

Prairie Fire

newsletter of

PRAIRIE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY
2010 Whenona Drive Madison, Wisconsin 53711

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

Prairie Smoke (Sieversia flora)

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DEADLINE for the NEXT PRAIRIE FIRE will be
SUNDAY, JAN. 24TH. Submit notices for the
period Jan. 29th - Feb. 11th.

CALENDAR

Sunday, Jan. 17

10:00 AM - "THE DREAM TODAY - IT STILL AINT EASY" - Intergenerational Service celebrating Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. (see related story)

11:30 AM - POTLUCK DINNER AT PRAIRIE

5:30 PM - SPANISH SPEAKERS' POTLUCK at Prairie.

6:00 PM - YRUU AT FIRST SOCIETY

Wednesday, Jan. 20

6:00 PM - PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEETING and potluck at the home of lance Green, 186 Dixon St. All are welcome.

7:30 PM - CHANNING MURRAY BOARD meets at First Society.

Thursday, Jan. 21

12:00 AM - CHANNING - MURRAY LUNCH at the Memorial Union. Check 'Today in the Union' for "Unitarian Student Lunch".

Friday, Jan. 22

5:00 PM - CHANNING - MURRAY SPAGHETTI DINNER at First Society. (See related story)

Sunday, Jan. 24

10:00 AM - "OUR LARGER RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY" - Scotty Meek, Interim Minister at First Society, helps us to gain perspective on beliefs and principles found among Unitarian-Universalists.

6:00 PM - YRUU AT FIRST SOCIETY

Monday, Jan. 25

7:30 PM - BOARD MEETING AT PRAIRIE

Wednesday, Jan. 27

7:30 PM - "EYES ON THE PRIZE" begins at Prairie. (See related story)

Thursday, Jan. 28

12:00 AM - CHANNING - MURRAY LUNCH at the Memorial Union. Check 'Today in the Union' for "Unitarian Student Lunch".

Saturday, Jan. 30

7:30 PM - PLAYREADERS MEET At the home of Dick & Julie Bonser, 5213 Milward Drive. (See related story)

Saturday, Feb. 13

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

Prairie Fire Needs Your Help

It costs \$10 per year to prepare, print and mail Prairie Fire to one person or family. If you are not presently giving to support the Society, or are an out-of-town recipient of this newsletter, we would appreciate a donation from you to support this service of the Society. Please send your donation to Prairie U-U Society, 2010 Whenona Drive, Madison, WI 53711, and clearly mark it as a donation for the Prairie Fire.

Potluck Dinner

There will be a potluck dinner following the intergenerational service on Jan. 17th. Please bring bread, a beverage, or a dish to pass.

It Still Aint Easy...

It's not fair and it hurts. It's difficult to stop. It leaves scars.

What is it? **RACISM** - behavior based on the appearance or category of a person rather than acceptance of them as individuals and fellow human beings.



As part of the Martin Luther King intergenerational service on Sunday Jan. 17th, everyone will have a chance to talk about their own experiences or observations of it. While this is a very heavy topic, we think that both kids and adults will find this a worthwhile and even enjoyable service. Remember those uplifting civil rights songs?

By the way, come prepared for some surprises. You brown-eyed folks are the lucky ones this Sunday!

Spanish Speakers' Potluck

People of all skill levels who want to socialize and speak Spanish together are invited to Prairie Sunday evening, Jan. 17th, at 5:30 PM.

Please bring a dish to pass. It need not be an ethnic one. For further information, call Kate Tucker at 221-2168.

Channing - Murray Spaghetti Feed

Channing - Murray activities are off to a running start this semester with a Spaghetti Feed and program at First Unitarian Society, 900 University Bay Drive. Dinner will begin at 5:00 PM. The program will be a documentary film - "Men's Lives" - followed by discussion of the film. Call Cinda LaMar, 238-9884, for more information.

Playreaders to Meet

Calling all Drama lovers, story tellers and would-be actors! No previous experience required! The Prairie Playreaders are all of the above, and we meet monthly for a pleasant social event including the group reading of a play selected by the hosts.

This month's hosts are Dick and Julie Bonser, 5213 Milward Drive, and the play will be "The Curious Savage", by John Patrick. There are parts for up to twelve persons. Young people, singles or couples, are urged to come and give it a try! The curtain will go up at 7:30 PM on Saturday, Jan. 30th.

For more information or directions to the location, please call Dick or Julie at 274-3248.

