Vol. 28, No. 18, 10–23–90

The deadline for the next issue of Prairie Fire will be Sunday, November 4. Submit items for November 8–22, 1990.

Sunday, November 4
10:00 AM
"UNPLUG THE CHRISTMAS MACHINE" a discussion of the book by J.O. Robinson and Jean Staeheli, led by Peg Stevenson.

Wednesday, November 7
12:00 N
Channing-Murray lunch at the Union. Look for Unitarian Student Group on Today in the Union.
7:00 PM
FRENCH SPEAKERS’ POTLUCK at the home of Nancy Schraunfagel, 501 N. Whitney Way. (See related story.)

Saturday November 10
6:15 PM
ANNUAL SERVICE AUCTION AND WHITE ELEPHANT SALE at the meetinghouse. (See related story.)

Sunday November 11
10:00 AM
"THE MAGICAL CHILD AND THE ART OF BIRDWATCHING" presented by Annis Pratt and Ruth Calden.
11:30 AM
POTLUCK LUNCH — Please bring a dish to pass, and stick around for...
1:00 PM
FALL PARISH MEETING at the meetinghouse to adopt the 1991 budget. (See related story & agenda.)

Monday, November 12
7:00 PM
SPANISH SPEAKERS’ POTLUCK at the meetinghouse. All skill levels welcome. Call Kate Tucker at 221-2168 for information.

Wednesday, November 14
12:00 N
Channing-Murray lunch at the Union. Look for Unitarian Student Group on Today in the Union.

Sunday, November 18
10:00 AM
"PRAIRIEMONIES: A REPRISE AND FAREWELL" led by Annis Pratt

Wednesday, November 21
12:00 N
Channing-Murray lunch at the Union. Look for Unitarian Student Group on Today in the Union.

Sunday, November 25
10:00 AM
TO BE ANNOUNCED

Wednesday, November 28
12:00 N
Channing-Murray lunch at the Union. Look for Unitarian Student Group on Today in the Union.

Today’s Quote:
"I respect faith, but doubt is what gives you an education.”
- WILSON MIZNER

...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
Coffee Cleanup Volunteers:
The following people have volunteered to clean up coffee cups and the kitchen after Sunday services:
Oct. 28: Beth Lovern & Rachel Siegfried
Nov. 4: Pat Catley & ??
Volunteers: If you run into a problem and cannot work on the day you signed up, please call Anne Urbanski at 258-8269.

Do You Understand?

Women’s Book Discussion Group
We are reading the Mists of Avalon. The group meets at 7:30 PM at the Prairie meetinghouse. The meetings will be according to the schedule below. Newcomers are always welcome.

Date Pages
Nov. 1 109-231
Nov. 15 232-327
Nov. 29 328-449
Dec. 13 450-570
Jan. 10 571-654
Jan. 24 655-774
Feb. 7 775-876
For information or to sign up, call Judy Skog at 273-4813.

Men’s Fellowship To Organize
As an outgrowth of a workshop on men’s groups at this year’s General Assembly, several Prairie men met at Upham Woods to discuss the formation of a broad-based men’s 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 246-4394.

The Premier Event of the Season!
Remember November 10th!
Bring your forgotten treasures (how about that old kerosene lamp you’ve never used, ...or do It-Yourself Guide to Volkswagen Repair you’ve been saving?) for auctioneer par excellence Marty Drapkin to sell for Prairie. If you’ve a special skill that others could use, please also consider donating your time and/or materials for one or more occasions as well to help Prairie make ends meet this year.

Services ranging from house-sitting and dog-walking to breakfast in bed or the preparation of a 6 course Japanese dinner for up to 10 persons have sold well in previous years. Be Creative! A weekend in the country... A custom portrait... A book of poetry... A loaf of home-made bread per month (or week?)... Whatever you like to do or do well...

The evening will begin at 6:15 PM with a pizza dinner (and other goodies) and conclude with the auction of donated "White Elephants" and of expert services of various Prairie members and friends. Invite all your friends as well. The sale and auction will begin at 7:30 PM.

Annual Fall Meeting Agenda Set
The Executive Board will meet prior to the parish meeting to take final action on adoption of the recommended budget for presentation to the Society. The President has been asked to include on the board agenda the proposal that further study be given to the possibility of Head Start using our premises. The reasons given for the request are twofold, first that space and financial considerations should be more thoroughly explored, and second that five or six members have volunteered to help in any additional work made necessary because of having a tenant.

The Annual Fall Meeting will be held at 1:00 PM on Sunday, November 11, following the morning service and a Potluck Lunch in the meetinghouse. The Agenda is as follows:
1. Adoption of the minutes of the previous meeting.
2. Consideration and Adoption of the 1991 Budget.
3. Consideration of proposed Bylaw Amendments.
4. Such other business as may properly come before the congregation.
5. Adjourn.

