

Prairie Fire

newsletter of

PRAIRIE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY
2010 Whenona Drive Madison, Wisconsin 53711

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

Prairie Smoke (Sivèrria Flora)

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AIR MANAGEMENT

VOLUME 26, NUMBER 24 - NOVEMBER 29, 1988

DEADLINE for the NEXT PRAIRIE FIRE will be SUNDAY DECEMBER 11TH. Submit notices for the period December 15th - December 29th.

CALENDAR

Thursday, December 1

- 12:00 AM - CHANNING-MURRAY STUDENT LUNCH at the Memorial Union. Look for Unitarian Student Group on Today In The Union. The special guest will be Hal Rosenberg, who is a psychotherapist.
- 7:30 PM - PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEETING at the home of Warren Hagstrom, 916 Shorewood Blvd.

Saturday, December 3

- 7:30 PM - PRAIRIE PLAY-READERS meet at home of Warren Hagstrom, 916 Shorewood Blvd. We'll read something by Pirondello (Not 'Six Characters...') or by Sartre.

Sunday, December 4

- 10:00 AM - "THE FREEDOM TO SAY 'YES' EVEN IF EVERYONE ELSE SAYS

'NO', and the use of voting in our churches and country": led by lay minister Al Nettleton. Meet at McConnell Hall, corner of Mound and Brooks Streets.

Thursday, December 8

- 12:00 AM - CHANNING-MURRAY STUDENT LUNCH at the Memorial Union. Look for Unitarian Student Group on Today In The Union. The special guest will be Courtie Demarest, Dean of the Student's Office.

Friday, December 9

- 5:30 PM - FISH DINNER CIRCLE meets at Jo-Jo's Restaurant (see related story).
- 6:00 PM - CHANNING-MURRAY POTLUCK and music presentation at First Unitarian Society (see related story).

Sunday, December 11

- 10:00 AM - "THE HOPE FOR ONE WORLD UNITED, LIVING IN PEACE, WITH FREEDOM AND FAIRNESS FOR EVERYONE": led by lay minister Al Nettleton. Meet at McConnell Hall, corner of Mound and Brooks Streets.

Thursday, December 15

- 12:00 AM - CHANNING-MURRAY STUDENT LUNCH at the Memorial Union. Look for Unitarian Student Group on Today In The Union.

Sunday, December 18

- 10:00 AM - (We don't know - we just don't know!)

Sunday, December 25th

- NO MORNING SERVICE. There will be an afternoon service of songs and readings if there is sufficient interest.

Sunday, January 1

- SLEIGH RIDE IN THE COUNTRY! Details will be printed in the next Prairie Fire.

NEWS AND VIEWS

Entertainment Books Still Available!

Be sure to tell your friends and acquaintances about this terrific bargain for people who like to eat out and otherwise entertain themselves. There are discounts on sports events, theater events,

and, of course, on restaurant meals. The cost of \$25 can be easily recovered in only 2 or 3 meals out in local restaurants. The coupons are good for an entire year, beginning on December 2nd, 1988.

Fish Dinner Circle Meets

The Fish Dinner Circle group will meet again on Friday, December 9, at Jo-Jo's Restaurant, 4000 University Ave. Call Pat Watkins at 262-7960 between 10:15 and 6:15 by Wednesday evening, Dec. 7th to make a reservation.

This group has no formal members. The number of persons attending varies from one time to the next. Some of those who come are also members of a regular dinner circle, which is a testament to the pleasure they get out of circle dinners!

Please, do not come without a reservation! These restaurants are very busy at this time and they cannot expand the area reserved for Prairie beyond what we have told them in advance.

First Society X-C Ski Weekend

Prairie folk are invited to First Society's 4th annual UU X-C Ski Weekend at Trees for Tomorrow in Eagle River, WI, on February 3rd to 5th, 1989. The group stays in cabins with rooms for each family or group of 2 or 3 singles.

Deadline for reservations is December 16. Rates vary from \$65 to \$82 for adults and from \$42 to \$56.50 for kids. Rates depend on whether you rent equipment or want instruction. Fees include 5 homecooked meals and a wine tasting party.

Flyers and registration blanks are available from Mary Mullen, or you can call Gordon or Vera Cunningham at 271-1246.

'89 Calendar Features Chalice

This year's UU Calendar features a wonderful variety of Flaming Chalices - twelve high quality reproductions of Chalices from various churches and fellowships. The chalices are made of a variety of materials, ranging from mist granite, sterling silver, stained glass (from the Eau Claire Fellowship), white stoneware, chrome plated steel, walnut, leather mosaic, bronze, a painting, and two quilted designs. Each month shows the birthdays of outstanding UUs and others, with a list at the end giving the detail of each person's contribution to liberal religion. Note cards of the 12 designs (nice enough to be framed) together with envelopes cost \$12.95 with discounts available for sets of three. The calendar costs only \$7.95. You can order either item by signing up on a Sunday morning or by calling Pat Cautley at 238-5373.

YRUU Conference Set - Hospitality Needed

YRUU (Young Religious Unitarian Universalists) will be holding a conference in the Madison area at First Unitarian Society on Friday and Saturday, April 7th and 8th, 1989. The group, which includes a number of Prairie youths, need to locate several places where 2 to 6 boys OR girls can stay for a couple of nights. The young people will have their own sleeping bags. If you have space and can help, please call Anna Nettleton at 238-6053.

Thanks!

