Vol. 28, No. 13, 7–31–90

The deadline for the next issue of Prairie Fire will be Sunday, August 26. Submit items for August 30—September 13, 1990.

Sunday, August 19
No service at Prairie today. Instead, there's a picnic and water party at John and Shirley Grindrod's home on Spring Harbor. Call 238-4422 for directions.

Monday, August 20
7:30 PM
Program Committee Meeting at the meetinghouse. Everyone Welcome!

Tuesday, August 21
6:30 PM
The French speakers’ potluck group will meet at the home of Rosemary Dorney, 4205 Odana Road. Please bring a dish to pass.

Sunday, August 26
10:00 AM
To be announced.
12:00 PM
Prairie Bus Trip to the matinee performance of Les Misérables at the Performing Arts Center in Milwaukee. (See related story)

Monday, August 27
7:30 PM
Prairie Board Meeting at the meetinghouse.

Sunday, September 2
No service today because of the Labor Day holiday.

Today’s Quote:
I loathe people who keep dogs. They are cowards who haven’t got the guts to bite people themselves.
-August Strindberg

Also this, from a song at the opening session of General Assembly—

“In a circle of friends,
In a circle of sound,
All our voices will blend
As we touch—common ground.”

Summer Child Care Helpers:
Aug. 12: Michelle Honore
Aug. 26: Judy & Ken Skog

Coffee Cleanup Volunteers:
The following people have volunteered to clean up coffee cups and the kitchen after Sunday services:
Aug. 12: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!
Aug. 26: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Picnic at the Park’s
The Prairie 'service' on August 5 is a potluck picnic at Bob and Barb Park's home near Lake Wisconsin. The picnic will begin about 3 PM and will feature:

"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"
impromptu nature walks, kite-flying, volleyball, boating, swimming, skeeter swatting, conversation, great food, and fun. For directions, see the map in this issue or call them at 608/635-7519.

Lawn Mowing Volunteers:
We need to mow the lawn at least once a week during the growing season. Your help is urgently needed! Please contact Jean Matos or Al Nettleton.
Aug. 5: Volunteers Needed!
Aug. 12: Volunteers Needed!
Aug. 19: Volunteers Needed!
Aug. 26: Volunteers Needed!

We need contributions to pay for the new roof (which it now appears will cost over $12,000!) so that we don’t have to increase the mortgage. The roof must be replaced—it’s leaking and will damage not only the meeting room ceiling but the new entryway and kitchen unless it is replaced now! An additional benefit is the insulation that will be added, keeping the meeting-house cooler in summer and warmer in winter.

The amount needed through donations is $7,500, or roughly $150 per pledging unit. Remember, a contribution now is worth (over the life of the mortgage) about twice the amount donated due to the interest we’ll save. Those of you who are able to give at this level and have not done so know who you are—please reconsider.

We still need about $2,500 in cash to cover the cost of the new roof, and we’ll need labor as well to paint the fascia boards and other trim when construction is finished. Send your check to Treasurer Julie Bonser (marked Mortgage Fund) by August 3 if possible. She will be out of town from August 6 to August 17. Thanks for whatever help you can give!

Committee Members Needed...
The long range planning committee is looking for members. The committee will meet monthly. If you are interested in helping to set the future course for Prairie, join this committee. Call Chair Dan Laux at 233-3563.

Let’s Have A Party!
Jack and Betty Jallings’ 50th Wedding Anniversary is Friday, August 17th. There will be a potluck party at Prairie at 7:30 PM in their honor. Please bring potluck snacks and drinks. There will be music, dancing, conversation and fun to celebrate this very special occasion. Jack and Betty have asked that, instead of gifts, people make an additional donation to the fund for the new roof.

French Speakers’ Potluck
The French speakers’ potluc group will meet at the home of Rosemary Dorney, 4205 Odana Road, on Tuesday, August 21st, at 6:30 PM. Please bring a dish to pass.

Upham Woods Is Coming!
Prairie’s annual retreat to Camp Upham Woods outside of Wisconsin Dells is set for October 5, 6 & 7. Those who attended General Assembly this past summer have got some interesting ideas for activities and discussion groups. We hope to have 100 members and friends of Prairie in attendance, so register early to ensure your place in the fun. Rick Ruecking (246-4304) is in charge of registration and Peg Stevenson (233-6449) is in charge of the program. These two have many small tasks that need volunteers to carry them out, and many hands make light work! Please give them a call and do your part to ensure the success of our group retreat.

Lawn Mower Donated!
Prairie has received a replacement lawn mower courtesy of members Tom and Cheryl Robinson. They donated a wonderful mower that starts great, runs well and looks like new! Our thanks to them for their generosity (especially from those who had to cope with the old mower).

Let Your Fingers Do The Walking...
Bill Robbins, the Program Chair, notes that we are now updating the Prairie answering machine every week. Whenever there is a “to be announced” service, or anytime you want to know what the next Sunday service will be, just call the Prairie answering machine at 271-8218.

Important Notice!
If you registered for the Prairie Bus Trip to Les Miserables and paid only a $20 deposit, the balance is now due! We must pay the theater for these tickets immediately. Please send your check for the $26 balance right away (made out to Prairie UU Society) to Donna Murdoch at 636 Sheldon Street, Madison, WI 53711.

