Prairie Fire

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

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. 29, No. 15, 9–10–91

The deadline for the next issue of Prairie Fire will be Sunday, September 22. Submit items for September 26—October 10, 1991.

Saturday, Sept. 21
7:30 PM
PRAIRIE PLAYREADERS meet at the home of Susan Hagstrom. Among plays considered will be Joe Orton’s What the Butler Saw or Tom Stoppard’s Travesties. Please Come.

Sunday, Sept. 22
10:00 AM
To Be Announced.

Thursday, September 26
7:30 PM
PRAIRIE TALESPINNERS MEET at the meetinghouse. No theme has been selected for this meeting.

Saturday, Sept. 28
Channing–Murray canoe day trip on the Baraboo river. For information and reservations (needed by September 15) call Carrie Sandahl at 255–1967.

Sunday, Sept. 29
10:00 AM
“ANOTHER PERSPECTIVE ON SPIRITUALITY” by a guest speaker, part of lay minister Scott Savage’s ministry.

Today’s Quote:
“Scriptures, n. The sacred books of our holy religion, as distinguished from the false and profane writings on which all other faiths are based.”
—AMBROSE BIERCE.

Editors Corner

This issue of the Prairie Fire is being brought to you by guest editor Geoffrey Bonser. Due to an unfortunate and unexpected death in the family, Richard and Julie had to travel to Portland Ore. to attend the funeral of Julie’s brother, Steve Waite, who died of a heart attack on Tuesday, September 3.

Excuse Me, But...

WE’RE RUNNING OUT OF MONEY! Pledge income this summer has not been high enough to cover current operating expenses. We’ve had to tap into the savings account to pay some bills that should have been covered by pledge income. If you pledged a donation to Prairie, please bring it up to date. If you’re not sure, pay ahead a little—it won’t hurt (much) and we sure need it. Up to date pledge reports are to be mailed out at the end of September. Mail your pledge payment to Treasurer Julie Bonser at 5213 Milward Drive, Madison, WI 53711 or put it in the basket at Prairie on any Sunday.

Playreaders to Meet on Sept. 21

Prairie Playreaders will be held at 7:30 PM Saturday, September 21, at the home of Warren and Susan Hagstrom.

...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
Among plays considered will be Joe Orton's *What the Butler Saw* or Tom Stoppard's *Travesties*. Please come.

The Prairie Playreaders is a group of Prairie members and friends who meet monthly at the home of one of the participants to read from scripts of plays, old and new, for enjoyment. The group also attends local theatrical performances and holds an annual fish fry in the spring.

You don't need acting experience to participate. You don't have to have gone to a play before to take part. You don't even need a good memory, since we read from the scripts in the book! We are a group that enjoys an evening of friendly, relaxed fun and we'd like to share it with you. For more information, call Pat Watkins at 233–5795.

**UU's and Spirituality—an Oxymoron?**

What are your views regarding spirituality? As a UU this and, like most any other question, you'll get a broad range of responses ranging from “Such a thing exists not” to “WOW, cosmic.” Perhaps it is one of those loaded words you shrink from, or attack upon hearing. This ministry will examine aspects of spirituality, including views of UU's on the subject. The series will include information, exercises and, of course, discussion about the spiritual experience as part of being human. Interested persons will have an opportunity to take the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator and explore how personality type differences can impact our spiritual experience. This lay ministry began on September 8.

**Parlez-vous français?**

Bonjour, mes amis! Il y a un an et demi, plusieurs membres de Prairie ont commencé à manger et à parler français ensemble une fois par mois. Nous sommes un petit groupe amical, avec les capacités différentes. Si vous voulez parler français un peu et partager un repas, nous vous accueillons à notre prochain rendez-vous, jeudi le 19 Septembre, à 7h du soir chez Mette Butler: 2115 E. Mifflin St., Appt. B, tél. 244–3659

**Y.R.U.U. Needs Your Help**

The junior YRUU (Prairie's and First's youth group for 7th and 8th graders) is looking for someone from Prairie to assist the two advisors from First with the group's activities. The group will meet twice each month, once for an outing and once at either First or Prairie for a business-activity meeting. Experience with this age group is not a requirement. All that is needed is a sincere interest in and appreciation of young teens and a willingness to share some time with them. Anyone interested in considering this possibility may call Jim Jaeger, one of the advisors, at 273–1035.

