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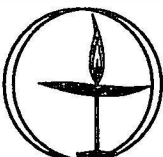
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Prairie Fire



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Vol. 30, No. 4, 2-18-92

The deadline for the next issue of **Prairie Fire** will be Sunday, March 1. Submit items for March 5-19, 1992.



Thursday, February 20

7:00 PM

PRAIRIE MEN'S GROUP meets at the meetinghouse.

Friday, February 21

5:30 PM

The Fish Dinner Circle meets at the Holiday Inn, East Towne. Everyone is welcome. (See related story)

7:30

CHARADE PARTY at the Hagstrom's.

Sunday February 23

10:00 AM

"LET US REACH OUT TO TOUCH AND BE ONE WITH ONE ANOTHER" second in Peg Barratt's lay ministry series.

12:45 PM-3:00 PM

AYS ORIENTATION SESSION for parents will be held at the meetinghouse.

Tuesday, February 25

4:30 PM

PRAIRIE BAND PRACTICE at the Meetinghouse.

7:30 PM

UU ORIENTATION MEETINGS begin for new members and the merely curious. (See related story)

Thursday, February 27

7:30 PM

PRAIRIE TALESPIINNERS MEET at the meetinghouse. The theme is 'Beginnings.'

Saturday, February 29

8:00 AM

PRAIRIE BUS TRIP TO CHICAGO. (See related story)

Sunday, March 1

10:00AM

"PROGRAMS THAT PROVIDE PERSONAL SUPPORT" third in Peg Barratt's lay ministry series. SECRET FRIENDS begins today. The program will finish with a party for all secret friends on March 29th. NO AYs TRAINING TODAY due to a youth meeting in Wausau.

Monday, March 2

6:30 PM

SPANISH SPEAKERS' POTLUCK at the meetinghouse. (See related story)

Tuesday, March 3

4:30 PM

PRAIRIE BAND PRACTICE at the Meetinghouse.

7:30 PM

UU ORIENTATION MEETING at the Meetinghouse.

Thursday, March 5

7:00 PM

PRAIRIE MEN'S GROUP meets at the meetinghouse.

Sunday, March 8

10:00 AM

TO BE ANNOUNCED.

12:45 PM-3:00 PM

AYS TRAINING BEGINS for Prairie youths at the meetinghouse.

Today's Quote:

"The world is divided into people who do things—and people who get the credit."

—DWIGHT MORROW



Orientation Series Begins

The Membership and Denominational Affairs Committees are co-sponsoring a series of orientation meetings on three consecutive Tuesdays—**Feb. 25th, March 3rd and March 10th** at 7:30 PM. The meetings will be held at Prairie in the middle school R.E. classroom or, if there's a large group, in the main meeting room. New members, prospective members, frequent visitors, and anyone else interested are welcome to attend. Meeting topics will be:

Feb. 25 Our personal religious journeys toward UU.

...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

- Mar. 3 Brief history and philosophy of Unitarian Universalism.
- Mar. 10 History and structure of Prairie Society.

If you are interested, please call Anne Urbanski at 258-8269 by Feb. 22nd.

Lay Ministry

On **February 23**, we will talk about the personal and informal ways that we find support in our lives. Prairie members Allan Nettleton, Linda Nelson, and Ruth Calden will share some ideas from their lives and we invite you also to share your ideas with us. This is the second in Peg Barratt's programs on our ties to one another and to nature.

On **March 1**, we will talk about the programs run by various organizations to provide interpersonal support. Again, we invite you to share information about programs that you have had ties with.

Fish Dinner Circle

The Fish Dinner Circle meets again! Have you eaten at Austin's, the lovely restaurant in the Holiday Inn, across from East Towne Mall? \$6.95 buys all you can eat of fried or baked cod, choice of potato, coleslaw and an endless salad bar. Our reservation is for **5:30 PM**. At 6:00 PM we will be treated to live jazz entertainment from the lobby. The date is **Friday, February 21**. PLEASE DO NOT SHOW UP WITHOUT A RESERVATION! Call Pat Watkins at work (262-7960) between 10:30 AM and 6:00 PM no later than 4:30 PM on Wednesday, February 19th. After that time, call the Holiday Inn yourself and add yourself to the reservation list. (NOTE: restaurants do NOT like it when you do this, and we urge you to call Pat before Wednesday.)

Chicago Bus Trip

Prairie Society will be sponsoring another fundraising trip to Chicago on **Saturday, February 29th**. We will leave the Burlington Coat Factory lot in Madison at **8 AM** and return by 7:45 PM, and will also pick up at South Towne Mall and in Janesville. For **\$27** (the Alco bus charges \$34) we will get door to door transportation to Water Tower Place the Art Institute. The bus will leave for home at 4:30 PM from the

Art Institute. The museum asks for a donation (usually \$4, less for seniors and children) rather than charging a formal admission. If you are interested in making this trip, contact Pat Cautley. Checks should be made out to Prairie U.U. Society and given or sent to Pat with the notation on the check stating where you wish to board the bus.

Early Warning...

