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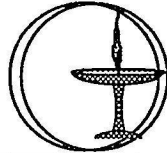
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JUN 16 1989

Prairie Fire



Prairie Unitarian-Universalist Society

2010 Whenona Drive, Madison, WI 53711

Richard Bonser, Editor
Jack Jallings, President

274-3248
271-5192

Anne Pryor, R. E. Director
Meeting House

244-7099
271-8218

To Change Address Or Cancel PRAIRIE FIRE, Call 274-3248

Vol. 27, # 12, June 13, 1989

DEADLINE for the NEXT PRAIRIE FIRE will be Sunday, June 25th. Submit notices for the period June 29th - July 27th.

CALENDAR

Sunday, June 18

10:00 AM - "FATHER SUN'S DAY: RA! RA! RA!" - an intergenerational service presented by the Madison CUUPs chapter.
11:30 AM - Potluck Dinner - please bring a dish to share.

Monday, June 19

7:30 PM - PRAIRIE BOARD MEETS at the Meetinghouse.

Thursday, June 22

7:30 PM - PROGRAM COMMITTEE meets at the Meetinghouse.

Friday, June 23

5:30 PM - PRAIRIE PLAYREADERS meet at the Capitol Hill Supper Club, 5164 Verona Road, for the annual fish dinner. After dinner, the group will meet at the home of Rachel Siegfried, 5209 Tolman Terrace, to read a one-act play. Call Rachel for reservations by June 21.

Sunday, June 25

10:00 AM - Jack Jallings' lay ministry on Fundamental Change concludes with **Van Rensselaer Potter**, UW-Madison professor emeritus of oncology and environmental studies and author of Global Bioethics: Building on the Leopold Legacy and other books, who will be the final speaker.

Saturday July 29

Save This Date! - Another **Fabulous Prairie Bus Trip** and Fund-raiser to Chicago's Museum of Science and Industry for the **Frank Lloyd Wright House and Artifacts exhibit**. The price for transportation and entrance fee is \$30.00, which must be submitted to Pat Cautley no later than July 10th. More details will be in the next issue of Prairie Fire.

NEWS & VIEWS

Thanks So Much

Since I've just finished my term as your President, I haven't had a chance to thank all of you personally for your part in making my experience so pleasant. Fredericka, Robin and I will leave on June 7th for the summer at Camp Unistar near Bemidji, MN, so I want to say a few things in writing.

I truly have enjoyed my 2 years as President of the Prairie Board. It was a challenge, particularly since we made important decisions that required all of us to attend more and longer meetings than usual. As a result, we have a welcoming building and will start sharing it with Sunrise School children June 20th. I felt we had an especially congenial Board the past 2 years. The many parish meetings went better than my wildest expectations. We all cooperated on that. Thanks so much!

Sharing space with Sunrise School will mean adjustments for both them and us. There will be bugs to work out, but the director assures me that everything should be running like clockwork within a year. Best wishes for the summer on this.

Also best wishes on starting our own prairie landscape. I wish I were here to help. Our landscape architect, Rory Nelson, says our Prairie will need the tender care of a couple of people every week this summer - people to pull weeds and to keep the lawn mowed. Our neighbors are pretty concerned about the dandelions and keeping the grass short.

Member Barbara Rames has the idea that we should each "adopt" a 12' x 12' section of the grounds to keep weed-free and Rory would be around once a month to direct people who want to learn about prairies while they work. Friend Randy Christianson suggests that people plan to join him before or after Prairie services to dig dandelions. This could be a social occasion as well as a way to commune with our own little section of the earth - AND you can even eat off the place. I've had two delicious meals of lamb quarters

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

already. They're better than spinach and it takes less time to gather them than to buy your greens at the stores. Give Rachel Siegfried (271-2173) or Jean Matos (255-2209) a call if you want to take part in this grounds venture of ours.