X - C Skiing

Save Feb. 13th for a special Prairie Fund-Raiser! Dave and Marcia Johnson invite Prairie folk to visit beautiful winter-time Coloma for a day long cross-country ski outing. The fun will begin at 10:00 AM and will include a luncheon provided by the Johnsons. The requested donation is \$5.00 or more per adult and \$1.00 or more per child. Families are welcome, but bring skis for everyone because no child care will be available.

Coloma is 1 1/2 hours North of Madison on Hwy. 51. Take the Coloma off-ramp on Hwy. 21. Go East about 4 blocks to the Coloma Cemetery (Slater St.) then turn right on Slater. Go 1 1/2 miles to the "Lumber" sign and the Johnson's mailbox. Please notify Dick Bonser (274-3248) or the Johnsons (715 228-4153) a few days in advance so they know how many to expect and can have the right amount of food, etc. on hand.

Missing Minutes!

Prairie Board minutes for the period May, 1982 to May, 1983 cannot be found in the Society records. Members Park, Drapkin, Wetherby, Chambliss, Cautley, and Bosch are requested to review their files to see if we can resurrect or reconstruct our official files for that year.

- Mary Mullen

An Open Invitation

Come and stay with me if you get to Korea in the next two (and possibly four) months. The University of Maryland moves me around, so I will keep you posted on my whereabouts. I'll miss you all and would love to get mail (hint). My address is:

Faye Glessner

Univ. of Maryland - PSC Box 100

APO San Francisco, CA 96328

Welcome to New Members

Linda Ellen and her sons Damien, Mathony, and Aza became Prairie members on Dec. 6, 1987. Their address is:

2617 Madrid Lane, #6

Madison, WI 53713

Phone #: 273-3697

Please add their names
to your Prairie
Directory.

New Finance Chair

At the January 4th meeting of the Prairie Executive Board, Pat Cautley was appointed to fill the vacant position of Chair of the Finance Committee.

Camp UniStar Reunion

Ever been to Camp UniStar on Star Island in Cass Lake, Minnesota? Or are you interested in learning more about this U-U run camp? Then come to Prairie at 7:30 PM on Sunday, Feb. 21st for an evening of slides and reminiscence about a terrific (and relatively inexpensive) way to spend a summer week.

Bring snacks or beverages and your enthusiasm. For more information, contact Terry Krause, 251-1762.

Art Exhibit by Prairie Member

Prairie Member Theron Caldwell Ris has an exhibit of her "Two by Two" series at A-Space Gallery, 544 State Street, through January 20th. Drop in and look it over.

R. E. CORNER

Preschool and Nursery

On Jan 17, there is an intergenerational service which you might like to attend. Sue and Yasmine will be prepared to share stories from Japan if you want to stay downstairs.

On Jan. 24, Sue and Yasmine will continue to share stories from Japan with you. You'll have a chance to try some Japanese art also.

Grades K-1-2

On Jan. 17, join your friends and family for an intergenerational service upstairs.

On Jan 24, you will have a chance to get acquainted with a new teacher, Marcia Johnson. Marcia and Jennifer will continue the Adventures of God's Folk with you.

Grades 3-4-5

On Jan. 17, you will join your family upstairs for an intergenerational service on Martin Luther King, Jr.

On Jan. 24, you will begin your final look at Holidays and Holy Days with Rick and Peg. Come prepared for more celebrating.

Grades 6-7-8

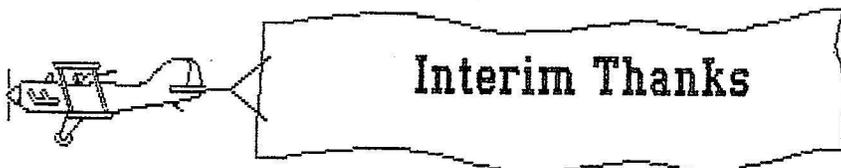
On Jan. 17, you will join your family upstairs for an intergenerational service on Martin Luther King, Jr.

On Jan. 24, Cinda and Al will be welcoming you back to begin the new year. Come and get re-acquainted.



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.



A hearty thanks from the R. E. Committee, teachers, and students to Bob Park, Fredericka Schilling, Aileen Nettleton, David McKee, and Jim Novak for offering computer animation, knitting, knotting, slides, yoga, and cooking classes during the interim this year.

Hugs and Kids

Hugs and Kids is a four session class on parenting skills for the parents of toddlers. The class is led by a nurse educator and is held at the Jackson Clinic on Tuesday evenings from 7:00 to 9:00 PM. Call 252-8600 for a flyer and more information.

