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# Prairie Fire



Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society  
2010 Whenona Drive, Madison, WI 53711

BUREAU OF  
AIR MANAGEMENT

Jack Jallings, President ..... 835-3746      Anne Pryor, R. E. Director ..... 244-7099  
Julia Bonser, Treasurer ..... 274-3248      Meeting House ..... 271-8218  
To Change Address Or Cancel PRAIRIE FIRE, Call Richard Bonser, Editor.....274-3248

**Vol. 28, No. 16, 9-25-90**

The deadline for the next issue of **Prairie Fire** will be Sunday, October 7. Submit items for October 11—October 25, 1990.

## CALENDAR

**Saturday, September 29**

**7:30 PM**  
PRAIRIE PLAYREADERS MEET at the Hagstroms. (See related story)

**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.

**Monday, October 1**

**7:00 PM**  
SPANISH SPEAKERS' POTLUCK at the meetinghouse. (See related story)

**Wednesday, October 3**

**12:00 N**  
Channing-Murray lunch at the Union. Look for Unitarian Student Group on Today in the Union.

**Thursday, October 4**

**7:30 PM**  
WOMEN'S BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP meets at the meetinghouse.

**Sunday, October 7**

**Upham Woods Retreat.** No service at Prairie. (See related story.)

**Wednesday, October 10**

**12:00 N**  
Channing-Murray lunch at the Union. Look for Unitarian Student Group on Today in the Union.

**Sunday, October 14**

**10:00 AM**  
"FINAL CHOICES: LIVING WILLS, BURIAL OPTIONS, COSTS"- by lay minister Orton Gray and Rachel Siegfried.

**Monday, October 15**

**7:30 PM**  
PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEETING at the meetinghouse.

**Tuesday October 16**

**6:30 PM**  
FRENCH SPEAKERS POTLUCK at the Sheehys', 629 Piper Dr. (See related story)

**Wednesday, October 17**

**12:00 N**  
Channing-Murray lunch at the Union. Look for Unitarian Student Group on Today in the Union.

**Saturday, October 20**

**7:30 PM**  
PLAYREADERS MEET at the home of Pat Meller, 4526 Crescent Road. Play to be announced.

**Sunday, October 21**

**10:00 AM**  
"LIFEBOAT ETHICS"- Orié Loucks

**Wednesday, October 24**

**12:00 N**  
Channing-Murray lunch at the Union. Look for Unitarian Student Group on Today in the Union.  
**7:00 PM**  
DUNNS MARSH NEIGHBORHOOD ASS'N. meeting at the meetinghouse.

**Sunday October 28**

**10:00 AM**  
"BEREAVEMENT"- last in Orton Gray's lay ministry on death.  
**11:30**  
Parent Coffee for Grades 6,7 & 8 downstairs in the RE rooms. Refreshments and child care provided.

**Monday, October 29**

**7:30 PM**  
PRAIRIE BOARD MEETS at the meetinghouse.

**Wednesday, October 31**

**12:00 N**  
Channing-Murray lunch at the Union. Look for Unitarian Student Group on Today in the Union.

...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

Friday, November 2 thru

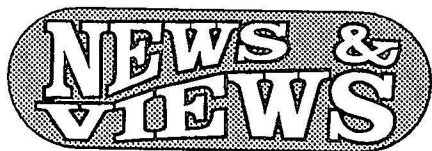
Sunday, November 4

EXPLORING THE MYSTERIES OF NATURE—Regional UU Youth Conference at Camp Upham Woods.

### Today's Quote:

"It's not my job to drive the train—the whistle I can't blow. It's not my place to say how fast the train's allowed to go. I'm not allowed to let off steam, or even ring the bell—but let the damn thing jump the track and see who catches hell!"

- ANONYMOUS RAILROAD WORKER



## Last Chance—Call Now!

If you have not registered for Upham Woods, but would still like to come, it is still possible to register by phone. Call Rick Ruecking at 246-4304. We want everyone to feel welcome and there is plenty of room available. See story below for activities available.

## Coffee Cleanup Volunteers:

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

Sept. 30: Jack & Betty Jallings

Oct. 7: No service at Prairie

Oct 14: Aileen Nettleton & Mary Mullen

Oct. 21: Lindy McGraw & Mona Birong

Oct. 28: Beth Lovern & Rachel Siegfried

Nov. 4: Pat Cautley & ??

