

# Prairie Fire

newsletter of

PRAIRIE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY  
2010 Whenona Drive Madison, Wisconsin 53711

... As the prairie stretches out before us, it becomes 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 (Geum Triflorum)

Richard Bonser, Editor	274-3248
Mary Mullen, President	271-5192
Anne Pryor, R. E. Director	244-7099
Meeting House	271-8218
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## Volume 27, Number 10 - May 16, 1989

**DEADLINE for the NEXT PRAIRIE FIRE will be FRIDAY, MAY 26. Submit notices for the period June 1st — June 15th.**

### CALENDAR

#### Sunday, May 21

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

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

SPECIAL NOTE: Today is the deadline for registration for the Canoe Trip!

#### Monday, May 22

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

#### Thursday, May 25

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

#### Friday, May 26

Deadline for the submission of **Prairie Fire** articles. I will be out canoeing on the Memorial Day canoe trip, so I ask that all articles and notices be mailed or given to me by this date so I can dig right in on the newsletter when I get back from canoeing. Thank you.

#### Saturday, May 27 through

#### Monday, May 29

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

#### Sunday, June 4

10:00 AM - Jack Jallings' lay ministry continues...

### NEWS & VIEWS

#### **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.

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. **Don't forget the Potluck Dinner following the service!**

## Welcome New Members!

The following persons have recently signed the membership book. Please add them to your directory.

Maria Hansa & David Ogren  
1129 W. Conant  
Portage, WI 53901  
H: 608/742-8770

## 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 your time with them, the R. E. Committee needs 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...

The 1989 Memorial Day weekend canoe/camping trip will begin on Friday, May 26th and end on Monday, May 29th. This year we will be camping at Camp Crazy Horse, west of Brodhead, and canoe Saturday and Sunday on the Sugar River.

To reach Camp Crazy Horse, travel south from Madison on route 14 to Brooklyn, then west on route 92 to county 'T'. Travel south on 'T' and route 104 to Brodhead, then west on route 11 and county 'F'. Just west of the Sugar River on 'F' look for Camp Crazy Horse on your left (south). We have camp sites directly on the Sugar River. Pets are permitted on a leash only. The fee for camping will be determined by the number of campers.

Please join us for all or part of the weekend. We will have potluck dinners on Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights.

Friday: Arrive any time. Check in at the campground office, tell them you are with Prairie Society. Please bring a dish to pass for the evening potluck dinner.

Saturday: We will put in at Minnehaha campground about 2 1/2 miles south of Albany on the Sugar River. This will make for a 3-4 hour trip at a steady 2 mph pace (this is shorter than the trip 2 years ago). We will not be able to leave any cars at Minnehaha, so you can either 1) drop your canoe off there, drive back to the camp ground, leave your car and get a ride at 10 AM with Stacy Baumgartner (owner of Camp Crazy Horse) to Minnehaha, or 2) pay \$2.00 to have Stacy transport you and your canoe to Minnehaha. On the river after the Decatur Dam, it is suggested we take the dam raceway (east branch). Camp Crazy Horse is located after the raceway rejoins the Sugar River. Please bring a dish to pass for the evening potluck dinner.

Sunday: At 10 AM, before canoeing, we will leave cars downstream where county 'T' crosses the Sugar River (about 7 miles or 3-4 hours) or possibly at the Avon landing (1 1/2 miles more). We will start canoeing at 11 AM. Please bring a dish to pass for the evening potluck dinner.

## 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 \_\_\_\_

Reserve a canoe for me for Saturday \_\_\_\_\_ for Sunday \_\_\_\_\_ (Cost: about \$12.50 per day - pay at camp office)

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.

Monday: Activities today are on your own. Camp Crazy Horse also has horseback riding.

Canoe rental: Saturday, \$12.50, Sunday - a similar but uncertain amount. Both prices include shuttle service.

Call Ken Skog at 273-4813 (eves.) for more information.

## Bike Hike Scheduled

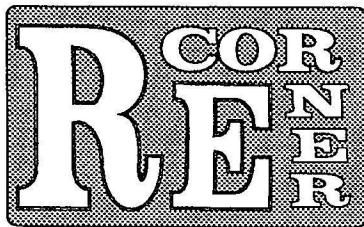
The First Unitarian Society Adult Programs committee has invited Prairie folk to join them in a bicycle hike on the Military Ridge Trail. The group will meet at 1 PM at the east end of the trail (Co. Trk. PB and Verona Rd.) to begin the ride. A Trail Permit is required for anyone under age 65. Permits can be bought at many area bicycle shops, and are available from some shops along the trail as well.

