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Prairie Fire



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Vol. 28, No. 15, 9-11-90

The deadline for the next issue of **Prairie Fire** will be Sunday, September 23. Submit items for September 27—October 11, 1990.

Thursday, September 20

7:30 PM

HOUSING & PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETS at the meetinghouse. Everyone welcome. **New members needed!** Call Jean Matos (255-2209) for more information.

Today's Quote:

"Conservative. *n.* A statesman who is enamored of existing evils, as distinguished from a liberal, who wishes to replace them with others.

- AMBROSE BIERCE

CALENDAR

Sunday, September 23

10:00 AM

"MADISON AIDS SUPPORT NETWORK"- Presented by lay minister Orton Gray.

11:30 AM

PARENT COFFEE FOR GRADES 3,4,5. Come and meet the class leaders and find out the program plans for the coming year.

NEWS & VIEWS

Special Parish Meeting

The Prairie Board has scheduled a special Parish Meeting for **Sunday, September 16, at 11:30 AM.** Please plan to attend! (A Quorum is 30 members.)

The agenda shall be whether Prairie should come to an agreement with Head Start to allow them to use our building for their program beginning October 1, 1990. Head Start representatives will be there to present their proposal and to answer questions about their operation.

Monday, September 24

7:30 PM

PRAIRIE BOARD meeting at the meetinghouse.

Coffee Cleanup Volunteers:

The following people have volunteered to clean up coffee cups and the kitchen after Sunday services:

Sept. 16: Alice & Lee Bullen
Sept. 23: Paul Adams & Elizabeth Alexander
Sept. 30: Jack & Betty Jallings



Wednesday, September 26

12:00 N

Channing-Murray lunch at the Union. Look for Unitarian Student Group on Today in the Union.

Sunday, September 30

10:00 AM

"HOSPICE CARE"- Presented by lay minister Orton Gray.

11:30 AM

PARENT COFFEE FOR GRADES K, 1 & 2. Come and meet the class leaders and find out the program plans for the coming year.

Sunday, September 16

10:00 AM

"THE FEAR OF BEING DEAD"-

Presented by lay minister Orton Gray.

11:30 AM

SPECIAL PARISH MEETING to discuss the Head Start building use proposal.

Monday, September 17

7:30 PM

PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEETS at the meetinghouse.

Wednesday, September 19

12:00 N

Channing-Murray lunch at the Union. Look for Unitarian Student Group on Today in the Union.

7:00 PM

The FRENCH SPEAKERS' POTLUCK will be held in the home of Jean Tucker, 2724 Center Avenue. (See related story)



...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

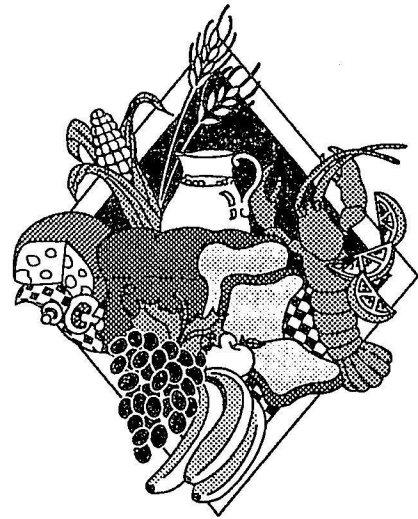
Cakes For The Queen...

Annis Pratt and Nancy Vedder-Schultz will offer a ten week workshop featuring the UUA curriculum "Cakes for the Queen of Heaven" beginning **Tuesday, Sept. 18th at 7:30 PM** at the First Society Meetinghouse. Prairie women are invited to come and experience the empowering effect of women's spirituality! (Women only, please)

It's Much Better Than Eating Out!

All members and friends of Prairie are invited to join a dinner circle. Circle Dinners are an important part of Prairie's social life. Groups of 6 to 12 (or sometimes more) people get together once a month for a quasi-potluck dinner. The location rotates to a different group members home each month. We plan to get groups organized by late September so they can start in October.

