

Prairie Fire

newsletter of

PRAIRIE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY
2010 Whenona Drive Madison, Wisconsin 53711

... As the prairie stretches out, what 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)

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DEADLINE for the NEXT PRAIRIE FIRE will be SUNDAY, FEB. 7TH. Submit notices for the period Feb. 12 - Feb. 25th.

CALENDAR

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)

Sunday, Jan. 31

10:00 AM - "RELIGION: LEGALITIES AND LIMITS": Attorney Richard Jacobson tells of his work on the line between church and state.

6:00 PM - YRUU AT FIRST SOCIETY

Tuesday, Feb. 2

7:30 PM - LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE meets at Prairie. Theme: What Next for the LRPC?

Thursday, Feb. 4

12:00 AM - "UNITARIAN STUDENT LUNCH" at the Memorial Union. Our guest, Dr. Paul Gillespie, will speak on the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

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PLEASE CALL 274-3248

Sunday, Feb. 7

10:00 AM - " 'PRAIRIE RELIGION' IN A MIRROR": Lance Green leads a discussion of the results of his "Views on Religion" survey.

5:30 PM - "CHANNING-MURRAY POTLUCK" at the home of Scott James, 1026 Fiedler Lane.

6:00 PM - YRUU AT FIRST SOCIETY

Thursday, Feb. 11

12:00 AM - "UNITARIAN STUDENT LUNCH" at the Memorial Union.

7:30 PM - FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING at Pat Cautley's home, 4805 Regent Street. Everyone is welcome.

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)

Sunday, Feb. 21

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

It's Just Like Free Money...

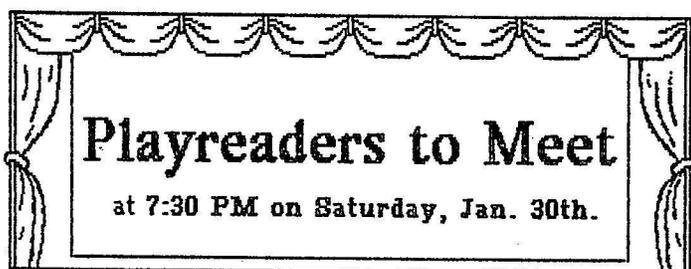


The Entertainment '88 coupon books cost only \$25 and will pay you back after only two or three uses at local restaurants. If you buy yours from Prairie, \$5 of the cost goes to support our annual budget. Finance Chair Pat Cautley still has a number of them available. If interested, call her at 238-5373 or ask her for one any Sunday after the service.

Channing-Murray News

Channing-Murray members and friends will be getting together every Thursday night for a casual dinner at Paisans in University Square. When you come in, ask the hostess for the Channing-Murray (or Unitarian) group.

On Sunday, Feb. 7th, Scott James is hosting a Channing-Murray Potluck Party at his home, 1025 Fiedler Lane, beginning at 5:30 PM. For more information, give Scott a call at 256-0311. If you live where you don't have cooking facilities, you can always bring a beverage or paper plates, etc. If you need a ride, give Cinda a call at 238-9884 or 233-9774.



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 Dave or Marcia (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.

Lost Anything?

The lost & found box has a number of articles in it. If you have lost anything, or left a dish at a potluck, be sure to check the table at the back of the meeting room on the next two Sundays and repossess your possessions. Whatever remains after Feb. 7th will be given away or sold at the "garage sale".

- Fran Remeika

Join Us For Lunch?

You're invited to join the Channing-Murray Campus Group for lunch any Thursday noon at the Memorial Union. We would like to increase the size and dynamic mix of the group. All interested persons (young adults, students, faculty, staff, or the merely curious) are encouraged to drop in without further invitation. The programs are stimulating and varied. It's a great way to socialize with other U-Us while maintaining a great tradition.

- Rick Ruecking

Prairie Representative to the C/M Board

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.

News From Absent Friends...

[Ed. Note: The following is excerpted from a letter received by Mary Mullen last month.]

How good to hear from you... of course I still receive Prairie Fire but news from the horse's mouth is better.

Firstly, here's a check for the building fund. Sorry I couldn't go all the way to \$500, but I hope this will help. It's an ambitious venture, much needed, and I hope it goes well. I expect to be back in Madison in the spring, or possibly the fall, for a week or so, but I imagine that's too soon to see results.

Yes, we did finally join a UU church here and it's a big one, First Unitarian of Berkeley, which has about 700 members. We're not too happy about that, but it's easy to get to know people and the minister is a dear man. There is an 8:30 AM meditation service every Sunday in a sitting room with about 15-20 people and we take turns leading it. It is often very moving, with the service centered around a topic such as "forgiving", or "love is letting go of fear", or "gratefulness". The people who attend are deeply spiritual and there's a real bond between us all.

Dick Breke, the minister, asked me to lead a study group on the seven principles with Mary Kapper, the interim minister this year (who is over 60, has raised 10 children, and is just graduating from Starr King!). We've decided not to use the videotape but to use the other materials and to follow the format suggested in the handbook.

I do like the people there very much and am impressed by their friendliness, their openness, and their level of consciousness. Dick Breke is deeply spiritual himself, and often attends the 8:30 service as just another participant.

There are a great many activities in such a large church and we could be out every night. I did join one tiny committee. We bring in three lecturers a year. In October it was Harvey Cox. In February it will be UU minister Clark Olson, who will lead an all-day workshop (the day after his lecture) entitled "What Is This Church Trying To Do and How Would We Know If We Did It?"

