

Prairie Fire

newsletter of

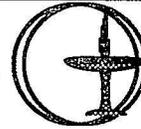
PRAIRIE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY
2010 Whenona Drive Madison, Wisconsin 53711

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

Prairie Smoke (Geum Triflorum)

Richard Bonser, Editor	274-3248
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Anne Pryor, R. E. Director	244-7099
Meeting House	271-8218
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Volume 27, Number 9 - May 2, 1989

DEADLINE for the NEXT PRAIRIE FIRE will be SUNDAY, May 14. Submit notices for the period May 18th — June 1st.

CALENDAR

Thursday, May 4

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

Saturday, May 6

3:00 PM - Memorial Service for Louise Vogel at the First Unitarian Society, 900 University Bay Drive.

Sunday, May 7

10:00 AM - HOPE FOR THE FLOWERS, a special service presented by members of Channing-Murray university students society.

Special collection (household goods) for needy families at the YWCA (see Social Action section).

Thursday, May 11

12:00 N - CHANNING-MURRAY STUDENT LUNCH in the

Memorial Union. Look for Unitarian Student Group on "Today In The Union".

Sunday, May 14

10:00 AM - LINKING PLACE AND PRINCIPLE: A prairie landscape for the Prairie U.U. Society. - led by Rory Nelson and Diane Derouen. Those who can stay an extra 15 minutes after the program will have an opportunity to sow prairie seeds for future transplanting. (see related article)

Thursday, May 18

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

Sunday, May 21

10:00 AM - CELEBRATING TRANSITIONS: a special end-of-church-year Intergenerational Service. (see related article)

11:30 AM - POTLUCK LUNCH: Please bring a dish to share.

Monday, May 22

7:30 PM - JOINT MEETING OF THE OLD AND NEW PRAIRIE BOARD, at Prairie.

Thursday, May 25

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

7:30 PM - PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEETS at the Meeting House. The summer programs will be organized. (see related article)

Saturday, May 27 through

Monday, May 29

Annual Memorial Day Prairie Canoe Trip. (See related article and registration form)

NEWS & VIEWS

Memorial Service for Louise Vogel Set for May 6th

Louise Vogel, a member of Prairie, died April 19 at the age of 96. She loved being with Prairie people as long as she was able to be there, and she especially loved the Prairie children and the open, friendly way they related to adults. Once she hung a photograph of two little boys who were almost grandchildren of hers

on the Prairie symbol tree, and later wrote on the back of the photograph what she had said when she placed it there, and what some of the children said to her about the picture. There will be a joyful celebration of Louise's life on Saturday, May 6, at 3 PM at the First Unitarian Society, 900 University Bay Drive. All are welcome.

Channing-Murray to Present Service

Channing-Murray, the university-age Unitarian student group, will present the service at Prairie on Sunday May 7th. Channing-Murray is affiliated with both Prairie Society and First Society and has been active on university campuses for over 100 years. Channing-Murray's presentation, which will include readings and original music compositions, will be based on the book Hope for the Flowers, by Trina Paulus. The music will include works by Bolling, Gershwin, Monk, and our own Elizabeth Alexander. The service will also include a special arrangement of the song, My Favorite Things. This energetic group of young adults is looking forward to seeing you on May 7th.

Linking Place and Principle: A Prairie Landscape for the Prairie U.U. Society

The May 14 Sunday morning program will include the unveiling of the landscaping plan for our prairie. Those who can stay a few minutes after the formal program will have a chance to sow some special prairie seeds in peat pots for future transplanting outdoors. Planting day for most of the grasses and hearty forb species will be Saturday, June 3. Volunteers will be needed.

A subcommittee of the Building & Grounds committee has been planning a landscape for our remodeled meeting house. Rory Nelson has been working with the group (Pat Cautley, Diane Derouen, Bill Grover, Mary Mullen, Rachel Siegfried, and Fran Remeika) as a consultant. Rory is a UW graduate student in the Dept. of Landscape Architecture whose speciality is restoring native plant communities. She came to

Madison last fall to study restoration ecology, and also became involved with Channing-Murray. In January, she began attending Prairie Society, and volunteered to help plan a prairie landscape for the Meeting House.

Since there were no funds left for landscaping after the recent remodeling, we need to raise \$500.00 to \$800.00 to fund this project. This will pay for some of the prairie seeds (others have been donated), some junipers to discourage climbing on our new rock wall, a few new trees, etc. If we have enough money, a flagstone path from the Whenona Drive sidewalk through the future prairie up to the entrance terrace will be included. **Contributions made before May 21 will be matched by one of our members.** Just mark "Prairie" on your checks.

Thoughts On Prairie Membership...

One of the best things about Prairie is that each person has a chance to participate. We don't sit like blobs at Sunday service passively allowing the sermon to wash over us. Each of us has a chance to be part of this great organic whole called Prairie.