**Schedule Your Building Use!**

Members wishing to use the Prairie building for activities should check with the Housing & Property Committee to reserve the building. Other groups do use the building, so it is absolutely necessary to schedule with the committee to avoid double booking conflicts in the building. They need advance notice, preferably two weeks, to schedule the use of the building. Building use rules are posted in the kitchen.

**Upham Woods is Coming!**

The Prairie *Upham Woods Retreat* is the weekend of October 5–7. Registration materials are attached to this Prairie Fire. Our program depends on everyone's volunteer efforts, so please contact Peg Barratt (formerly Peg Stevenson) at 233–6449 to indicate what you can contribute. If there is something you would like to see happen, but cannot lead, perhaps a leader can be found. We hope that many of you can join us, and some scholarships assistance is available to help make that possible. Register now (on the enclosed registration form) so that we can figure out how many people we will have. Registration questions should be directed to Rachel Siegfried at 271–2178

**Musicians—Attention!**

This fall we will have a musical service featuring the life and music of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart on this 200th anniversary of his death in 1791. The program will probably be held in late October or November and will be coordinated by Warren Hagstrom. Musicians of all ages are invited to perform. Think about pieces you would like to perform and let Warren know about them.

**CMD Leadership Conference**

The CMD Fall Leadership Conference will be held on Saturday, October 5, from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM at the Unitarian Universalist Church West, 13001 West North Avenue, Brookfield, WI. The theme is “Speak your Unitarian Universalism: Witnessing Our Identity.” The keynote speaker will be the Rev. Jean M. Rickard, who will speak on “A Faith to Be-Live.” There will be 12 workshops to choose among, and the registration fee is $25.00 ($30.00 after Sept. 23). Child care will be available for $12.00 and lunch for $6.00. Call 414/782–3535 for more information. A registration form is tacked on the bulletin board in the Meetinghouse.

**Prairie Member Honored**

Dollars and Sense Magazine has named Department of Health and Human Issues Outreach Professor Carolyn Dejoie as one of the 1991 recipients of it's "Tribute to African-American Business and Professional Men and Women." Dejoie was featured in a story in the magazine's July issue and was honored at an awards banquet in August.

**1991–92 PlayReaders Schedule**

| Sept. 21 | Susan Hagstrom |
| Oct. 10  | Donna Murdock  |
| Nov. 16  | Dick & Julie Bonser |
| Dec. 14  | Maureen Gerarden |
| Jan. 11  | Al & Aileen Nettleton |
| Feb. 15  | Pat Cautley |
| Mar. 14  | Karen Gross |
| Apr. 11  | Pat Watkins |
| May 15   | Rachel Siegfried |

The plays to be read will be announced in future issues of Prairie Fire. Please see the related story in this issue for the announcement of this month's plays.
Channing-Murray, the University of Wisconsin Unitarian-Universalist Student group, meets every Wednesday at noon, every Thursday at 6:00 PM, and once a month on Sunday at 6:00 PM for a dinner and program evening.

Wednesday Lunches are held at the Memorial Union. You can bring a brown bag or buy something from one of the Union Cafeterias. This year those Channing-Murray members in the semester planning group decided besides students taking turns leading noon discussions, to add back in a previous format of occasional guest speakers from our Madison community. We'll try to have a guest speaker once every four or five weeks. The lunches are also open to UUs from the community. Check 'Today In The Union' for the Unitarian Student Group room location.

Informal Thursday evening dinner meetings are held on the Memorial Union Terrace at 6:00 PM. Again, you can bring your own dinner or buy something at one of the cafeterias. Fifteen to twenty people usually attend. There's plenty of room and they have a very relaxing and enjoyable time. They're usually done by 7:00 PM. During September they'll continue to meet on the Union Terrace, if cold look for the group in the open room across from the Rathskellar. In October they'll begin meeting at the International Food Court, on University Ave. next to Kinko's.