The Prairie Talespinners is Prairie's storytelling workshop group that meets monthly. Each month we give ourselves a technique to practice and a story theme. Stories can be personal, from a book, or a retelling of a story you've heard. Newcomers are welcome. The next meeting is **Thursday, February 27, at 7:30 PM** at the meetinghouse. The theme will be "Beginnings." We'll be working on using body language and verbal description to bring place and people alive. Call Mary Mullen, 271-5192, if you have any questions.

Spanish Speakers' Potluck

At February's meeting we talked over the problem of finding a satisfactory meeting time. Everybody's too busy, everyone wants this group to continue. Right now we plan our time for each upcoming meeting based on the schedules of those present. If you aren't there because it's a bad time for you, please let us know! Without your input, we don't know what changes to make to accommodate potential potluckers.

As usual, we had great food and a couple of hours conversation in Spanish—¡más o menos! We are now trying to gather information on Cinco de Mayo fiestas—here, in Milwaukee, and in Chicago (which completely threw us last year by celebrating during the last week of April!). If you've ever attended any of these, come and tell us about them so we can plan to go together this year.

Remember, no particular skill level is necessary. Just bring a dish to share and a willingness to try to do most of your communicating in Spanish. We all goof—a lot. If you have any questions, or need a ride, please call Orton at 273-4041 or Rosemary at 238-4382.

Dedication Time

Paul Adams and Elizabeth Alexander are planning a short ceremony for the

dedication of children as part of the March 22 service. If you are interested in having your child participate, give them a call at 255-2226.

Dim What?

If anyone is interested in going to a Dim Sum lunch some Sunday after church, please call Susan Hagstrom at 238-4970 so she can organize the trip.

Are You a Wannabe?

The Committee on Committees is looking for lay ministers for next church year. If you are interested, or if you have a suggestion about someone who might be interested, contact Andrea Lawrence or other members of the Committee—Dick Bonser, Rosemary Dorney, Warren Hagstrom, or Pat Watkins.

New Members!

Two new members have joined Prairie in recent months: Kathy Borkowski and Barbara Rames. Both are listed in your Prairie Directory as Friends. Please change their status to Member. (The membership chair apologizes for the delay in noting this!)

Plan Ahead for Memorial Weekend

Prairie has a group camp site reserved at Wildcat Mountain State Park. Consider joining us for a weekend of canoeing on the Kickapoo river, biking on the Elroy-Sparta State Trail and camping. The Kickapoo flows past sandstone cliffs and is one of Wisconsin's best canoe streams. The Elroy-Sparta State Trail follows an old railroad bed through tunnels including one that is over ½ mile long. The state park has hiking trails and trails for horseback riding are nearby. Reservations will not be necessary, but mark your own calendar now. For further information, contact Peg Barratt at 233-5449.

Welcoming Congregation Workshop

There will be a continental training session for teens and adults for The Welcoming Congregation: Resources for affirming Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Unitarian-Universalists on May 29-31

in Weston, MA. This will be for approximately sixty UU's (six of whom will be youths) who will learn about issues related to homophobia in our churches and society and then take back the information to their own communities to lead workshops. One must have a strong commitment to being an ally to bisexual/lesbian/gay people, but not necessarily be bisexual/lesbian/gay in order to attend. If interested in applying contact Anne Pryor for the application form.

SOCIAL ACTION

Food Pantry

Doris Brown, who is in charge of the Allied Community food pantry, tells us that the following items are especially needed:

- Canned Tuna
- Canned Fruit
- Canned Corn
- Canned Peas
- Canned Green Beans
- Cereal
- Soap
- Washing Powder
- Sugar

Money, too, is always welcome. We'll buy food that is needed, such as ground beef, chicken, pork chops and fresh vegetables. Whatever you donate, though, will be appreciated. If you see special buys at your favorite food store, please consider buying an extra amount for the food pantry. Place your donations in the box just outside the men's bathroom. The food pantry is located in the Allied Community Center and serves those living in the Dunns Marsh/Allied Drive neighborhoods.

Cheap Philanthropy

Let's add to someone's support network with a gift of blood—a pint of yours! The Red Cross donor center, on Sheboygan Avenue just beyond Hill Farm Office Building, will welcome you Monday,

Wednesday or Friday from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM, Tuesday or Thursday from noon to 6:00 PM and Saturdays from 9:00 AM to noon. First time donors—want company? Call Barbara at 231-1871.

Social Justice Workshop

The 16th annual UU National Workshop on Social Justice will be held in Washington, D.C. on May 3-5. The topic is "Democracy in Crisis: Reclaiming Our National Values." Partial subsidies for travel are available. See the bulletin board for a flyer with more information.

MISCELLANY

Coffee Service Volunteers

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

Feb. 23 ??
 Mar. 1 ??
 Mar. 8 Pat Cautley
 Mar. 15 ??

The following have volunteered to wash dishes after Sunday services.

Feb. 23 Alice & Lee Bullen
 & Rick Ruecking
 Mar. 1 Barbara Park
 & Andrea Lawrence
 Mar. 8 Greg & Jackie Pavek
 Mar. 15 Alice & Lee Bullen

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

Feb. 23 Mary Mullen
 Mar. 1 ??
 Mar. 8 Pat Cautley
 Mar. 15 ??

Any volunteers who cannot work on the day they've signed up, please let Anne Urbanski know so she can locate a substitute.