Finally, on a more personal note, I was very pleased to see a number of Prairie folks at the Gay and Lesbian March on Madison a month ago. Those of you who did not attend it or related events missed a wonderful experience. This was the most consistently spirited march of any type I've ever attended anywhere. The unfolding of the AIDS quilt was moving. Karen Thompson's speech on disabled and lesbian rights was a shocker even to someone who knew the case from the gay press. Fredericka and I are looking forward to sharing some of this with you next year as we do our half lay-ministry on Lesbian and Gay Issues.

This summer we'd love to hear from any of you while we're staff at Camp Unistar. Our address is Camp Unistar, Star Island Water Route 51, Cass Lake MN 56633. Our phone number is 218/335-2692. I will be the Childrens Program Director, while Fredericka is Camp Nurse and lifeguard. Robin will also be helping with meal set-up and dishes. See you in the fall.

-Mary Mullen

Graduation Celebration

There will be a reception for Casey Steinau on June 17th at 3:00 PM at the home of Barb and Bob Park to celebrate her graduation from Shimer College. All her Prairie friends, young and old, are welcome to come. If you need directions, call Barb and Bob at 608/635-7519.

Prairie's Prairie...

Phase I of our prairie planting is complete. Thanks to all of you who weeded, hoed, planted, and watered, the southeastern and southern sections of our prairie were seeded on Thursday, June 8. Our appreciation is also extended to Marlin Sachtjen. Marlin is losing part of her garden to road widening and she graciously allowed us to dig up some beautiful specimen plants of spiderwort, butterfly milkweed, swamp milkweed, yellow cone flower and blazing-star for transplanting. This will provide our prairie with an unexpectedly fast start. Please observe the green signs requesting that you stay off the newly planted areas until the roots have a chance to develop and stabilize the soil. If we can keep the

weeds under control in the rest of our site, and if we can get and keep the weeds out of the southwestern portion of the proposed prairie, we will plant this final section this fall or next year (Phase II).

Since many fewer (5) than the required sixteen neighbors objected, we received our natural lawn permit from the City of Madison with no problem. In the last week, one neighbor has expressed enthusiastic support for the prairie — to the extent of volunteering for watering chores — and another kindly transported our weeds to the city composting station.

So that all of us will feel comfortable living and working with our prairie, we need to follow a few general guidelines:

Mowing: In order to establish a nice clean line separating the turf areas below the trench from the prairie above, turf should be mowed regularly and cleanly right up to the edge of the trench. Until the southwestern section is planted to prairie, it should be mowed whenever the turf is mowed.

Weeding: Weeds should be pulled, getting as much root as possible. Tools and bags are in the backyard shed. Highest priority areas for weeding are the new turf below the trenches, southwestern section of proposed prairie, and the two planted prairie areas. The prairie, however, should be weeded only from the edges until after mid July. If you uncover stones while weeding, toss them into the trenches.

Watering: If we don't get a soaking rain at least once a week during the first month, newly seeded areas should be watered 1-2 times a week for about two hours. After July 15th, watering can be discontinued unless the summer is as hot and dry as it was last year.

Thanks to all of you who have volunteered for these jobs. A few more weed pullers would be helpful. If you have any questions, please contact Diane Derouen (238-3766) or Jean Matos, (255-2209).

Note: A looseleaf booklet or poster illustrating the specific prairie plants that will bloom in our prairie would be a nice accompaniment to our prairie project. It would also serve the very practical purpose of helping weeders distinguish the weeds from the prairie plants. If any artists and/or photographers are interested in taking on such a project, please contact Diane Derouen.

-Diane Derouen and Rory Nelson

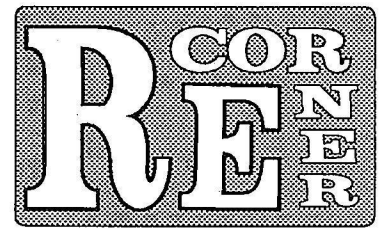
New Addresses...