1990-91 Executive Board
Officers:
• President: Jack Jallings (835-3746) 4761 Schneider Drive, Fitchburg, WI 53575
• Vice-President: Allan Nettleton (238-6053) 645 Sheldon St., Madison, WI 53711
• Secretary: Norma Briggs (238-1227) 2404 Fox Avenue, Madison WI 53711
• Treasurer: Julia Bonser (274-3248) 5213 Milward Drive, Madison WI 53711

Committee Chairs:
• Finance: Patricia Cautley (238-5373) 4805 Regent Street, Madison, WI 53705
• Relig. Ed.: Linda Sheehy (273-3895) 629 Piper Drive, Madison, WI 53711
• Program: Bill Robbins (837-4132) 110 E. Main Street, Sun Prairie, WI 53590
• Social Action: Judy Skog (273-4813) 626 Orchard Drive, Madison, WI 53711
• Hsg. & Prop.: Jean Matos (255-2209) 324 S. Mills Street, Madison WI 53715
• Long Rg. Pig.: Dan Laux (233-3563) 29 N. Spooner St., Madison WI 53711
• Denom. Affairs: Carol Fishbaugh (845-5615) 605 E. Hillcrest Dr., Verona WI 53593
• Membership: Anne Urbanski (268-8269) 317 N. Baldwin St., Madison WI 53703
An Invitation...
Louise and Marjorie Davis, who live in Elroy, WI, visited with us earlier this summer and issued the following invitation afterward: "We'd love to have you bikers come out for a weekend. Let us know most any time before Sept. 10." Their phone no. is 608/462-5592 and their address is N4163 State Hwy. 80, Elroy, WI 53929.

Hispanic Potluck
We decided to take a break till Fall, so watch your Prairie Fire for our September meeting date. If you have any questions meanwhile about who we are, what we do, etc., please direct them to Orton Gray at 273-2639 or Jean Matos at 255-2209. Until September then—¡Ojalá que Uds. tengan el verano muy divertido y tranquilo!

Absent Friends...
We received this lovely poem from Fredricka Schilling last month:

Dear Prairie Friends—
The loon's loud magical call
Sunsets without ending
Bald Eagle staring at me as hard as I am staring at her
Northern lights that shimmer over the entire sky
Returning campers, joyful to be here
Blue Herons majestically taking off over the lake
Jogging on forest paths
Swimming several times throughout the day... swimmers' itch
Skinny dipping at day's end.
Life is good at Camp Unistar
Love, Fredricka

The Social Action Committee has ongoing projects in the following areas (and we need your help in all of them):
- The Drop-In Shelter for homeless men (we staff it on the 4th Monday of the Month.)
- The Once a Week blood donors club (Red Cross Blood Bank.)
- Recycling (containers are in the garbage can area in back.)
- Food pantry (we collect food for 2 families in our neighborhood. The collection box is in the foyer outside the men's room.)

From time to time, we also do letter writing after the service on topics of concern and sometimes pass the hat.

For more information on any of this stuff, call Judy Skog at 273-4813.

Food Pantry Announcement
The families we have been assisting with our donated food are doing better this summer. The food collection is being placed on hold until September.

UU Blood Donors—
Summer is a 'high accident' season. Our Badger Region Red Cross (First Society member Dr. Gary Becker is their medical director) must provide over 500 pints DAILY to 85 hospitals! First Society and Prairie have a joint One-A-Week blood donors Club: we pledge to have 2 people per week donate a pint of blood. We were keeping up with our pledge until the end of May, at which point we got way behind with only two donations in three weeks! If you CAN donate, please do so this summer and sign the one-a-week club notebook for the "Unitarian–Universalists". Signing the If you want more information, please call Pat Meller (271-1214) or Gordon Cunningham (271-1246).

This Could Be a Windfall...
"Show me the fruit that rots before it is picked, and trees whose foliage each day makes new!"
-Goethe, Faust, Part I

We have that fruit, Faust, or we will have it if we don't get help in picking it. In 4 to 6 weeks several bushels of apples will ripen on one of our trees. They aren't especially good fresh, fair for canning, and best for juice. Does anyone have a cider press to lend? Does anyone want to join us in renting a press? Fun for kids—call any of the Hagstroms at 238-4970.

UU Piano Tuning
Robert Park's brother Warren (composer/piano reconditioner & tuner), a member of First Universalist Society in Minneapolis, will be visiting Barb and Robert from August 5th to the 12th. He will be in Madison at least one day during the week to tune Prairie's piano, and is looking for other piano jobs among Prairie members and friends. The cost for tuning is $40 and includes free estimates for piano repairs.

For Sale
Prairie's old-fashioned Hammond Organ and Leslie speaker system, currently residing in a basement bedroom at Bob & Barb Park's Lake Wisconsin home, are for sale (all $$ go to Prairie). If interested, come to the potluck picnic at Barb & Bob's on August 12th and try it out.

Address Changes—
Faye Glassner has moved to California. Her new address there is: 7413 Telegraph Street Bakersfield, CA 93305

Karen Gross also reports a new address. She is now at: 29 North Sixth St. Madison, WI 53704 phone: 241-7635
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<td>3:00 PM Prairie Potluck Picnic at Bob &amp; Barb Park's home near Lake Wisconsin</td>
<td>10:00 AM Ruth Gibson MRE at First Society, speaks on &quot;Lifespan Religious Education&quot;</td>
<td>Prairie Potluck Picnic and water party at John &amp; Shirley Grindrod's home on Spring Harbor.</td>
<td>7:30 PM Program Committee meeting at the meetinghouse</td>
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<td>7:00 PM CUUPS celebrates Lughnasad at the First Society meetinghouse</td>
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