Let's face facts. Prairie is a cooperative, and that's what's so great about it. I get a chance to contribute a part of me to it. Since it's a cooperative, each of us has an obligation (as well as a privilege) to contribute to its smooth functioning. There is room for all of us to give to Prairie, including our kids. Commitments range in complexity from sharing music at service to picking up song books on Sunday to teaching R. E. or chairing a committee. Please give what you can. Prairie won't work without you.

-Judy Skog

Prairie Workday Set for May 20

We need lots of helpers to build fences, install gates (bring a post hole digger), clean up our grounds, trim shrubs, wash outside windows, and inside jobs such as cleaning chairs, cobwebs, labeling drawers and cabinets. Save the date. Call Rachel Siegfried at 271-2173 or Jean Matos at 255-2209 for further information. (Ed. Note: For all you folk that voted

to rent to Sunrise School, it's time to put your body on the line as well as your heart and your vote!)

Following the workday, there will be an "Organ Transplant" party. We don't need your organs, we just need your muscles to transplant our organ to the Park's home on Lake Wisconsin. Everyone is invited to come and bring something to cook on the grill and a dish to share. Bob and Barb Park will provide the beverages.

Celebrating Transitions

Celebrating transitions will be the theme of our INTERGENERATIONAL SERVICE on May 21st. In addition to songs, dances, and drama, members of the congregation will be encouraged to share transitions they have experienced or anticipate experiencing—becoming a parent, going to kindergarten, graduating from middle school, getting married, retiring from paid employment, and so forth. If you have tangible symbols of your transitions, bring them along. Parents are encouraged to discuss this with their children to stimulate children's participation in this part of the program.

Welcome New Members!

The following persons have recently signed the membership book. Please add them to your directory or note the change in status as appropriate.

Frank Iltis
926 Magnolia Lane, Apt. 4
Madison, WI 53713
H: 251-6788

Michelle Honoré
112 Union Street
Sun Prairie, WI 53590
H: 837-0409

Bill Robbins
110 W. Main Street, Apt. 6
Sun Prairie, WI 53590
H: 837-4132

Program Committee Meets, Summer Ideas Sought

Our new Program Committee will have its first meeting at **7:30 PM on Thursday, May 25**. Everyone is invited to attend. If you wish to join the committee, speak to Julia Bonser on a Sunday,

or call her at 274-3248—before she calls you. We have no lay minister during the summer, but we do plan on meeting every Sunday. We hope to go on some outings but also to have services in the Meeting House about every other Sunday. If you have ideas for outings or for services at the Meeting House, give them to Julie, or better yet, volunteer to organize a service or a summer outing.

RE Teachers Needed For Next Year

This is your chance to share in the growth of our Prairie children and their futures. If you enjoy children and would like to share you you! The RE Committee is looking for two teachers for each age group for next fall: grades K-2, 3-5, and 6-8. Groups range in size from 5-12 children per Sunday. Curriculum materials give a foundation for the program to which you can add your own creativity for active learning experiences. Team teaching allows you to plan together with another adult, as well as with the RE Director. It can be a very rewarding experience and a good way to get to know our kids. If you are interested or want more information, please contact Anne Pryor, RE Director, 244-7099, or any committee member: Ken Skog, Diane Derouen, Alice Bullen, Nancy Lynch, or Aileen Nettleton.

Prairie Canoe/Camping Trip...

Following the tradition of many years, there is no service at Prairie and many join us for canoeing on Memorial Day weekend (May 26-29th). This year we

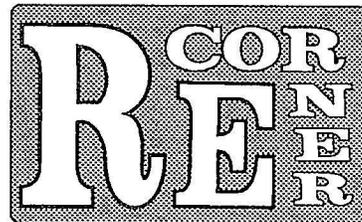
will be camping at Camp Crazy Horse, on the Sugar River near Brodhead, a short trip south of Madison. Please join us for all or part of the weekend. We will have potluck dinners on Friday and Saturday nights. Please make your own arrangements for canoes. Canoes may be rented from Camp Crazy Horse when you arrive on a first come, first serve basis. Pets are permitted on a leash only. The fee for camping will be determined by the number of campers. Canoe trips are planned on Saturday and Sunday. Details will be in the next Prairie Fire. Call Ken Skog at 273-4813 (eves.) for more information.



Drop in for the Wednesday night dinners at Headliners Food Court on University Ave. or at Pizza Pit near MASCO on University Ave. We meet at 6:00 PM and are usually done by 7:00 or 7:30. We'll be alternating between the two places for a while, and the May 10th dinner will be at Headliners. The location for the May 17th dinner will be at Pizza Pit and we'll be back at Headliners on May 24th.

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.

Channing-Murray will be presenting a worship service at Prairie Unitarian Society on Sunday, May 7th. The theme for this service is "Hope For The Flowers".



Outdoor Guidelines

The R.E. students of 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade helped derive guidelines for all Prairie children's use of the grounds. So that parents and other adults know them too, they follow:

Stay off the brown, bare soil areas. That's where grass is growing and we don't want to squash it.

Climbing on the rocks by the side door might be fun, but it's too dangerous. Don't climb on the rocks.

Flowers are growing along the path on the north side of the building. Be sure to stay on the stone path there and off the flowers.