Jim Novak has moved — His new address is:

James Novak
2001 E. Dayton Street
Madison, WI 53704
Phone: 249-5576

John Ohliger, who was married on May 6th at Prairie, writes that he and Chris will move to Springfield IL. on June 17. He expressed his thanks to the Fellowship for 15 years of support and friendship and added that he hopes to return to Madison in a year or two. His new address is:

John Ohliger
730 W. Jefferson St. #1
Springfield, IL 62702
Phone: 217/522-6473



Summer Program

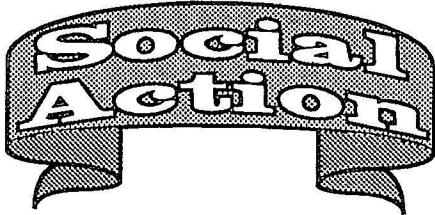
Although the regular RE program has ended for the season, activities are available for both preschoolers and older children every Sunday that we meet at the meetinghouse during the summer. For most of the Sundays, Terry Krause will continue with the preschoolers. The older children's mornings will be facilitated by different adult volunteers. If you would like to spend a morning sharing an interest or game with Prairie's children, please sign up at the meetinghouse or contact R. E. Director Anne Pryor.

Couches

The R. E. Committee can no longer overlook the rather raggedy nature of the couches in the middle school room. We'd like to replace them with some having less apparent wear and tear. If you or anyone you know has a couch you'd like to get rid of which is in fairly good condition, please contact Aileen Nettleton or another member of the R. E. Committee.

Puppet Stage

There is a nice wooden puppet stage, currently in the preschool room, for which we would like to find a new home. If anyone would like it, please contact Anne Pryor or Aileen Nettleton before the end of June. (Ed. note: What about donating it to the Stage Coach Players or the City's Summer Recreation Program?)



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.

Socially Responsible Buying

Mr. Don Pelz, in Ann Arbor MI, publishes a guide entitled Socially Responsible Buyers Guide: How to Keep Nuclear Weapons Out of Your Daily Life. This guide is sponsored by the **Covenant for a World Free of Nuclear Weapons**. It identifies the 50 publicly held U. S. Corporations with the largest contracts for nuclear weapons systems. It also identifies consumer products sold by these corporations (e.g. batteries: unacceptable - AT&T, GE Perma-Cell, Marathon; acceptable - Duracell, Mallory, Panasonic, Ray-O-Vac, Nite Hawk). The buyers guide was updated as of 12-88. Previous versions are still reasonably accurate. If you have an older version and want to replace it with the latest version, send a letter to **Don Pelz, 2406 Geddes Avenue, Ann Arbor, MI 48104**, and enclose a check for \$1.50 payable to the Covenant Fund. If you don't have a copy and want one, make the check for \$3.00 payable to the Covenant Fund.

Quote of the Week

"We need an adequate defense, but every arms dollar we spend above adequacy has a long-term weakening effect upon the nation and its security."

General Dwight D. Eisenhower



House Sitters Needed!

Carol Fishbaugh and Andrea Lawrence are seeking a house sitter for the last week in June. The person must like animals, as the **two dogs and two cats** are not going out of town with their owners. If you are interested, call Carol or Andrea at 845-5615 after 6:00 PM.



Prairie's R. E. Director, Anne Pryor, needs someone to housesit during the first two weeks (more or less) of August. The task includes **care of a dog** (a very easy-going fellow) **and two cats** (also very mellow). The house is over by Cherokee Marsh, is right on a bus line and has a pool for those hot summer nights. If you're interested, contact Anne at 244-7099.



It's Warmup Time!

Prairie member **Anne Urbanski and her husband Lee** are inviting Prairie people to a **housewarming party** at their newly purchased and somewhat (mostly) moved-into home at 317 N. Baldwin St.

Date: Saturday, July 8th
Time: 7:30 PM until ??

Anne and Lee will provide beer, soda, mixers & finger food. Additional food and/or beverages are welcome. Please park on Baldwin Street but **not in the private parking lot** across from their house.

