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Prairie Fire



Prairie Unitarian - Universalist Society

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AIR MAIL

Vol. 28, No. 3, 1-30-90

The deadline for the next issue of **Prairie Fire** will be Sunday, February 11th. Submit items for February 15—March 1, 1990.



Thursday, February 1

12:00 N - CHANNING-MURRAY LUNCH at the Memorial Union. Look for Unitarian Student Group on 'Today In The Union'. The special guest will be Brent Haglund from the Sand County Foundation, who will talk about "Land Saving Conservation".

Friday, February 2

7:30 PM - FRIDAY NIGHT VIDEO will feature "Where's Poppa?", a drama which raises some questions about aging. John and Shirley Grindrod will host this session in George and Ruth Calden's absence.

Sunday, February 4

10:00 AM - "WISCONSIN TREATY RIGHTS; Can We Be Partners in Resource Management?"

11:30 AM - Prairie Band Practice.

2:00 PM - CUUPS planning meeting at Linda Ellen's house, 2611 Chamberlain Ave. Everyone is invited!

Monday February 5

7:00 PM - SPANISH SPEAKERS' POTLUCK, at Prairie. For further information, contact Orton Gray at 273-4041.

7:00 PM - LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE meets at the home of Rick Ruecking, 186 Ohio Ave, Madison. He can be reached at 246-4304.

Thursday, February 8

11:00 AM - SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE meets at Judy Skog's house, 626 Orchard Dr. Call 273-4813 for information.

12:00 N - CHANNING-MURRAY LUNCH at the Memorial Union. Look for Unitarian Student Group on 'Today In The Union'. The special guest will be Bob Silverstein from the Dean of Students office on Feb. 8th, who will talk about Community Mental Health.

7:30 PM - BUILDING AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE meets at Prairie. We'll be discussing ways of solving the problems of our flat roof. Your suggestions are important!

Sunday, February 11

10:00 AM - "THESE ARE A FEW OF MY FAVORITE THINGS", an intergenerational Valentine's Day service led by Orange Schroeder. (see related story)

11:30 AM - Prairie Band Practice
5:00 PM - Women's Companions (Sandy Klippel)

Tuesday, February 13

7:30 PM - FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETS at the home of Pat Cautley, 4805 Regent Street. There's a lot to do, and your help will be welcomed!

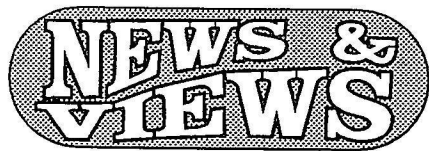
Thursday, February 15

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

7:00 PM - "GODDESS OF A THOUSAND NAMES"; a presentation sponsored by the Madison CUUPS chapter. (see related story)

Channing—Murray students are especially invited to join us at Prairie for Sunday Service and coffee. Rides can be arranged!

...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



About Our Lay Minister...

Orange and Dean Schroeder became interested in Prairie some fifteen years ago, when they heard that the church a block away from their new home featured music by a group called the *Prairie Chicken Pluckers* on Sundays. They have been members ever since, with their attendance fluctuating as their business (Orange Tree Imports) and children (Erik - 8, and Katrina - 5) have grown. This year, they are breaking all previous attendance records, with Dean teaching Sunday School and Orange (also known as Carol) leading a mini lay ministry.

Orange came to Wisconsin to get an M.A. in Danish literature after spending a year at the University of Copenhagen and two years at Tufts University, where she met Dean. In addition to the store and the children, Orange is involved in fundraising for American Players Theater, publishing a newsletter for those working with Hmong crafts around the country, translating from Danish to English, and serving as chair of the Monroe Street Library League and Monroe Street Merchants' Association. She is also a Daisy Girl Scout Leader for Katrina's troop.

An unrepentant optimist, Orange is looking forward to sharing her love of life with other Prairie members during her lay ministry.

Biophilia—

A Midwinter Lay Ministry

Biophilia, which is Greek for "love of life", is the title of Orange Schroeder's brief but bright lay ministry, which is intended to lift your winter-weary spirits. While acknowledging that there are many sorrows and injustices in this world, we will choose to focus our attention for a few weeks on the positive side of life, and to explore some of the things that bring us joy and satisfaction.

We will begin with an intergenerational Valentine's Day service on February 11th entitled "*These are a Few of My*

Favorite Things". Adults and children will join together to create a huge chain of paper hearts representing the people and things we love. We'll explore different kinds of love and talk about the wide variety of things that bring each one of us happiness.