SOCIAL ACTION ISSUES

Collection Aids UUSC

Prairie members assisted the UUSC to the tune of over \$170 donated through the Guest At Your Table boxes. Thanks to all those who participated.

"Eyes on the Prize"

In the 1950's and 1960's, America fought a second revolution to secure "inalienable rights" and equal treatment under the law - a second revolution to make "liberty and justice for all" a reality for black as well as white Americans.

This struggle is documented in a six part documentary

series called "Eyes on the Prize". If you missed the series on TV a year ago, you're in luck because now you'll have a chance to see and discuss it right at Prairie, starting on **Wednesday, Jan. 27th, at 7:30 PM**, and continuing every Wednesday through Feb. 24th.

Admission is **FREE**, and popcorn and beverages will be provided at cinema prices with the proceeds going to the Prairie Building Fund.

Children who wish to see the documentary are every bit as welcome as young people and adults.

Jan. 27th - Part I, "The Awakening (1954-56)": The lynching of Emmett Till and the Montgomery bus boycott.

Feb. 3rd - Part II, "Fighting Back (1957-62)"

Seminar on Cancer

The VA Hospital is sponsoring an all day seminar for religious and lay persons involved in pastoral care for cancer patients and their families. This can include anyone dealing with a friend who has cancer. The seminar will be held Thursday, Jan. 28th from 8:15 AM to 4:00 PM. The cost is \$5.00. For more information, call Fr. Larry Heitke, Chaplain at the VA Hospital, (256-1901 ext. 7321) or consult the Prairie bulletin board.

Foster Parents Needed

Foster parents are needed 365 days of the year for children from newborn through adolescence. The reasons for placement and the types of foster homes needed vary, depending on the individual child. Some of these children have been abused or neglected. Some are young brothers and sisters just trying to stay together while their families' problems multiply. Others are teens who need help in growing up and feeling good about themselves.

For some children, a foster home with a single adult will be the answer. For others, the traditional family is needed. However, these children all share the need for guidance, understanding, a second chance - a foster home. If you've ever thought of becoming a foster parent, now is the time to act! Call Deena Williams at Dane County Social Services (273-6684) for more information.

Martin Luther King Day Celebration

Monday, Jan. 18th is Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. There will be a Rally at 5:30 PM at the Capitol, followed by a march to the Civic Center for the celebration at 7:00 PM in the Oscar Meyer Theater.

G. A. Resolutions

Last fall, UUA published several "study resolutions" which passed the 1987 General Assembly. Those resolutions include: "The Human Right to Die"; "Against Censorship in the Public Schools"; and "Housing for the Homeless". Now the deadline for amendments to and or comments about these resolutions is approaching quickly. **A meeting will be held Sunday, Jan. 24th**, immediately after the service for any Prairie members who want to offer amendments or comments. Potential amendments from individual societies are considered valid if endorsed by the signatures of at least 10 individual members. IN addition, the UUSC Southern California Unit has sent us an "action resolution" entitled "Humanitarian Aid To The People of Nicaragua", which may be endorsed in similar fashion. A limited number of copies of all four resolutions will be available at the service on Sunday, Jan. 17th. **This is your LAST chance to provide feedback on these resolutions**, as all amendments etc. must reach UUA by Feb. 1st.

- Anne Urbanski

Looking Ahead...

The Central Midwest District UUA Convocation will be held on Saturday, May 7, 1988, in Oak Park, Illinois. The theme will be "So Great A Cloud of Witnesses: Images of God for Our Time", and the keynote speaker will be the Rev. Laurel Hallman, Parish Minister, First Unitarian Church of Dallas, Texas. The Convocation will feature the second annual CMD Choir, conducted by John Giles, and a nine piece brass ensemble. The fee for the Convocation will be \$25.00.

NO COMMENT

The Wisconsin State Journal recently reported that the gun lobby has asked the Vatican to name a patron

saint of handguns. The choice of the Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms: St. Gabriel Possenti, described by the lobby as a "sort of holy John Wayne". The saint, who died in 1862, was reputed to have been a crack shot.

As Others See Us...

Grace Anne and Ted Koppel have been married three times - to each other. Their first was a civil ceremony. A few weeks after that they were remarried in a Unitarian church. "We figured," Koppel says laughing, "that Unitarian was roughly halfway between Jewish and Catholic."

The third took place in 1969 in Hong Kong when the Koppels discovered a Catholic missionary diocese that had a dispensation to permit marriages to non-Catholics without a commitment to raise the children in the Catholic faith.

- reported in Parade Magazine