You can sign up on Sunday at Prairie (until September 23) or on the form included with the last issue of the newsletter and mail it to Anne Urbanski, 317 N. Baldwin St., Madison, WI 53703. Mail registrations must be received by September 24th.



French Speakers' Potluck

Anyone who would like to maintain or improve his or her French is welcome to join the French speaker's potluck group. A small group of us have been meeting for the past seven months in the members' homes.

The next meeting will be **Wednesday, September 19, at 7:00 PM** in the home of Jean Tucker, 2724 Center Avenue. For information, please call Jean at 249-2636 or Linda or Mike Sheehy at 273-3895.

Help Wanted

A. Coffee Maker. Cheerful, reliable person(s) to make coffee for Prairie services on a semi-regular basis (once or twice a month). The job entails arriving by 9:15 AM to make 1 or 2 pots of regular coffee, 1 pot of decaf coffee, and hot water for tea. This can be done by one person alone, but bringing a friend makes it more fun. As an alternative, the coffee can be made on Saturday afternoon and set to start on Sunday with timers. We have two people now but both are cutting back on their involvement and we need more helpers!

B. Greeter. Cheerful, friendly reliable person(s) to greet people as they arrive at Prairie on Sunday. Requires no skill except a warm smile, a good handshake, and genuine interest in people. This can be done in conjunction with coffee making or as a separate activity.

Applicants for either position should call Anne Urbanski (258-8269) evenings for an interview. The rewards are substantial, but involve no remuneration of any sort.

Meet The Candidates!

Central Midwest District Trustee elections are coming this fall. We will be electing a representative to the national board of the UUA. First Society will host the two announced candidates, Jean Kapuscik of Hinsdale, IL and Patsy Sherrill-Madden of St. Louis, MO at a candidates forum on **Sunday, Sept. 30th, at 1:00 PM**. Prairie members and friends are invited to attend.

Upham Woods

Please join our Prairie family for the annual weekend retreat at Camp Upham Woods **October 5-7**. The weekend promises to include outdoor activities—canoeing, volleyball, new games, etc.—discussions, a talent show, and a meeting of men interested in forming a men's fellowship along with

crafts and nature activities. This is a beautiful spot to share a lovely fall weekend with Prairie friends.

Please contact Peg Stevenson (233-6449) to volunteer as activity leader or helper or to suggest activities you would especially like her to arrange. This weekend is our chance to be together as our Prairie 'extended family' and we'd like you all to be a part of it. The registration form is again included as part of this issue of **Prairie Fire**.

Chicago Art Institute Trip

Reserve your seats now for Prairie's bus trip to the Chicago Art Institute on **Saturday, November 3rd** for the exhibit "Poussin to Matisse: The Russian Taste for French Painting". The trip will include a lunch and shopping stop at Water Tower Place on Michigan Avenue's "Magnificent Mile". This exhibit includes fifty-one French paintings including works by Nicolas Poussin and Claude Lorraine (17th century), Watteau, Boucher, Greuz, and Fragonard (18th century), Vernet, Robert, David, LeBrun, Gerard, Boilly and Ingres (19th century), and Manet, Renoir, Gauguin, Rousseau, Bonnard (19th & 20th century), plus nine outstanding canvasses by Matisse. The works are from Leningrad's Hermitage Museum and Moscow's Pushkin State Museum and this is a unique opportunity to view these rarely available masterpieces. The cost of the trip is \$35, including transportation, admission fees, and the acoustiguide recorded tour. **Paid reservations must be received by October 8th**. Send your check (made out to Prairie U.U. Society) to Donna Murdoch, 636 Sheldon St. Madison, WI 53711. For more information, call Donna at 238-0530.