"*Good Time Music*", which will feature Mike Briggs, the Prairie Orchestra and perhaps a few surprise musical guests, will allow us all to enjoy a medley of upbeat music guaranteed to set toes a-tapping and give the musicians and the audience an opportunity to talk about the joy music brings to the performer and to the listener.

"*Out Of Our Hands*" will be your opportunity to show off something that you have made, such as woodworking, needlework, painting, pottery, etc., if craft work is part of your life. Don't worry about how artistic your creation is — we want to focus on the pleasure it gave you to make it and the pride you feel at having completed it. (Please plan to **bring only one piece** of your work, clearly labeled with your name.) During the service we will talk about the joy of working with our hands, and ask those who wish to talk about their craft. We will also see a brief slide show on the special embroidery of the Hmong refugees.

Later in March, actor Ted Swetz of American Players Theater will share his passion for the theater with us and will answer our questions about the role drama and literature have in bringing pleasure and meaning to our lives.

Band Practice Resumes

The Prairie Band will practice each Sunday after the service. Bring your guitars, trumpets, french horns, trombones, flutes, harmonicas, accordions, drums, or whatever else you play. We're an informal group that will perform at Prairie on occasion. Call Mary Mullen (271-5192) or Mike Briggs (238-1227) with any questions.

A Good Idea ...

Why not copy a good idea? Anyone interested in starting an ongoing *French Speakers Potluck*, please contact Linda or Mike Sheehy at 273-3895. All levels of ability will be welcomed!

Goddess of A Thousand Names

The Madison CUUPS chapter is cosponsoring this slide presentation exploring the herstory of Goddess Religions from the Paleolithic era to the present. The narrator will be Amber K., a Wiccan High Priestess and past First Officer of *Covenant of the Goddess*, an international confederation of covens. The slide show will be at 7:00 PM on Thursday, Feb. 15th, on the U. W. Campus. Check 'Today in the Union' at the Memorial Union for building and room number or call Linda at 233-6960 or Rick at 256-6165 for information. This is an educational and historical presentation jointly sponsored by Wiccan-Druid Student Outreach, Madison Area Pagan Alliance (MAPA), and CUUPS.

CUUPS Chapter to Meet

The next meeting of the Madison CUUPS chapter, which is co-sponsored by Prairie and First Society, will be held on Sunday, Feb. 4th at 2:00 PM at Linda Ellen's house, 2611 Chamberlain Ave. This is a planning session for upcoming social and celebratory occasions and all interested persons are invited to attend.

Black History—

Prairie member Dr. Rosemarie K. Lester will lead off a five week series entitled "*Black History: A Global Perspective*", with an illustrated presentation on blacks in German history. Her presentation, entitled "*From Africans to Afro Germans: Image and Reality of Blacks in German Cultural History*", will be on Thursday, February 15 at 7:30 PM in the Memorial Union. Check 'Today in the Union' for the room assignment.

An Historic Occasion!

On February 25th at 2:30 PM, Prairie's meetinghouse will be open for "*In Our Own Words: The Best of The Dunn's Marsh News*", a significant local history event and booksigning. The affair will include a movie about the U. W. Electric Research Farm that was located in the neighborhood from 1944 to 1965. Prairie member Mary Mullen has a key role in this event.

GA Is On The Way!

The 1990 General Assembly will be held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and hundreds of volunteers are needed for a wide variety of jobs. Some people have already volunteered, but many more are needed. The volunteer coordinator for the GA is Irene Sanderson, 5005 North Palisades Road, Milwaukee, WI 53217. She has asked for **Local Volunteer Recruiters** from each society by **Feb. 15th** to help with this monumental task. Prairie will soon be receiving a local volunteer packet to facilitate this task. If you are interested in taking on this vital task within Prairie, call President Jack Jallings (835-3746) and let him know. Call soon! Time is of the essence!

Volunteers actually working at the GA will, depending on the time they put in, receive **either free registration or half price registration**. Those who have gone to a General Assembly have all reported that it is a wonderful experience. This may be our best chance to attend at an affordable price, so why not volunteer today?

Legislative Issues Briefing

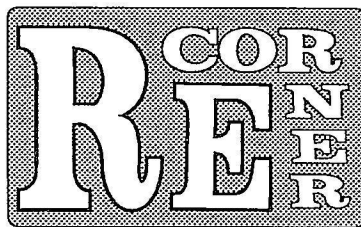
The annual IMPACT/CWU legislative issues briefing day will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 14th, from 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM at Grace Episcopal Church. The theme is "Working toward the Common Good". For more information, contact Bonnee Voss, Wisconsin Conference of Churches, at 222-9779.