Proposed Bylaw Amendments:
The following bylaw amendments have been submitted for consideration by the Society at the Regular Fall Business Meeting:

I. Pertaining to revised timetable for selection of Lay Ministers:
Amend ARTICLE VII (Standing Committees), B. (Special Committees), 2 (Committee on Committees), c. (3):

if the lay ministry option of Article VIII is in effect, to solicit and interview candidates, and announce at the Annual Meeting Regular Fall Business Meeting the names, terms of service, and prospective roles of lay minister candidates for the coming year. These names, along with any additional recommendations from members, shall be passed to the Executive Board for approval.

and revise ARTICLE VIII (MINISTRY), B., (Lay Ministry):

1. When seeking one or more lay ministers for terms of not more than one year, the Committee on Committees shall solicit and interview candidates, and shall make recommendations to the Executive Board at the Annual Meeting.

2. These recommendations, along with any additional recommenda-
tions from members, shall be considered and acted upon by joint action of the old and new Executive Boards at the first Executive Board meeting following the Annual Regular Fall Business Meeting.

3. The Committee on Committees shall follow the spirit of the 1979 report of the "Soul Searching Committee" in making its selections and recommendations.

4. A lay minister may be dismissed by a three-fifths vote at a business meeting. In the event of dismissal, the minister's salary and fringe benefits shall be continued until the end of the appointed term or three months, whichever is shorter.

II. Pertaining to non-discrimination

Renumber Articles X and XI to XI: and XII. and insert:

ARTICLE XI: NON-DISCRIMINATION

The Society welcomes members, friends, and guests and hires employees without regard to age, race, gender, national origin, sexual orientation, or physical or mental disability.

A Warm Welcome To...

New member Laura Riggs, who signed the book on Sunday, October 21. Her address is:

Laura Riggs
3515 Roma Lane, Apt. 4
Middleton, WI 53562
Phone: 836-4631

Please add her name to your membership directory.

MFA Exhibition Opens

Prairie member Jean Matos invites all Prairie members and friends to the opening of her Master of Fine Arts Exhibition "LOW END PUBS" presenting books made by using alternative publication technology. The opening reception will be 3-5 PM on Sunday, November 4, in the Seventh Floor Gallery of the Humanities Building, 455 N. Park Street.

Channing-Murray, the University of Wisconsin Unitarian-Universalist Student group, meets every Wednesday at noon. Informal Thursday evening dinner meetings are held at the International Food Court next to Kinko's on University Avenue at 6:00 PM. There's plenty of room and they have a very relaxing and enjoyable time. They'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. Check Today In The Union for the room location.

Sunday, November 18, will be Channing-Murray's monthly dinner and program. It will be held in the Copper Hearth Room, Union South, at 6:00 PM. The guest speaker will be John Sumwalt, minister of Wesley United Methodist Church in Kenosha, Wisconsin.

Channing-Murray will be hosting the Midwest Unitarian Universalist Young Adult Network (MUUYAN) conference on January 4, 5 & 6. The conference in now in the planning stage, and both ideas and volunteers are needed. Please call Javid Butler with your ideas or drop him a note. His phone no. is 608/549-3081 and his address is P.O. Box 106, Richland Center, WI 53581. The conference will be a great opportunity to meet other young adults from our neighboring states.

We'd like to recreate the warm and lively atmosphere that the basement had last year and also better equip the kitchen. We need your help to do so. If anyone could donate or lend any of the following items, we'll be able to make the children's space much more welcoming.

Preschool/Nursery Area
Toys safe for infants to play with. We have lots of appropriate pre-school toys, but not many for infants or toddlers.

K-1-2 Area
Floor cushions (large pillows), one or two plants, and LEGO blocks.

3-4-5 Area
Floor cushions (large pillows), posters (mounted so they can be hung on the wall) or wall hangings, balls for outdoor play.

6-7-8 Area
An area rug, plants, and posters (mounted so they can be hung on the wall) or wall hangings.

Kitchen Area
Silverware, a juice pitcher, plates and bowls, measuring cups and spoons, and storage containers.

Thanks for any assistance you can provide in this area! Contact Linda Sheehy or Anne Pryor with your donations.

Program News

Preschool/Nursery
Anna Nettleton is acting in somewhat of an "on call" capacity this fall. When children of this age group are present she provides child care. When no children are present, she assists in the large and lively K-1-2 group.

K-1-2
Over the past few weeks, led by Dana Dopp and Beth Lovern, this group has made musical instruments and used them to process upstairs with their "Ark of the Covenant" accompanied by the congregation's singing of Shalom Chaverim.

Since then, they have moved on to the stories of John Chapman (Johnny Appleseed), learning of his love for the land and how he manifested it. They...
have made hand puppets of Johnny Appleseed, complete with cooking pot hats, and have used sliced apples for printing.

3-4-5

Continuing their cross-cultural investigation of creation myths, led by Dean Schroeder and Mike Sheehy, this group heard three American Indian creation stories one week. They then connected them with the universal “Big Questions” they had discussed the previous Sunday. This was followed by the creation of a totem pole, which is still in the room for anyone who would like to see it.