**VOLUNTEERS:** If you run into a problem and cannot work on the day you signed up, please call Anne Urbanski at 258-8269.

## Spanish Speakers' Potluck

On the principle of better-late-than-never, those interested in keeping up on their Spanish (at any level) are urged to join us at the Prairie meetinghouse on **Monday, October 1st at 7:00 PM**. This is an informal group of persons with wide-ranging skill levels which gather monthly to share a meal and conversation. Bring a dish to pass—it

doesn't have to be Latino. If you have questions, or need directions, call Rosemary at 238-4382.

## Hagstroms Host Playreaders

The Playreaders will meet at Warren and Susan Hagstrom's home, 916 Shorewood Blvd., Shorewood Hills, on **Sept. 29th at 7:30 PM**. The play will be either The Rovers, by Aphra Behn (if enough people show up) or What the Butler Saw by Joe Orton. Aphra Behn is one of the first woman playwrights to make a living at it, and was considered vulgar and risque by many of her famous contemporaries.

## 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.

## Women's Book Discussion Group

Study the conflict between the goddess and Christianity in the Mists of Avalon. The story is about King Arthur—from the women's perspective. The group will meet at **7:30 PM** at the Prairie meetinghouse on Thursdays beginning **October 4**. We will meet roughly every other week. We will follow a 9 week UU curriculum designed by Denise Tracy.

For information or to sign up, call Judy Skog at 273-4813.

## Upham Woods

Please join our Prairie family for the annual weekend retreat at Camp Upham Woods **October 5-7**. This is a beautiful spot to share a lovely fall weekend with Prairie friends.

Activities will include *Fish Printing*, led by Peg Stevenson (could someone catch us a few fish—maybe Bluegills?), a *Nature Walk*, led by Pat Cautley, discussions on *Men's Issues*, *Gay/Lesbian Issues*, and *Long Range Planning*, and *New Games* led by Bill

Robbins. These games derive from *undokai* (Japanese sports day). We will try some of the common relays from sports day as well as other new games.

## Photo Album-Collage

## Workshop at Upham Woods

Are you one of the many people who have envelopes, drawers or boxes of photos lying around? If so, Upham Woods offers you the chance of a lifetime to get started on making them more accessible and interesting than you ever imagined. The photo album-collage workshop will feature a slide show and sample albums to give you ideas, technical tips to speed you on your way, and free rubber cement to stick those photos down. You'll either want to buy a 12"x14" spiral bound scrapbook with gray pages (available for about \$3.50 at K-MART) or call Mary Mullen or Fredericka Schilling (271-5192) so they can bring one for you. *You must bring your own photos*, and you might be happier with your own scissors, rulers, and pens than those provided.

We know how forgetful Prairie Folk are, so if you're even faintly interested in doing this, get those photos out *right now* and put them in your suitcase!

## 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". 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.

## French Speakers' Potluck

Anyone interested in speaking French, at any level of ability, is welcome to join

us on Tuesday, October 16, at 6:30 PM for a potluck dinner at the home of the Sheehys, 629 Piper Drive. If you have questions, call Linda or Mike Sheehy at 273-3895.

## Prairie Playreaders

Contrary to the announcement in the last issue of **Prairie Fire**, there will be a Playreaders meeting in October (on the 20th) and Pat Meller will be the hostess.

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!

## Goodbye, Prairie...

As we prepare to leave the home which you have shared with us, to move into our own new home (which used to be your home!), we want to offer again our heartfelt thanks for all of the help that you have given us. Your repeated acts of understanding and generosity during the challenging times we have faced have truly made all the difference for us.

We thank you most sincerely, and we wish the best for you all and for Prairie.

Sincerely,

- The children, parents, and staff  
of Sunrise School

## Annual Canvass Begins

We apologize for talking about finances so frequently, but hope you recognize that the pleas for donations to the "Mortgage Fund" (aka "Roof Fund") drive were for a very special purpose of hopefully making it unnecessary to borrow any additional monies for the roof rebuilding. We almost reached our goal, and heartfelt thanks go to each person who contributed to this special fund.