The Rockford UU Church has also scheduled a camping weekend at Gov. Dodge State Park the weekend of June 24th and 25th. First Society and Prairie folk are invited to join them. For those who don't want to camp, there will be a hike at 1 PM on the 24th that weekend. Meet at the campground.

For further information on these events, contact Gordon or Vera Cunningham at 271-1246.



Drop in for the Wednesday night dinners on the Union terrace. We meet at 6:00 PM and are usually done by 7:00 or 7:30. If the weather is bad, look for the group in the Rathskeller.



## R. E. Summer Volunteers Needed

Each week we meet at Prairie during the summer, we need one adult to plan and carry out activities with the children. Outdoor activities, with alternative indoor arts and crafts, are encouraged. About 5 - 10 children from grades 1-5 will be involved. Please volunteer a week during the summer by signing up at Prairie.

Terry Krause, Yasmine Sido, or Anna Nettleton will continue to meet with the younger children.

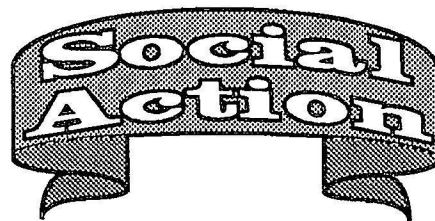
## Thanks To

### Our R. E. Teachers

On behalf of all Prairie parents and members, and especially our children, a big "Thank You" to all of our teachers for the year:

Preschool - Terry Krause, Yasmine Sido, Anna Nettleton  
K-1-2 - Lindy McGraw, Marcia Johnson  
3-4-5 - Betty Jallings, Pat Cautley  
6-7-8 - Erin Bosch, Marty Drapkin, Julie Bonser

Join us in recognizing these dedicated teachers during our Sunday Potluck on May 21st.



## 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.)

## Humanist Professionals Organize

The International Association of Humanist Educators, Counselors and Leaders was established last August in Buffalo at the World Congress of Humanists. Its purpose is to bring together humanist professionals from all over the world to work together and to strengthen each other. Any man or woman who is recognized as a humanist professional by their respective national organization is eligible to join. In case of doubt, final judgement is reserved to the Board of Directors. To join, send your check or money order for \$35 for the first year's dues and your name and address to IAHECL, 28611 W. 12 Mile Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48018.

## Dance Room to Close

The Madison Dance Room is closing. The final dance (and last hurrah) will be on May 19th at Turner Hall, beginning at 9 PM. Admission will be only \$2.00, but the group is asking for an additional donation of \$3.00 to make up the total required to pay off Turner Hall, the landlord. The group expresses its thanks to all Prairie Folk who have supported the Dance Room in the past. For more information, call Lance Green or Barbara Barley at 249-5979.

## Friendly Supper Club to Meet

The Friendly Supper Club really isn't a club at all. There's no bylaws, no agenda, no officers, no dues, no secret handshake. There's only people — of all colors — meeting on the first

Monday of each month to break bread together and enjoy each others company. They want YOU to join them for a good time at 6:30 PM on June 5 at Bishop's Cafeteria, 674 S. Whitney Way.



## An Open Letter to Prairie

Dear Prairie Family-

We want to thank you all for your help and support when we were in Madison to hold a memorial service for our son, John, on Sunday, April 9th. I meant so much to us to be able to celebrate his life at our — and his — Prairie "home". So many of you gave us the reassurance we needed that John has not been forgotten, that his life, though short, counted for something to many people, that he was, and is, real. Also, you have helped us to understand that his death is real, something very difficult for us since he died so far away. Until we had been in Madison, we were sort of "on hold"; now we can begin to work through our grief.

There is no way we can sufficiently thank all those who helped us with the logistics of the service. We realize that it was an especially busy day on Prairie's schedule. We much appreciate that you bent to our tight schedule and helped us hold the service when we were able to.

It was hard coming home, where John had been born and grew up. It has been even harder, these past few weeks, being where nobody ever knew John and most people scarcely know us. We look forward to coming home again, in June, this time for keeps.

Thank you all, again, for being there for us and for helping to make a never-easy experience the best possible one, under the circumstances. We look forward to renewing Madison and Prairie friendships soon.

Rosemary Dorney & Tim Fast  
John's Parents