The following week centered on the Greek origin myth and myths with females such as Gaia, Pandora and Athena at their center. They also learned how to weave a mat with yarn, an activity highly enjoyed by the group.

The next Sunday focused on the Judeo-Christian creation story, one with which the children were already familiar. They then each wrote their own creation story which would explain something they had observed. These will be on display on the bulletin board in the central room downstairs for anyone who would like to read them.

6-7-8

This group, led by Andrea Lawrence, Marty Drapkin and Karen Gross, has taken on the responsibility of leading a Sunday morning program in early December. This service will include the screening of a video created by the youths, the focus of which will be one of a number of fundamental religious questions.

The Sundays leading up to this have been, and will continue to be filled with planning for the video and presentation. So far discussion has focused on deciding the subject, what questions to ask in the video what approaches to take, and investigating possible introductions to the video. They also viewed a videotape made by a high school student for possible ideas on format and technique.

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.

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, see coordinator Frank Ilia.)
- 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... FOOD... FOOD!

Now that I have your attention, I want you to know we are still collecting food for two neighborhood families. Both are single parents who work full-time but receive low wages without benefits. They fall through the cracks in the social services system for any kind of assistance. Monthly they struggle with housing cost, medical expenses (no insurance) and food.

They have plenty of canned food. Needed is cheese, apples, meat, fruit and cereal. If you give cash, I will buy some perishables. If you bring perishables, I will deliver them on Sunday.

Make yourself feel good—Donate!

- Fredericka Schilling

Women Vs. Violence

There will be a panel discussion on the roots of violence at home and abroad on October 30 at 7:00 PM at 731 State Street. There will be speakers from South Africa, the Philippines, the Lac Courte Orielles Indian Reservation, and Dane County Advocates for Battered Women.

Looking Ahead—

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.

Jan. 4, 5 & 6: Midwest Unitarian Universalist Young Adult Network (MUUYAN) conference in Madison, hosted by Channing-Murray. Contact Cinda LaMar at 238-9884.

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 258-8289.

Puzzleniks Rejoice—It’s Found!

Were you one of those who took Al and Aileen up on their kind offer of a jigsaw puzzle or two, left over from the recent garage sale at Nettletons’ and brought to Upham Woods for our enjoyment?

I was, and I found myself with an extra piece after doing the puzzle. Does this look or sound like it might belong to yours? The color is a sort of undefined grey or brownish background with lavender or rose colored spots on it. Could be a flower bed, water, a sunset... and it looks like this:

- Rosemary Dorney
### PRAIRIE SOCIETY PROPOSED BUDGET

#### EXPENDITURES

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#### HOUSING AND PROPERTY

- **Mortgage (M&I Hilldale)**: 7,716, 7,963
- **Mortgage (Veatch)**: 4,283, 4,285
- **Insurance**: 600, 600
- **Utilities**: 4,315, 2,100
- **Janitor**: 1,300, 1,000
- **Building Manager**: 1,200, 600
- **Maintenance and Supplies**: 750, 950
- **Painting**: 650, 200
- **Sign for Building**: 1,000, 1,000
- **Capital Reserve**: 1,200, 500
- **Social Security**: 127, 76
- **Gutters for building**: 0, 1,500

#### OTHER

- **Social Security**: 499, 0
- **Ceremonies**: 25, 25
- **Finance**: 0, 0
- **Upham Woods Scholarship**: 100, 100
- **Upham Woods Reservation**: 100, 100
- **Prairie Fire**: 2,730, 2,730
- **Contingency**: 75, 75

#### TOTAL BUDGET

- **1990**: $40,457
- **1991**: $38,684

#### EST. REVENUES

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#### TOTAL

- **1990**: $40,460
- **1991**: $33,065
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<tr>
<td>10:00 AM “UNPLUG THE CHRISTMAS MACHINE” led by Peg Stevenson.</td>
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<td>12:00 N Channing-Murray lunch at the Union. 7:00 PM French Speakers’ Potluck at Nancy Schraufnagles'</td>
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<td>Regional UU Youth Conference at Camp Upham Woods.</td>
<td>7:30 CUUPs celebrates the Pagan Festival of Samhain-Olin Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 AM THE MAGICAL CHILD... Annis Pratt and Ruth Calden. 11:30 AM Potluck 1:00 PM Parish Mtg.</td>
<td>7:00 PM Spanish Speakers’ Potluck at Prairie</td>
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<td>12:00 N Channing-Murray lunch at the Union.</td>
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<td>10:00 AM Prairiemonies: A Reprise and Farewell, led by Annis Pratt</td>
<td>7:30 PM Program Committee meets at the meetinghouse</td>
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<td>12:00 N Channing-Murray lunch at the Union.</td>
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<td>10:00 To Be Announced</td>
<td>7:30 Prairie Board Mtg at the meetinghouse</td>
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<td>12:00 N Channing-Murray lunch at the Union.</td>
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**Prairie U-U Society Activity Calendar**