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Prairie Fire



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

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Vol. 32, No. 13, 7-27-94

The deadline for the next issue of *Prairie Fire* will be Sunday, August 21. Submit items for August 25—September 15, 1994.

CALENDAR

Sunday, July 31 10:00 AM

"FROM ALL DIRECTIONS," a joint service at Sauk City Free Congregation, 307 Polk St., with Prairie, James Reeb, and First Society. To be followed by a Potluck Picnic. (See related story)

Sunday, August 7 10:00AM

"FACING OUR NEW FRONTIERS: Report from the UUA General Assembly," presented by Cinda LaMar and Julie Bonser.
11:30 AM

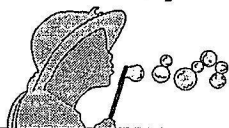
Farewell for Elizabeth Alexander, Paul Adams, Simon and Oliver. (See related story)

Monday, August 8 7:30 PM

PRAIRIE BOARD MEETS at the Meetinghouse. Members are welcome to attend.

Sunday, August 14 10:00 AM

"A LOOK AT ISLAM," presented by Pat Cautley.



...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

Tuesday, August 16 7:30 PM

PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEETS at the Nettleton's, 645 Sheldon St.

Sunday, August 21 10:00 AM

"TRAINING FOR PEACE CORPS SERVICE," presented by Marcia Johnson. (See related story)

Sunday, August 28 10:00 AM

"THE LAND ETHIC OF ALDO LEOPOLD," presented by Brent Haglund.

Sunday, September 4 12:00 PM

LABOR DAY PICNIC at the Thompson's, 3418 Old Stage Road, Town of Rutledge, Stoughton. (See related story)

Today's Quote

"Almost all reformers, however strict their social conscience, live in houses just as big as they can pay for."

-LOGAN PEARSALL SMITH

NEWS & VIEWS

Prairie Patter

Since I last wrote the *Prairie Patter* I have been to many places. Most of the vacation time has been with UU's. First I was in Fort Worth attending *General Assembly*. As usual there was too many activities packed into not enough time. Cinda LaMar and I will at-

tempt to provide you with a flavor of what it is like to be at GA, Sunday, August 7. We attended many workshops, worship services, plenary sessions and wished for more time to talk to the many wonderful people from all over North America.

Next was the *Northwoods U-UniCamp* at Trees for Tomorrow in Eagle River. What a contrast! There were about 40 people in all attending. The schedule was minimal with a lot of free time. This was a very congenial group of UU's from Houghton, Michigan to DeKalb, Illinois and points in between. Each morning several of us met with the keynote speaker and discussed his article in progress about science and theology. One evening we took the camp bus to a Pow-Wow at the Lac du Flambeau Bowl. We were graciously introduced to the dance customs of the native peoples and several times invited to participate in an inter-tribal dance.

Last week Dick and I spent camping at a Folklore site in New York state. I met many UU's there from New York, Michigan, Ohio, and Indiana. Meeting and sharing with so many Unitarian Universalist is similar to belonging to the same tribe, only this is one we chose, not one that we were born into.

Many of us have been out visiting this summer—I hope we can share the richness of our experiences with one another this coming year.

Blessed be—
-Julie Bonser
President

Joint Service at Sauk City

Prairie and the Sauk City Free Congregation have had an annual joint summer service tradition for many years. This year, all three Madison UUA societies will join to-

gether to visit the Sauk City group for a service and potluck. Each society will conduct part of the service. Games will follow.

Plan to join us for a barbecue and a Potluck Dinner following the service. Our Sauk City hosts will provide hamburgers and brats. Please bring a dish to share and your own table service. Blankets or chairs to sit on and lemonade to share would also be helpful.

Farewell-Elizabeth and Paul

Paul Adams is completing his PhD this summer and the family will be moving from Madison in August. We will miss Paul's warm smiles, Elizabeth's music, Simon's conversations, and Oliver's smiles. Join us in wishing them well in their future ventures by sharing cake and coffee after the service on August 7.

The Land Ethic...

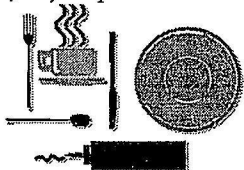
...of Aldo Leopold. Brent Haglund, friend and former member of Prairie and currently President of the Sand County Foundation, will help us examine the ethical underpinnings of Leopold's land ethic on August 28. The Sand County Foundation works to educate land owners about what this means and what they can do. Brent will share slides as part of his presentation. We look forward to welcoming him back to Prairie! This is the third in our summer series about our commitment to the land.