The purpose of the ANNUAL CANVASS is to ask for commitments to support the on-going programs of Prairie—RE, the

lay ministers, janitorial service, etc., and payments on our mortgages. Fortunately we are not in the dire shape that our US Government is, but we cannot claim to be in great shape either. The proposed budget—made up by "best estimates" from various Prairie committees—is about \$3,000 higher than anticipated income from all sources. This total shows the lack of income from Sunrise School, which has moved out to its own quarters where it has room for nearly twice as many children as it could care for here.

At the parish meeting on Sunday, September 16, after a great deal of painful discussion, the final vote was not in favor of working out an arrangement with Head Start for their use of the space during the week for eight months. The Finance Committee has tried various ways of raising money, mainly through trips, but it has not been successful all of the time. Other suggestions will be gratefully considered.

In the meantime, we ask each of you to think about what you can pledge to the support of Prairie for the coming year. A member of the Canvass Committee will be in touch with you during the early weeks of October.

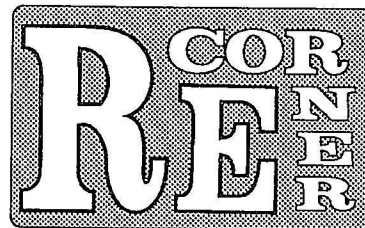
- Pat Cautley, Finance Chair



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. The lunches are also open to UUs from the community.

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



## Preschool/Nursery

Unlike past years, the preschool is fairly empty these days. Most of the children have moved on to higher grades, with three of last year's preschoolers in Kindergarten this year. Anna Nettleton is still ready and able to provide high quality care for those preschoolers who do show up. Jo Anna Honoré really liked being the only one with Anna on the first day of RE; they had fun playing and drawing together. For the first time in several years, we have a baby—Kalin Andrews—in the nursery, again under Anna's charge. Precocious at 8 months, Kalin was attracted to the abacus and spent her time calculating equations.

## K-1-2

We're fortunate to have Beth Lovern and Dana Dopp leading this group this year. Both are creative and loving individuals who work very well with this age group. On their first Sunday, Dana and Beth aimed to help the children get to know each other and feel comfortable in the new situation. The group played a name game, read two stories on friends and made very decorative name tags.

The following week's session was led by Beth. This began the curriculum "Adventures with God's Folk," with the first focus on Bezalel, the builder of the Ark of the Covenant. After lighting a chalice for all people in slavery or in hardship, the children heard the story of how Moses received a command from God to have the Ark built for the purpose of carrying the precious objects of the Israelites as they traveled, searching for freedom and a homeland. Then they built a cardboard Ark themselves, enjoying the decorating of it very much. They also made their own snack, bread cut into the same shapes as those that decorated their Ark, and sprinkled with cinnamon and sugar. Watch for this Ark playing a role in future services!

Dean Schroeder and Mike Sheehy, both former RE leaders and wonderful additions to our teaching crew, are leading this group for the year. The curriculum they will be following is "A Growing Up Year," one that will look at stories of faith and science, leading into stories about Unitarian Universalists, and ending with the children examining how these tales relate to them.

Mike and Dean began the first Sunday by helping the group members to get acquainted and become somewhat familiar with what is planned for the year. They made name tags and "me charts," learned the song "To Everyone in All the World," and played a fun game of scatter ball outside.

Mike led the group the following week, focusing on an origin story from the Miwok Indians, "The First Animals Make People," which the group read as play reading. They also played a couple of name games and made a list of "Big Questions," such as "What happens when we die? Who made color, and how? How did people come to be? and How did the world begin?"

### 6-7-8

The middle schoolers will be enjoying an innovative program designed and created by the co leaders: Marty Drapkin, Andrea Lawrence and Karen Gross. These three individuals make a great team and will be able to provide a dynamic and challenging year for the youths in this group. Karen will not be able to stay with the class for the entire year, as she has accepted a job in Milwaukee and will be moving there in December. Until then, she will be coordinating the training of the group in the use of video equipment. The focus of the year will be to create several videos that record the beliefs of Unitarian Universalists and others on issues of import, especially ones that are of a more spiritual nature. These videos will become the basis of services the middle schoolers lead for the adult program.