Saturday, September 28, Channing-Murray will meet for a canoe trip on the Baraboo river. Carrie Sandahl is coordinating this event. Give her a call at 255--1967 to make your reservation. This is a day trip (bring your own lunch). Carrie will need your reservation by September 15.

**R.E. Fall Sessions Begin.**

The Religious Education program began holding regular sessions for 1991-92 on September 8th. Attendance was high and enthusiasm strong. Parents/guardians are requested to fill out a registration form for each participating child. Brochures describing the various curricula for the year are available at the greeting table. All Prairie members, and attenders are invited to take one.

**R.E. Coffees for Parents/Guardians.**

Parents, guardians and all others interested in learning more about the Religious Education curricula this year, are invited to attend the series of coffees beginning September 15th. These will be held after the morning service and will be at the appropriate R.E. room. The adult leaders, the R.E. Director and member of the R.E. committee will meet with parents and others to discuss the program for the year. The schedule is as follows:

- September 14: K-1-2.
- September 29: 3-4-5.
- October 13: 6-7-8.
- October 20: Nursery & Preschool.

**Food Pantry**

Please continue bringing good items for the food pantry. Place your donations in the box just outside the men's bathroom. Money, too, is always welcome. We'll buy food that is needed. The food pantry is located in the Allied Community Center and serves those living in the Dunns Marsh/Allied Drive neighborhoods.

**Witness for Peace**

Community Action on Latin America in Madison, Wisconsin is organizing a Witness for Peace delegation to southern Mexico and Guatemala from October 18-November 1, 1991. The delegation will meet with and offer support to Guatemalan refugees in camps in Chiapas, Mexico as they prepare to return to their homelands in early 1992. In Guatemala, the delegation will meet with groups representing a broad spectrum of views on the current political, economic, and human rights situation.

We are hoping to support a diverse group of participants from various walks of life. Delegates are expected to share their experiences as widely as possible after their return.

Estimated cost of the delegation is $1,300 (includes airfare, room and board). Some financial assistance may be available. For more information call Sharon Lewandowski at 608/241-2392.

**Start Saving Now!**

Remember, Prairie's White Elephant Sale will be coming up again this fall. Save all those "too good to throw away" items for the sale! Enrich Prairie and amuse your friends and neighbors. (Is it really true that someone is going to donate a Winslow Homer painting to the auction? Be sure to check it out!)
Coffee Service Volunteers

The following persons have volunteered to set up the coffee service on Sunday mornings.

- Sept. 15 Barbara Rames
- Sept. 22 ??
- Sept. 29 Scott Savage
- Oct. 6 No service at Prairie (Upham Woods)
- Oct. 13 ??
- Oct. 20 ??

The following have volunteered to wash dishes after Sunday services.

- Sept. 15 John & Shirley Grindrod
- Sept. 22 Rachel Siegfried & Metje Butler
- Sept. 29 Kathy Converse & Al Nettleton
- Oct. 6 No service at Prairie (Upham Woods)
- Oct. 13 Betty Jallings & ??
- Oct. 20 Beth Lovern & Ron Kuka

The following have signed up to greet visitors on Sunday mornings.

- Sept. 15 Barbara Rames
- Sept. 22 Mary Mullen
- Sept. 29 ??
- Oct. 6 No service at Prairie (Upham Woods)
- Oct. 13 ??
- Oct. 20 ??

Hospitality Needed!

The Central Midwest District Board is meeting at Prairie the weekend of September 13-14. Board meetings run through Friday evening and all day Saturday. We need housing for 15 people for both Friday and Saturday nights. Please call Rick Ruecking at 238-2924 if you would host an interesting UU from our district societies.

Absent Friends...