Channing-Murray, the University of Wisconsin Unitarian-Universalist Student group, meets every Thursday at noon. Informal Wednesday evening dinner meetings are held at the Headliners Food Court next to Kinko's on University Avenue at 6:00 PM. There's plenty of room and we have a very relaxing and enjoyable time. We're usually done by 7:00 PM.

Noon luncheon guests this semester include Ruth Gibson, MRE at First Society, who will talk about a unique "Unitarian Universalist Who's Who" on Feb. 22nd; Jim Armstrong, owner of Armstrong Creative, will discuss advertising with us on March 1st; and on March 8th our guest will be Madison Police Chief, David Couper.

Sunday, February 18th will be Channing-Murray's dinner and program evening. It will be held at 6:00 PM at First Unitarian Society, 900 University Bay Drive. The special guest for the evening will be Pem Yellow Bird, Mandan, Hidatsa, Arikara Nations, Fort Berthold Reservation, North Dakota. She will speak on American Indian Spirituality.



The regular RE session

began again on January 21 with a wonderful snowfall on the previous day. Anna Nettleton took advantage of the opportunity and went sledding in the park with our preschoolers. After sliding and building some snow folks, they returned to Prairie to enjoy sweet steaming cups of hot chocolate.

Karen Gross started off the new K-1-2 curriculum with an exploration of color, first with games and songs, then through the creation of a collage.

The 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders, led by Linda Nelson, looked at some highlights of other religions, especially those from which Unitarians have come. The children brought in information about the childhood faiths of their parents. They also read the book "I Am an Orthodox Jew".

Peg Stevenson helped the 6th, 7th, and 8th graders visualize the breakdown of membership in different denominations in the U. S. and throughout the world. They also discussed what it is that comprises a religion: beliefs, a place to congregate, leaders, etc.



Looking Ahead—

- March 17: **Feminist Theology Symposium**, First Unitarian Church, Chicago.
- April 21: **Brother Spirituality Symposium**, First Unitarian Church, Chicago.
- April 21: CMD Men's Group retreat—**Vitalizing Connections: Our Lives as Men in the 90's**, The Lakeside Center, Crystal Lake, IL.
- April 20-25: **WOMANQUEST: U U Women's Convocation**, Lake Geneva, WI.
- May 12: CMD conference on **Visions & Values IV—Searching For The Sacred**, Hinsdale Unitarian Church, Hinsdale, IL.
- June 21-26: **SOUND THE CHORUS OF FAITH: UUA General Assembly**, Milwaukee, WI.
- July 14-20: **UU Bayside Camp: Around the World in 80 Ways**, on Lake Geneva at Williams Bay, WI.


Alterations & Sewing Sale

Member Rachel Siegfried announces that she is having a special 10% off sale during January and February on all of her sewing services. She is talented and versatile (makes her own jeans!) and would be happy to alter, repair, or make a new garment just for you! Call her at 608/271-2173.

Absent Friends...

Gerald Beroldi, a former Prairie member, is now an active member of the University Unitarian Church in Seattle. As a lay leader of part of their Jan. 14th service, he used Prairie's Bond of Union and the song "Die Gedanken Sind Frei". He talked about his first experience with a Unitarian church, which he and a black friend (both 18 years old and recently declared agnostics) visited, expecting to be openly rejected, but instead were heartily welcomed!

February, 1990

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 12:00- Channing-Murray Lunch at the Memorial Union	2 7:30 Friday Night Video: Where's Poppa?	3
4 10:00- Wisconsin Treaty Rights 11:30- Band Practice 2:00- CUUPS Mtg.	5 7:00- Spanish Speakers Potluck, at Prairie. 7:00- Long Range Plng. Comm. at Rueckings.	6	7	8 11:00- Social Action Comm. at Skog's. 12:00- Channing-Murray Lunch at the Memorial Union 7:30- Bldg. & Property Comm. at Prairie.	9	10
11 10:00- These Are A Few Of My Favorite Things 11:30- Band Practice 5:00- Women's Companions	12	13 7:30- Finance Comm. at Pat Cautley's	14 	15 12:00- Channing-Murray Lunch at the Memorial Union 7:00- Goddess of A Thousand Names.	16	17 7:30- Playreaders meet at Pat Cautley's.
18 10:00- Out of Our Hands 11:30- Band Practice 6:00- Channing-Murray Dinner	19 7:30- Program Comm. at Prairie.	20	21	22 12:00- Channing-Murray Lunch at the Memorial Union	23	24
25 10:00- Good Time Music 11:30- Band Practice 2:00- DNMA Meeting	26	27	28			

Prairie Fire

Prairie U-U Society
Activity Calendar