

# PRAIRIE

# FIRE

NEWSLETTER OF

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PRAIRIE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY  
2010 Whenona Drive, Madison, WI 53711

Richard Bonser, Editor 274-3248  
Mary Mullen, President 271-5192  
Anne Pryor, R. E. Director 244-7099  
Meeting House 271-8218

TO CHANGE ADDRESS OR CANCEL PRAIRIE FIRE, CALL 274-3248

## Volume 26, Number 25 - December 13, 1988

**DEADLINE for the NEXT PRAIRIE FIRE will be SUNDAY, JANUARY 8TH. Submit notices for the period January 12TH - January 26TH.**

### CALENDAR

#### Thursday, December 15

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

#### Saturday, December 17

9:00 AM - WORK DAY AT PRAIRIE - We need to finish cleaning and move belongings back to their proper places. There is much to do, and all friends and members will be most welcome!

#### Sunday, December 18

10:00 AM - "INTERGENERATIONAL HOLIDAY SERVICE", followed by a POTLUCK LUNCH in our newly remodeled meeting house. Bring a dish to pass.

#### Monday, December 19

7:30 PM - Board Meeting at the Meeting House.

#### Sunday, December 25

NO SERVICES AT PRAIRIE. Have a Merry Christmas!

#### Friday & Saturday, Dec. 30, 31

R. E. Painting Party! Don't miss these two days of fantastic fun!

#### Sunday, January 1

NO SERVICES AT PRAIRIE. THERE'S A SLEIGH RIDE IN THE COUNTRY INSTEAD! (see related story)

#### Tuesday, January 5

7:30 PM - PROGRAM COMMITTEE meeting at the Meeting House. Everyone welcome!

#### Sunday, January 8

10:00 AM - "THE INTERDEPENDENCE OF ALL LIVING THINGS" led by Al Nettleton. R. E. Classes Begin Again (at last!)

#### Friday, January 13

5:30 PM - ETHNIC/FISH DINNER CIRCLE MEETS at the Bahn Thai Restaurant, 944 Williamson Street. (see related story)

#### Sunday, January 15

10:00 AM - "INTERRACIAL FAMILIES: wives and husbands, parents and children" a panel discussion led by Pat Watkins.

#### Sunday, January 22

10:00 AM - "REDEDICATION OF OUR MEETING HOUSE" coordinated by Rachel Siegfried and Sharon Scratish, followed by a special POTLUCK. Watch future issues of **Prairie Fire** for further details.

### News And Views

#### Holiday Service

We will have our traditional SYMBOL TREE ceremony at the Holiday service on December 18th. If you wish, bring a symbol of something particularly important to you to hang on the tree, and say a few words about it. Both adults

and children are encouraged to participate.

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## Homecoming Potluck

There will be a noon **potluck lunch** on Dec. 18th in our remodeled Prairie home. Please come! Bring a dish to pass and enjoy the better arrangements that the remodeling has made possible for potluck meals at Prairie. This is to be a full potluck meal, not just holiday goodies of breads and cookies - though those will be extremely welcome. We will need salads and some protein main dishes, too. I'm looking forward to this first potluck in the remodeled Prairie building - I hope you are too!

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## 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.

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## Prairie R. E. Paint Days!

Come and join the Prairie R. E. Committee - young and old - to redecorate our classrooms on Friday and Saturday, Dec. 30th and 31st, as the last part of our remodeling. Bring scrapers, paint brushes, rollers and drop cloths. Youth group members of the paint crew will meet afterward for Pizza!

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## Second Annual Sleighride

Prairie will celebrate the beginning of the new year with a sleigh ride behind Billy and Dolly, Walter Landerud's Percheron horses. The horses will be hitched to the old fashioned sleigh at 10 AM. The capacity of the sleigh is about 22 adults and children. If more are present, the sleigh will make a second trip. The route is entirely through the fields and woods of the Landsrud farm. Following the ride, there will be a fire for roasting marshmallows.

For folks coming from the west side of Madison, the most convenient route to the farm is to take Hwy. 14 (Park Street) south from the Beltline 1/4 mile to McCoy Road, turn left under Hwy. 14 to old Hwy. 14 (now Co. MM). Turn right and go about 3 1/2 miles to Hwy. B, and turn left. Go another 2 miles to Mahoney Rd. and turn left again. The Landerud farm is the first farm on the left about 3/4 mile down Mahoney Rd. The name is on the mailbox and the fire number is 4412.

For those coming from the east side of Madison, the best route is Highway 51 through McFarland. Go 1 1/2 miles past the Village's stop light and turn right onto Mahoney Rd. Follow Mahoney Rd. 2.2 miles and watch for the Landerud farm on the right.

Mr. Landerud charges \$3 per person for the ride, but Prairie will help those who need it with funds from the program budget. Contact Lee Bullen at 838-8055 for more information.

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## Another Bus Trip...

Pat Watkins is running another bus trip - but this time to benefit the Madison Urban League. If you might be interested in spending a

day at Woodfield Mall in Schaumburg, IL, (those of you who were on the Frank Lloyd Wright trip have already been there once) and would like to join this **SHOP TIL YOU DROP AND CATCH THE BIG SALES** bus trip on Saturday, January 7th, contact Pat at 262-7960. The round trip fare is \$22

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## Ethnic/Fish Dinner Group Date Set

The January date for the Ethnic/Fish Dinner circle group will be January 13th, 1989. The group will meet at the Bahn Thai Restaurant, 944 Williamson Street, at 5:30 PM. Please call Pat at 262-7960 before 4:30 PM on Wednesday, January 11th, to make your reservation. Reservations are a necessity at this time of day on a Friday, and people have been getting careless about this aspect of it. Pat writes -

"...this may sound harsh, but I am thinking very seriously about disbanding the dinner group, which would be a real shame, as we spend a wonderful evening out together and the fellowship is wonderful. However, a reasonable amount of work goes into setting these dinners up and I simply do not have the time (nor do I think I should have to make the time) to sit down and phone everyone who usually attends when they have not called by 4:30 PM on Wednesday.