Former Prairie member Lilo Koehl recently suffered a heart attack. The last we heard, she was recuperating nicely, but slowly and would appreciate hearing from her old friends and acquaintances. Her address was reported incorrectly in the last issue of Prairie Fire. The correct address is:

Lilo Koehl
615 West Street #2
Prescott, AZ 86301

Housemate Sought

Jennifer Parker is looking for someone to share her house, including a private room, laundry, kitchen facilities, utilities and garage space. If anyone is interested or knows someone who would be interested in living with a family, please give Jennifer a call at 246-4304.

Any volunteers who cannot work on the day they've signed up, please let Anne Urbanski know so she can locate a substitute.
The annual Upham Woods Retreat allows our Prairie family to spend a weekend together without the distractions of our everyday lives. The scenic location on the Upper Wisconsin River is an ideal spot for enjoying fall from the vantage point of a canoe or a walk on the wooded island. The program offers choices from among active and quiet activities suited for all ages.

Throughout much of Friday evening we share a potluck as people arrive. Saturday morning activities usually include a nature walk on the island, a visit to the Upham Woods nature center, craft activities and a couple of discussion groups. Saturday afternoon activities usually include volleyball, New Games, an island hike, and additional discussions. This year Scott Savage will lead a workshop on personality types that complements his fall lay ministry. After dinner Saturday we may have folk dancing and will definitely have a talent show. Late into the evening people can be found with Trivial Pursuit, snacks, and singing. Sunday offers the opportunity for another walk or canoe ride; we also share a morning worship service (outdoors if possible).

On Saturday and Sunday we share meals in a large dining hall and use this as a time for conversation. Every attempt is made to plan a program of activities to suit all ages, interests, and weather. We depend on the volunteer efforts of one another to lead most of these programs. Please let me know which of the activities you might be willing to lead and which other activities you might want to develop.
Prairie U U members and friends

Annual Upham Woods Retreat!!!

When? October 4-6, Friday about 6:00 PM to Sunday, 1:00 PM.

Where? Upham Woods, N194 County N, Wisconsin Dells
About an hour's drive - see map other side of sheet

What is the cost?

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<th>Youth Under 19</th>
<th>Adults 19 &amp; Over</th>
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<td>Sat. Breakfast</td>
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<td>&quot; Lunch</td>
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<td>Sun. Breakfast</td>
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<td>Total</td>
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Lodging: Cabins $ 9.00 $14.00
Dorms $14.00 $20.00

Notes - one night, half of above
- Those in cabins provide their own
  bedding, pillow & case, towels, soap.
- Dorms, above is provided. Play safe,
  bring light blanket, soap.

User fee - entire weekend $4.00 per person
one night only $2.00

Registration

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<th>Name</th>
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IMPORTANT: Registration and check must be received by Rachel Siegfried no later than Sept. 20. Required by Upham Woods. If really necessary, pay at retreat.
Rachel: 5209 Tolman Tr., Madison, 53711, phone 271-2173
Directions to Upham Woods

From the NORTH on I-90/94:
Use exit 85. Turn east onto 12/16 headed south. Turn right onto 60th St and right again onto County N. Upham Woods is on the left .8 mile.

From the SOUTH on I-90/94:
Use exit 87. Turn left at the second stoplight onto 12/16 north. At hilltop turn right onto county A. County A becomes N beyond RR underpass. Upham Woods is on the right .6 mile.

From the EAST on WI-16 or 23:
Follow 16/23 through the city of Wisconsin Dells. Cross the Wisconsin River. Turn right onto 12/16 north. At hilltop turn right onto county A. County A becomes N beyond RR underpass. Upham Woods is on the right .6 mile.

From Baraboo on US-12:
Follow US-12 through Lake Delton to the "Crossroads" intersection with WI-16/23. Continue straight through the intersection. At hilltop turn right onto county A. County A becomes N beyond RR underpass. Upham Woods is on the right .6 mile.

Note to TRUCKS:
The RR underpass on county A has a clearance of 12'2". Taller trucks should continue north on 12/16 and turn right (east) onto 60th street. Turn right onto county N. Upham Woods is on the left .8 mile.