Otherwise, life is beautiful and exciting here for us both and I don't miss the snow at all (hardly)... I wish you all a truly happy new year with all the good things in life. Love,

-Elizabeth Jones

R. E. CORNER

Preschool and Nursery

On Jan. 31, Sue will begin sharing her experiences in Japan with you. She has a story, The Flying Farmer, to read to you. You will have a chance to try to write your name in Japanese and play Fuku-Wari. It should be quite an exciting morning.

On Feb. 7, you will continue to explore Japanese life. Sue will read a story called Why the Red Elf Cried to you. She will also show you stamps, money and post cards from Japan. Sue will also have some Japanese food for you to try.

Grades K-1-2

On Jan. 31, Marcia will be sharing the story of Stephen, a waiter in King Herod's royal hall, with you. After hearing the story you will have a chance to do some activities that relate to the tale of Stephen.

On Feb. 7, Marcia will share some of the story of Jesus with you. You will learn about the baptism of Jesus and his journey into the wilderness. Again, Marcia will have an activity to share with you once you have heard the stories she has to share.

Grades 3-4-5

On Jan. 31, neither Peg nor Rick can be with you. You will be learning about Henry Bergh Day from your substitute teachers. Have you ever heard of Henry Bergh? Try to find out about him before you get to class. (Hint: he is a UU)

Grades 6-7-8

On Jan. 31 and Feb. 7, you will be viewing "Jesus Christ Super Star". Remember to bring a poster, and to look for "religion-in-the-news".

Curriculum Missing!

A curriculum book for The Adventures of God's Folk is missing. If anybody has seen this book at Prairie, please let Alison know of its whereabouts.

Try This Recipe!

The following recipe was prepared by the Grade 3,4, and 5 R. E. students as part of their African Celebration:

African Groundnut Soup

1 cup Peanut Butter (chunky)
1 small can tomatoes
1 can chicken broth
3 cans water
1 small onion
1 large potato
2 tablespoons rice

Cut onion and potato in small pieces. Mix peanut butter with some of the water until smooth. Combine all ingredients in a pot and simmer for 30 minutes.

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.

SOCIAL ACTION ISSUES

"Eyes on the Prize" continues at Prairie

This Videotaped documentary series will continue on Feb. 3rd and Feb. 10th. **Admission is FREE**, and popcorn and beverages will be provided at cinema prices with the proceeds going to the Prairie Building Fund.

Feb. 3rd - 7:30 to 9:30 PM - **Part II, "Fighting Back (1957-62)"** is about school integration, including high school students at Little Rock, Arkansas, and James Meredith at the University of Mississippi. **Part III, "Aint Scared of Your Jails (1960-61)"** shows how civil rights actions shifted to group actions, sit-ins by students, store boycotts, marches, and freedom rides on the Greyhounds in the South. A Madison man, Jim Zwerg, comes off as a real hero of the freedom rides. This is a good set of programs for Prairie young people to see.

Feb. 10th - 8:00 to 9:00 PM (**NOTE LATER STARTING TIME**) - **Part IV, "No Easy Walk (1961-63)"** goes to three cities: Albany, GA, Birmingham, AL, and Washington, D.C. Grade school and high school children were arrested by the thousands in Birmingham. They made the difference.



Dance to Eliminate Prejudice

The Fifth Annual Dance to Eliminate Prejudice will be held in the Great Hall at the Memorial Union on Saturday, Jan. 30th at 8:00 PM. **Admission is free**, and there will be three DJs playing a broad range of music from Rock to Reggae to Rhythm and Blues. Bring a friend of another race or color. The dance is sponsored by the U. W. Bahai Association.

Friendly Supper Club

People of all colors are invited to come, to bring a friend, to make new friends and to break bread together at the next meeting of the **Friendly Supper Club**, which will be at Bishop's Cafeteria, 674 S. Whitney Way, on **Monday, Feb. 1st. at 6:30 PM.**

Food Donations Urgently Needed!

Please help us to help our neighbor. We are collecting food for a family of five - a mother and four children, two of which are teenagers. These people are living near the meetinghouse. They need and appreciate our assistance. On Jan. 24th, the donation box was nearly empty.



A R C Fruit Sale

The Dane Co. Association for Retarded Citizens is holding a fruit sale as a fund raising event. You may order California Navel Oranges, Texas Ruby Red Grapefruit, or a variety box including both plus some Red Delicious apples. Prices range from \$9 to \$18 per box and satisfaction is guaranteed. **To order, please see Barbara Barley not later than Sunday, Feb. 14.** Orders must be prepaid. For more information, call Barbara at 249-5979.

Beat the Winter Blues!

Brighten your table, lunchbox, and dessert plate with California Navel oranges, Florida Temple oranges, Florida red grapefruit, and/or Washington State Red Delicious apples and support the Madison Boy Choir at the same time. For more information or to place an order, contact Christopher McKee at 238-3302.

Summer Jobs Available!

Staff positions are available at **CAMP UNISTAR** for the summer of 1988. Camp Unistar, the Unitarian-Universalist family camp on beautiful Star Island at Cass Lake, MN, is taking applications for its summer staff. Positions include nurse, water-front, children's program, naturalist, maintenance person, and general camp help. Advanced Life Saving Certificate is very desirable. No counselors needed. Call or write for applications to:

Jean Hogenson
3523 York Avenue North
Robbinsdale, MN 55422

(612) 521-9225

The Red Cross Needs You!

Please help keep your Dane County Chapter ready by becoming a member during the annual membership drive... supporting the Red Cross drawing for a new auto... becoming a volunteer. The Red Cross helps in emergencies. If you will too, call 233-9300.