Dear Prairie—

By the time you read this, I'll already be a full fledged Freshman at Macalester College. I just thought I'd write some parting words of thanks before I go. I feel very lucky to have grown up with a church that I actually enjoyed attending, not being forced to go because "it's what people do." It's true that Unitarianism doesn't have defined beliefs that everyone is supposed to subscribe to. As I've grown up, I've learned to appreciate that freedom to choose what I do and don't believe in. Prairie will always be a place where I feel I am welcome, and I

can't wait to come back and see everyone at Thanksgiving!

With much love,
-Jennifer Drapkin (Prairie Kid)



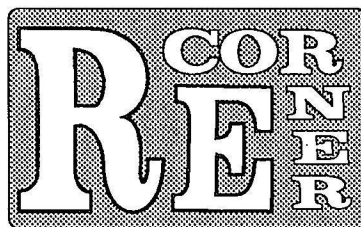
Channing-Murray, the University of Wisconsin Unitarian-Universalist Student group, meets every Wednesday at noon. Informal Thursday evening dinner meetings are held on the Union Terrace at 6:00 PM. They'll continue to meet on the Terrace as late in the season as weather permits. There's plenty of room and they have a very relaxing and enjoyable time. We're usually done by 7:00 PM.

Wednesday Lunches are held at the Memorial Union. You can bring a brown bag or buy something from one of the Union Cafeterias. These lunches feature frequent guest speakers and we have a number of good ones lined up for the semester. The lunches are also open to UUs from the community.

Channing-Murray has a **camping and canoe trip** planned for the upcoming weekend of **September 14-16**. The canoe trip will begin at Mazomanie and follow the Wisconsin River to Spring Green, where the group will camp at Tower Hill State Park. Catherine Ramsey (251-7281) is coordinating the plans, so please give her a call for more information.

Guest speakers/discussion leaders already scheduled are: Cinda LaMar (with a surprise topic) on Sept. 12th and Catherine Ramsey, who will lead a discussion on AIDS on the 19th,

A day trip to Jana and Javid's log cabin near Richland Center is scheduled for Oct. 6th.



Welcome to the R. E. Program!
We're thrilled to have everyone back for another dynamic, meaningful year. Registration took place on September

9th, but parents who missed it are invited to register on the 16th.

All Prairie attenders are invited to participate in the annual "Where in the World Were We?" display on the main bulletin board downstairs. Tack a pin onto the map, fill out a name and place card, and let the rest of us know where you traveled to this summer. All ages are warmly welcome to play.

Dates have not yet been set for the Parent Coffees for the Preschool and Nursery parents. Due to a conflict with the emergency Parish Meeting, the coffee for the 6, 7 & 8 parents has been canceled. A new date will be set soon. These will be announced in the **Prairie Fire** as soon as dates have been set.



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.

UU Blood Donors—

Summer is a 'high accident' season. Our Badger Region Red Cross 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

It's Not Too Late!

You can still donate money or time to help with Prairie's new roof. We are still short of the total needed to pay for the construction. **Send your check to Treasurer Julie Bonser** (marked **Mortgage Fund**). Call any member of the Housing and Property Committee if you can help with the painting of the fascia and trim. Thanks for whatever help you can give!

Playreaders 1990-91 Schedule



Please cut and post this for future reference. We hope this schedule will help you avoid conflicts when planning other events. The Playreaders meet once a month at members' homes. Everyone is welcome to attend at any event. Neither a commitment to the group, theatrical experience, talent, nor any pre-reading of the play is required. All you need is an enjoyment of literature and theater, an enjoyment of open discussions, and the desire to get together for a social evening. Additional information on dates, locations, and plays to be read will be printed in the **Prairie Fire** prior to each meeting. Please join us!

Sep. 29 Host: Warren Hagstrom

October No meeting.

Nov. 17 Hostess: Pat Watkins

Dec. 15 Hostess: Rachel Siegfried

Jan. 19 Hosts: Mona & Jack Birong

Feb. 16 Hostess: Pat Cautley

Mar. 23 Hosts: Rosemary Dorney & Tim Fast

Apr. 20 Hostess: Margaret Lawrence

May ?? Hosts: Al & Aileen Nettleton
(date to be announced)