Climbing on the railing outside the front door is too dangerous if you go up high. Only climb on the bottom rung, don't go up any higher.

REGISTRATION FORM

Prairie 1989 Canoe/Camping Trip

Name _____ Phone # _____ Amount of deposit enclosed \$ _____

Number of persons in your party _____. Which nights will your party stay? Friday ____ Saturday ____ Sunday ____

Do you need a ride? Yes ____ No ____ Can you take riders? Yes ____ No ____ If so, how many? _____

Do you need a canoe? Yes ____ No ____ Do you need a canoe partner? Yes ____ No ____ Do you have an extra canoe? Yes ____ No ____

The cost will be no more than \$8.00 per campsite per night. Please **send a deposit of \$4.00 per night** with your registration. Please make your checks payable to Ken Skog and deliver (mail) it to him no later than Sunday, May 21st at 626 Orchard Dr., Madison, WI 53711.

Prairie Flowers

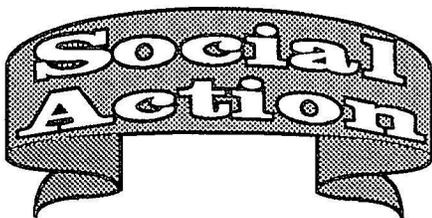
The peat pots in the front hall are prairie flowers-to-be, planted by the R.E. children. Three types of plants were potted: purple coneflowers, indian grass, and little blue stem grass. When ready, these will be transplanted into Prairie's prairie.

8th Graders

The time of year is quickly approaching when we honor and recognize those students who will be graduating from 8th grade and so leaving the Prairie R.E. program. If there is any 8th grader who may not have been attending Prairie recently, but who has in the past and would like to receive a flaming chalice as recognition of their days as a UU youth, please contact Anne Pryor, 224-4097, so that you can be included in the program on May 21st.

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. Our Y R U U Advisor is Nancy Lynch. If you have concerns, need more information, or have transportation problems, please feel free to call her between 9 AM and 9 PM at 244-3906. She'd like to hear from you!



Share With Our Neighbors

There are two families in our immediate neighborhood that need our help to be properly nourished. Please bring your donations on any Sunday and place them in the small room outside the Men's room.

During the week, you can drop off donations at Mary Mullin's/Fredricka Schilling's home (call first). Perishable items can be donated as well as staples. Fredricka will see to it that perishables are delivered promptly. (Money is also an acceptable gift.)

Recycling

Keep those cans and bottles coming, folks!

Help The Homeless

The YWCA and the Salvation Army provide shelter for homeless families and homeless single women. There is a desperate need for the things they can't buy with food stamps: diapers, soap, deodorant, shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, hand lotion (especially in winter), laundry soap, fabric softener, and feminine hygiene products.

I am collecting items of this sort on the first Sunday of every month for the YWCA families. Please bring your donations for this group on May 7.

-Judy Skog

WorldPeace Camp

"Teens Reaching Out for World Understanding" is the theme of this summer camp for teens age 13 to 16. In addition to regular camp activities, swimming & sports, there will be workshops on Citizen Diplomacy, Peace Studies, Conflict Resolution, Soviet Life & Culture, Communications Skills, Music and Dance for Peace, etc. Sixty Soviet teens will be in the Maine camp for 4 weeks and sixty American teens will go to the USSR's camp. Scholarships are available for teens active in humanitarian concerns and the "peace movement". For more information, check the flier on the bulletin board in the back of the Meeting House.

Mother's Day Special

Dane County Advocates for Battered Women will send a Mother's Day Card to the special person of your choice. Send a donation to DCABW, P.O. Box 1145, Madison, WI 53701. Tax deductible categories are \$10, \$15, \$25, \$50, and "other". Please specify to whom and from whom the card is to be sent.

Abused Children?

The Rainbow Project serves young children and families who have experienced emotional abuse, physical abuse,

sexual abuse, neglect, extreme behavior problems, or parent-child relationship problems. For more information or to send a donation, call the Rainbow Project at 255-7356.

Teach? Me?

Why Not?

The Madison Literacy Council will be holding an orientation session on Wednesday, May 17, 1989, at 6:30 PM. Learn how to become involved in helping adults in our community to improve their literacy skills. No previous teaching experience is necessary. The session will be held at the Council's office at 823 East Johnson St. Please call 255-0351 for more information or to register for the session.

R. S. V. P.

R. S. V. P. is the Retired Senior Volunteer Program, and there are lots of volunteer activities for people over 60. They range from Adult Day Center (entertainment, musical programs, one-on-one visiting) to public speaking on energy conservation for the Depart-



Prairie Member Seeks Room

Linda Schaldach, a long time Prairie member who now lives in Portland, Oregon, will be visiting in Madison between June 8th and June 20th. She is looking for a place to stay during that time and is willing to house-sit, rent a private room, or make some other similar arrangement. If you have space to rent on a short term or want to suggest some other arrangement to her, please write her at 16931 N.E. Clackamas St, Portland, OR 97230 or call collect at 503/256-9715.