"December was the third month in which not a single person bothered to call and reserve his or her place. When it happens again, that will be the end of the Ethnic/Fish Dinner group. Why not plan ahead and call as soon as you read the **Prairie Fire?**"

## Womanspirit - a Workshop

The North Shore Unitarian Church in Deerfield, IL is sponsoring a weekend workshop for women on January 20, 21, and 22. The workshop leaders are Rev. Elinor Artman, a UU minister, and Shelly Jackson Denham, a lifelong UU whose songs convey her original and creative expression of religion as an integral part of our daily lives. The fees are \$25 for the workshop and \$6 for the concert with a \$5 late fee for registrations received after January 9, 1989. Home hospitality is available. For more information contact Registrars Shirley Thompson (312/933-5771) or Helena Chapin (312/234-2460).

## 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.

## 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!

## Madison Dance Room is Moving

Friday, Dec. 16th will be the last Dance Room at State Street. (Barb and Lance are having a party at the Dec. 16th Dance Room to celebrate their first decade of togetherness.) The Dance Room will move to Turner Hall, 21 S. Butler Street, beginning January 20, 1989. Come join us at our new location! The Wagon Wheel Bar is downstairs. We will remain non-smoking and non-alcoholic.

## CHANNING-MURRAY

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 Food Court 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.

## R. E. CORNER

The R. E. classes are scheduled to begin on January 8. The classes

are generally the same as those that had been planned for the fall. The rooms for each class may be different than before, so check for changes downstairs on the first day of class.

## Nursery & Pre-School

Yasmine Sido and Anna Nettleton continue to provide warm and living care for these little ones. The planned curriculum, Growing Times will begin when a new teacher has been hired.

## K-1-2

Lindy McGraw and Marcia Johnson will be the teachers for A Place of One's Own, a curriculum filled with stories, building and art projects

## 3-4-5

Jean Matos and Erin Bosch will begin the semester with the popular Church Across the Street, focusing on visits to other churches and places of worship to learn how others worship

## 6-7-8

The major part of the semester will have Julia Bonser and Marty Drapkin leading About Your Sexuality, a thorough exploration of human sexuality and related values

Each of these classes is described in more detail in the handsome new brochure "R. E. Program 1988-89". Be sure to pick one up at Prairie

There will also be parent coffees held in January. Planned by the R. E. Committee, these brief sessions are opportunities for parents to meet with the R. E. teachers and learn about the coming semester for their child. The first will be held after the service on January 15 for parents of the 3-4-5 students. January 22 is reserved for parents of the K-1-2 children. An orientation for About Your Sexuality will be scheduled before

that session begins. Parents will be notified of that date at a later time.

On a personal note, I am very pleased to be serving as Prairie's new R. E. Director and am looking forward to becoming a part of the Prairie community.

- Anne Pryor

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## Y R U U Opportunity

We are all concerned about world peace and survival of life on our planet. On Sunday, Dec. 18th all Prairie Youth, middle school and high school students combined will have the opportunity to communicate with young people in Vilnius, the capital city of Lithuania. (Lithuania is one of the Baltic republics in the Soviet Union and has been much in the news lately.)

Esty Dinur, on the Madison Sister Cities Project, has been invited to record your messages, concerns for world peace, or questions about the life of young people growing up in Vilnius. We expect a similar taped response from young people there. In the past, people in Vilnius have responded to our messages with recorded messages of their own. These tapes have been broadcast in both countries.

This is a great chance for you to find out more about the Madison-Vilnius Sister City Project. You're welcome, even if you do not choose to tape a message or have not attended YRUU in the past. We will meet Sunday, Dec. 18th in the West Living Room of the First Unitarian Meetinghouse, 900 University Bay Drive, from 6:00 to 8:30 PM. (Please have rides to pick you up by 8:30 PM) If you have questions, contact Nancy Lynch at 244-3906.

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## SOCIAL ACTION ISSUES

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### Guest at Your Table

Leland Bullen asks that you return your *Guest at Your Table boxes* this coming Sunday, Dec. 18th, if you have not already done so. If you cannot attend that day, please mail your contribution to him as soon as possible at 5313 Main St., McFarland, WI 53558.

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### Holiday Blood Drive

The Dane County Chapter of the Red Cross will sponsor its HOLIDAY BLOOD DRIVE on Friday, December 23, from 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM at the Dane County Forum. Five Blood donors will make a difference in the lives of 20 people. This "gift from the heart" is truly a gift of life that we can share with our neighbors this holiday season.

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### Volunteers Needed

The Dane County Advocates for Battered Women need volunteers for their operations. Special interest areas include Crisis Line, Shelter Advocacy, Kids Programs, Property Management and Legal Advocacy. All training is provided and the only qualification needed is a sincere desire to help families in transition. Training begins on February 6, 1989. Call 251-1237 for more information.

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### Friendly Supper Club

This monthly interracial dinner will be held Monday, January 2nd, at Bishop's Cafeteria, 674 S. Whitney Way (just North of Odana Road). Call Lance at 249-5979 for more information.

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## Miscellany

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### If You Like Good Food...

Pat Watkins is still hoping to sign up a few more people for Circle Dinners. She's got a few folks who have signed up and are still waiting for others to enlist and fill out their group! The food is always good and the company is the greatest, so do yourself a favor and call Pat at 262-7960 to get into a dinner circle.

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### 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.

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