Vol. 28, No. 17, 10–9–90

The deadline for the next issue of Prairie Fire will be Sunday, October 21. Submit items for October 25—November 8, 1990.

Thursday, October 18
7:30 PM
WOMEN’S BOOK DISCUSSION
GROUP meets at the meetinghouse.
(See related story)

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”. Dr. Orie 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 AM
Parent Coffee for Grades 6, 7 & 8 downstairs in the RE rooms. Refreshments and child care provided.
12:00 N
MEN’S FELLOWSHIP Organizational Meeting and Potluck Lunch. (See related story)

Wednesday, October 31
12:00 N
Channing-Murray lunch at the Union. Look for Unitarian Student Group on Today in the Union.

Friday, November 2 thru
Sunday, November 4
EXPLORING THE MYSTERIES OF NATURE—Regional UU Youth Conference at Camp Upham Woods.

Saturday November 10
6:15 PM
ANNUAL SERVICE AUCTION AND WHITE ELEPHANT SALE

Sunday November 11
1:00 PM
FALL PARISH MEETING at the meetinghouse to adopt the 1991 budget.

Today’s Quote:
“History repeats itself; that’s one of the things that’s wrong with history.”
- CLARENCE DARROW

Thank You—
Our thanks are due to Peg Stevenson, Rick Ruecking, and the many volunteers who made Upham Woods such a

...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
success this year, including: Beth Lovern, Sherry Scottish, Deborah Vink, Julie Bonser, Dick Bonser, Bill Robbins, Pat Cautley, Aileen Nettleton, Allan Nettleton, Dan Stevenson, Mary Mullen, Fredricka Schilling, Jack Jellings, Warren Hagstrom, Carol Fishbaugh, Judy Skog, Alice Bulloch, Norman Briggs, Mike Briggs, and all of the talent show performers.

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

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.

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.

Women’s Book Discussion Group
We are reading the Mists of Avalon. The story is about King Arthur—from the women’s perspective. The group meets at 7:30 PM at the Prairie meetinghouse on alternate Thursdays. The next meeting will be Oct 18. We will cover the first 120 pages. Newcomers are always welcome.

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

Former Prairie Member to Speak
A former member and lay minister at Prairie, Dr. Orle Loucks, will be in Madison to give a special lecture on “The Threat to Environmental Security” at the State Historical Society Auditorium on Monday, October 22, at 7:30 PM. The lecture is sponsored by the Dane Co. chapter of the United Nations Association as part of the celebration of the founding of the United Nations on October 24th. The lecture is free and the public is invited.

Dr. Loucks has been on the leading edge of the environmental movement for many years and recently became Ohio Eminent Scholar in Applied Ecosystem Ecology at Miami University in Oxford Ohio.

Dr. Loucks has also agreed to speak to us at Prairie on Sunday, October 21, on “Lifeboat Ethics: Theology for a Small Planet,” a subject which he has been concerned about for many years. This is a rare opportunity to hear his ideas and discuss them with him.

Mens Fellowship to Organize
As an outgrowth of a workshop on mens groups at this year’s General Assembly, several Prairie men met at Upham Woods to discuss the formation of a broad based mens fellowship group within Prairie. The consensus of the group was that such a group was desirable and could provide valuable growth opportunities for Prairie men. The organizational meeting will be held on Sunday, October 28, at 12:00 Noon and will include a potluck lunch.

Interested men should be prepared to discuss ideas for group activities and issues they would like to see explored and discussed by the group. We intend to avoid the mistakes that resulted in the disbanding of the last group several years ago.

For more information, call Dick Bonser at 274-3248 or Rick Ruecking at 246-4304.

Annual Canvass Underway
The purpose of the ANNUAL CANVASS is to ask for commitments to support the ongoing 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.

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.

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 soon.

- Pat Cautley, Finance Chair

It’s Auction Time Again...
Mark November 10th on your calendar and plan to attend Prairie’s annual WHITE ELEPHANT SALE AND SERVICE AUCTION at 6:15 PM at the meetinghouse. Invite all your friends as well. The evening will begin with a pizza dinner (and other goodies) and continue with an auction of donated “White Elephants” and of expert services of various Prairie members and friends. The auction will begin at 7:30 PM.

Help Prairie make ends meet this year. Bring your hidden treasures (how about that fondue set you’ve never used, ...or the extra complete set of Dane County Art Fair Posters you’ve been saving?) to donate for the auction. If you’ve a special skill that others could use, please consider donating your skill and/or materials for one or more occasions as well. Services ranging from house-sitting and dog-walking to breakfast in bed or the preparation of a course Japanese dinner for up to 10 persons have sold well in previous years. Your service could be the star attraction!

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.

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.

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

Looking Ahead—

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.

Nov. 10: Prairie's Annual Service Auction & Sale at the meetinghouse, 6:15 PM.

Nov. 11: Fall Parish Meeting—Adoption of Budget, at the meetinghouse following the morning service.

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.

For Sale

Vintage Women's downhill skis (150 cm), boots (size 7-7½) and poles. Price is negotiable. Contact Anne Urbanski at 258-8269.

For Sale

Evan Picone size 10 Petite two piece ladies suit in a pretty brown/rust plaid. Worn only a few times and just dry-cleaned. Price is negotiable. Contact Anne Urbanski at 258-8269.

Free Apples!

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