Andrea and Marty led the first session, which focused on letting the youths know what the year will hold and on helping them to get to know each other. To do this, they interviewed each other on issues such as favorite TV shows, least favorite foods, and opinions of New Kids on the Block.

The following week had more introductions to get to know each other better, but the main focus was on learning the basics of operating video recording equipment. Some of the group members are particularly intrigued by the process, and will have further opportunities to pursue their interest and strengthen their skill through this RE program.

**EXPLORING THE MYSTERIES OF NATURE**—Regional UU Youth Conference at Camp Upham Woods from Friday, November 2 through Sunday, November 4. Contact Arthur Thexton at 608/249-2702 (h) or 608/255-4201 (w) for more information.



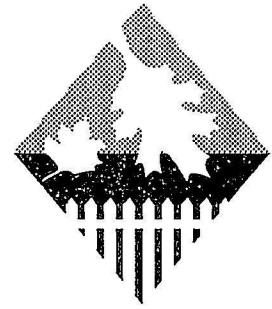
The Social Action Committee has ongoing projects in the following areas (and we need your help in all of them):

- **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.

### After the Cold War...

After the Cold War: Voices for Global Demilitarization will be presented at Pres House, 731 State Street, at **8:00 PM on October 11**. The meeting is sponsored by Mobilization for Survival, Nuclear Freeze-Nukewatch, WILPF, and PSN. Speakers will include Wera Wollenberger, East German member of Parliament and Greens spokesperson; Humberto Brown (Panama), Vice-President, Congress of Black Cultures of Latin America; a Japanese activist; and Nikki La Sarella, Women Against Military Madness.



### Looking Ahead—

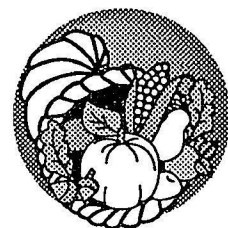
- Sept. 30: **CMD Trustee Candidates Forum** at First Society, 1:00 PM.
- Oct. 5-7: **CAMP UPHAM WOODS Retreat** for Prairie UU Society at Wisconsin Dells.
- Oct. 20: **Central Midwest District Annual Leadership Conference**, Countryside UU Church, Palatine, IL.
- Nov. 2-4: **EXPLORING THE MYSTERIES OF NATURE**—Regional UU Youth Conference at Camp Upham Woods. Contact Arthur Thexton at 608/249-2702 (h) or 608/255-4201 (w) for more information.
- Nov. 9-11: **Central Midwest District Annual Meeting** at the Universalist Unitarian Church of Joliet. Registration \$20 plus meals & concert. Call 708/481-5339 or 708/481-5055.

### For Sale

Free-standing full length swivel mirror with white rattan frame. A portion of the selling price will be donated to Prairie. Call Cinda at 238-9884 for more information.

### Free Apples!

The Hagstroms have good cooking and/or cider apples free for the taking. Pick your own.



# October 1990

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b>  7:00 PM Spanish Speakers' Potluck at the meetinghouse	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>  12:00 N Channing-Murray lunch at the Union	<b>4</b>  7:30 Women's Book Discussion Group at the meetinghouse	<b>5</b>  5:30 PM Upham Woods Retreat begins!	<b>6</b>  Upham Woods Retreat
<b>7</b>  Upham Woods Retreat	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>  12:00 N Channing-Murray lunch at the Union	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b>  10:00 Final Choices, Living Wills, etc. by lay minister Orton Gray	<b>15</b>  7:30 Program Committee at the meetinghouse	<b>16</b>  6:30 French Speakers potluck at Sheehys	<b>17</b>  12:00 N Channing-Murray lunch at the Union	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>  7:30 Playreaders meet at Pat Meller's
<b>21</b>  10:00 Lifeboat Ethics by Dr. Orié Loucks	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>  12:00 N Channing-Murray lunch at the Union 7:00 Dunns Marsh Nbrhd Meeting	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b>  10:00 Bereavement by Lay minister Orton Gray.	<b>29</b>  7:30 Prairie Board Meeting at the meetinghouse.	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>  12:00 N Channing-Murray lunch at the Union	<h1 style="font-family: cursive;">Prairie Fire</h1>		

## Prairie U-U Society Activity Calendar