Pledge Drive Nearly Over

The Finance Committee wishes to express much gratitude to the 11 canvassers (some of whom were volunteers!) and all those who made a pledge to the 1989 budget for Prairie. We are getting close to the total amount hoped for from pledges (although we would be happy to put back several important items out of the budget if we get more than we estimated). We appreciate especially that most mem-

bers increased their pledge over last year's. Our morale was also lifted by hearing from some who have moved away or have become inactive - really a wonderful boost. Thanks to each and every one of you! This shows we have a committed group of members and friends, even with the inconvenience and frustrations of not meeting regularly during the summer and not yet being able to use our "new" meetinghouse. But soon - we hope - we will be back in our old quarters, looking better than ever!

- Pat Cautley

CHANNING-MURRAY NEWS

Thursday lunches are scheduled every week, often with special guests and spirited discussion. Look for the room number on 'Today in the Union' under Unitarian Student Group.

Drop in for the Wednesday night dinners at Headliners Eatery Mall on University Ave. (* Note change from Shanghai Minnie's!) We meet at 6:00 PM and are usually done by 7:00 or 7:30.

The next special event for C-M members and friends will be a potluck dinner and musical presentation by several C-M members. The event will be held at 6:00 PM on Friday, Dec. 9th, at First Unitarian Society.

For further information on these events, or to arrange for a ride, call Cinda LaMar at 238-9884.

R. E. CORNER

Y R U U

Y R U U meets at the First Unitarian Meetinghouse, 900 University Bay Drive, most Sunday evenings between 6 PM and 8:30 PM. Meetings usually involve food, games, and shared involvement in various activities.

If you have concerns, need more information, or have transportation problems,

please feel free to call Nancy Lynch between 9 AM and 9 PM at 244-3906. She'd like to hear from you!

SOCIAL ACTION ISSUES

Free Cancer Exam

The American Cancer Society and Dane County Dental Society will sponsor a free Oral Cancer Exam, Saturday, December 3, at Westgate Mall from 10 AM to 2 PM. The free, quick, painless and private exam is especially encouraged for people who wear dentures or use cigarettes, chewing tobacco or alcohol. Call 249-0210 to pre register. Walk ins are also welcome.

"Project Cooperation" Needs Volunteers

"Project Cooperation" is an exciting new opportunity for people who want to help another person on a one-on-one basis during this holiday season. The project wants to reach senior citizens from three specific populations: 1) Seniors who have a hearing impairment; 2) Seniors who are from a racial or ethnic minority group.

There will be four training sessions for the volunteers beginning on Nov. 29th and continuing through Dec. 8th. If you think you'd like to become a volunteer, please call to reserve a place in one or more of the sessions. Call at least two days in advance of the training session. The numbers are as follows:

Session #1 - 238-7787 (RSVP)

Session #2 - 221-2000 (Social Svcs)

Session #3 - 873-8585 (Stoughton Sr. Center)

Drop-In Shelter Needs Your Help!

The last time I volunteered at the Drop-In Shelter (in October) we had a full house. The number of homeless people in Madison is not decreasing.

I have been recruiting Prairie volunteers, succeeding Lance Green who had done it for several years. I have used his list of volunteers and several times have not filled our quota. I would like to increase the pool of volunteers so that no one would need to work more than three or four times a year to fulfill our obligation.

The present schedule is as follows: Every fourth Monday of the month, we provide three shifts; one from 8:00 PM to 12:00 PM (except that one person is asked to come at 7:30 PM and may leave at 11:30 PM), one from 12:00 PM to 5:00 AM, and one from 5:00 AM to 8:00 AM.

Three people serve for the first shift, one or two for the second shift, and two for the third shift. The first shift is fairly busy one which includes serving the evening meal and handing out blankets, plus conversing with the guests, playing card games, board games, or puzzles. During the middle shift, most of the guests are asleep and the work consists of doing any cleanup that remains, possibly laundering towels and just being on hand in case of need or emergency. The third shift takes in blankets and serves breakfast.

At all times, there will be a staff person in charge. Because of decreased governmental funding and reduced support from area churches, the management of the shelter has been requesting volunteers who can do so to bring a gallon of milk with them - 2% is satisfactory.

I urge anyone who can to join our group of volunteers. You will gain a much keener appreciation of spending the night in your own home and bed!

- Leland Bullen

Miscellany

Do It To A Friend...

Do What? Why, send them the Prairie Fire, of course. If you know someone who might be interested in Prairie, give their name and address to Dick Bonser, the Editor. He will send them 2 or 3 issues for free. This will be done for 3 or 4 persons each issue on a first come, first served basis, so names you submit might not receive Prairie Fire right away.

Another Kind of Calendar -

Prairie's own John Ohliger has written/compiled a Desk Calendar/Almanac featuring quotes, dates, historic events, and sayings from the greats in adult and continuing education. The Calendar sells for \$11.95 each (\$9.95 each in quantity) and the royalty from the sale goes to support John's other love, Basic Choices. The calendar can be ordered from LERN, the Learning Resources Network, 1554 Hayes Drive, Manhattan, Kansas. Basic Choices is a Midwest Center for Clarifying Political and Social Options and features an extensive collection of translations of the works of Lao Tzu, which works have a lot of relevance and value to the objectives of Basic Choices. The latter books may be ordered from Basic Choices, 1023 Drake Street, Madison, WI 53715, phone # 251-8894.

Family Carol Concert

The Madison Boychoir will present a Family Carol Concert on Sunday, December 11, at 4:00 PM at Grace Episcopal Church, 116 West Washington Street. Tickets may be purchased at the door or may be reserved by phoning 256-5709. The cost of the tickets is \$5.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children, students, and senior citizens.