K-8

On Dec. 20, there will be an intergenerational service upstairs. Come and enjoy the celebration.

On Dec. 27, there will be no R. E. classes. Instead, play to join your families at Winter Sports Day Activities.

Jan. 3rd and 10th will be interim for you all.

Interim Volunteers Needed

Jan. 3rd and 10th will be interim Sundays in R. E. Anybody who is looking for a chance to spend a limited amount of time with the Prairie children is encouraged to do so. Interim is a time when adults can offer a mini-course of their choice to a small group of our R. E. youngsters. Courses that you might consider teaching are knitting, crochet, cooking, photography... the sky is the limit. Teach something you enjoy to the youngsters at Prairie. If you are interested, call Alison at 238-3302.

Intergenerational Service

On Dec. 20th, we will be having our annual holiday service. There will be a symbol tree - a Prairie tradition. For those of you unfamiliar with the tradition, a small explanation may help. Anybody attending the intergenerational service no matter what age, is encouraged to bring an "ornament" to put on the tree. The "ornament" should represent something special in their

life, and when it is put on the tree, they usually explain its' significance to the other people present. There is a special part of the service set aside for this ceremony.

Another tradition at this service is to bring fruits, breads, and beverages to share at the conclusion of the service. This is a nice way to share in the holiday cheer with your Prairie Friends.

Y R U U ACTIVITIES

Y.R.U.U. activities are open to all Madison area 7th to 12th grade U-Us and their friends. Regular meetings are on Sundays from 6:00 to 8:30 PM at First Unitarian Society Meeting House. Dec. 20th will feature a Skating Party. There will be no meeting on Dec. 27th.

A-Y-S to be Offered

A-Y-S (About Your Sexuality) will be offered to 7th and 8th graders at First Society in January. If there are any 7th or 8th graders at Prairie who would like to take the course, please call Alison at 238-3302 for details. Prairie will offer the course to the 6-7-8 grade class some time next year as well.

SOCIAL ACTION ISSUES

A R C Fruit Basket Sale

The Association for Retarded Citizens is selling two sizes of fruit baskets for holiday giving. The smaller one weighs 8 pounds and costs \$11.00. The larger one weighs 13 pounds and costs \$16.00. Both baskets include one pound of mixed nuts and candy, and the price includes local delivery. Baskets will be delivered between Dec. 18 and Dec. 24th.

Orders must be prepaid by Dec. 14th, and may be placed with Barb Barley at 249-5979.

Blood Donors' Club

We organized our One-A-Week club during 1987, but since we didn't start signing the Club Book until late spring, not all of our blood donations were registered. Each of our seven donors averaged about three donations this year.

We need six new members to achieve our One-A-Week goal. If you need information, call Lynda Lewis, 271-2173, or the Red Cross, 233-9300.

Empty Pot Collection

The Empty Pot collection for the homeless shelter raised \$60 at the annual Soup Lunch tastily served up by Jim Novak. If you missed the soup (or the empty pot) and would like to add to the collection, send a check made out to The Madison Urban Ministry to Lance Green at 186 Dixon Street, Madison, WI 53704, or give it to him at any service.

Help APT Survive!

In July, 46 of us had the magical experience of the American Players' Theater's "Hamlet". Our appreciation was heightened by a talk before the performance with the director, Prairie Member Ted Swetz. Ted and Arne Ochigrosso, as Artistic Directors for the 1988 Season, are planning "Othello" and "The Seagull" as well as "Twelfth Night" and a return of "A Midsummer Night's Dream".

Bonnie Grosnick will coordinate at least one excursion to APT this next summer - IF the theater can raise the necessary funds by Dec. 31st. Your gift now can make future adventures like this possible. Contributions can be sent to:
American Players' Theater
P. O. Box 819
Spring Green, WI 53588

A Gift from the Heart

There will be a special Red Cross Blood Drive on Christmas Eve - Thursday, Dec. 24th - at the Dane County Forum building. There will be free parking and child care provided. Even Santa will be there! For a donor appointment, call 233-9300, ext. 333. Bring a friend or first-time blood donor, and don't forget to sign the club book for Prairie!