Labor Day Picnic

Marian and Carl Thompson have graciously invited us to their farm for a picnic on Labor Day weekend, September 4. Plan to come at 12:00 N to socialize and play games and bring a dish to pass, your own dishes, and blankets or lawn chairs for the potluck picnic at 1:00 PM. Bring badminton rackets or a croquet set for lawn games.

Directions:

- Go South on Park Street to Highway 14.
- Take Highway 14 past Oregon, past County Trunk A.
- Turn left onto Old Stage Road (pink house at corner, "T" intersection).
- Go 4 to 5 miles on Old Stage Road (2 intersections past Lake Kegonsa Road) to Thompson's yellow brick farmhouse (no. 3418) on the left side of the road. The driveway is just past the house.



Peace Corps Training

Prairie member Marcia Johnson has returned from several months in Costa Rica as a trainer for "Integrated Child Development" Peace Corps Volunteers. Marcia and David previously served as Peace Corps Volunteers themselves in Paraguay. Marcia has unique insights into this aspect of U.S. cooperation with Third World countries.

Walking Our Talk

Walking Our Talk: Increasing diversity in Unitarian Universalist congregations. Keynote speaker: Dr. Sharon Welch Director, Women's Studies, University of Missouri Columbia, and Associate Professor, Women's Studies and Religious Studies. Dr. Welch presents widely on celebrating diversity, dismantling racism and sexism, and empowerment.

Workshops: Diversity and religious education; Church based community organizing; Volunteer management; Growth and assimilation; Conflict Management; Young Adult Ministries; Long range planning for diversity; Establishing new congregations; Interweave/diversity in sexual orientation; Multicultural issues in running effective meetings.

Hinsdale Unitarian Church, Hinsdale, IL. October 8, 1994. **SAVE THIS DATE!**

Women's Opportunities

Central Midwest District, Unitarian Universalist Women's Federation Fall Retreat, October 27-30, 1994 at George Williams College, Lake Geneva, Wisconsin. *We Laugh, We Cry, We Live, We Die, We Dance, We Sing Our Song.* Keynote Speaker: Shelley Jackson Denham. Please save this date!

Chicago Baseball Retreat

Second Unitarian Church of Chicago is hosting a baseball retreat on August 6 & 7, 1994. The overnight event includes home hospitality, tickets to the CUBS game against the San Diego Padres on Sunday, dinner on Saturday night, brunch on Sunday and a special Sunday service on the spirituality of baseball. Cost is \$50 per person, \$75 per couple, \$100 per family. For more information see flyers in brochure rack or call Tome Hartman 312-404-5320.

UU SINGLZ

Summer Events

First Friday of each month we meet at a restaurant for dinner. The schedule is as

follows; August 5—The Game Preserve 6 pm, at North Midvale (in the Hilldale Shopping Center) September 2—Kabul, 6 pm, 541 State Street.

On all other Fridays, we gather at Linda's Sunporch Cafe, 2701 University Avenue in the Lakepoint Center. This is for conversation, light snacks, and possibly making plans for later in the evening. We stick around until 7 pm for the sake of late comers.

All single adults, of every religious persuasion, are welcome to join the UU Singles Club. Want to talk to a live human being and get the lowdown on what *really* happens at our affairs? Call Barb Nodine 233-7708 or Joyce Petty 833-8050, and they'll fill you in.

Philosofest 1994

Philosofest 1994: *THE VISION AWAITS; A New Spirituality of Politics*, October 15, 1994 9:00 - 4:00 presented by the North Shore Unitarian Church. Designated speakers are the renowned Dr. Forrester Church, minister of All Souls Unitarian Church in New York City and the award winning African-American journalist Rosemary Bray MacNatt. Respondents will be the Rev. Earl K. Holt III of the First Unitarian Church in St. Louis and the Rev. Teresa Cooley of the First Unitarian Church in Chicago.

Building and Property News

Summer Projects reaching the Pinnacle of completion:

- *A great big Thanks to Lee Bullen, Rosemary Dorney and Greg Nettleton for prepping and painting the Prairie kitchen.
- *A great big Thanks to Al Nettleton for staining and finishing the casing for our new windows and for troubleshooting light switches for Exit signs.

Summer projects near to Completion

- *A great big thanks to Barbara Rames for reupholstering the sanctuary seats.

Projects not signed up for, that the Building and Property committee needs and wants to have completed are:

- The Drain Tile Slope Project_____.
- Sanctuary Radiator Project_____.

A male bonding challenge goes out to 3 or 4 people who will serve on a crew of the DRAIN TILE project.



Job Descriptions for Priority Projects: Drain Tile Project:

Expose the drain tile from the point of exit from the Prairie Garden on the Whenona Street side from 6 to 10 feet back until the kink or knot is located. Reroute or straighten drain tile at said point, test for functionality and recover the drain tile.

Radiator Project:

We need a crew of interior space conscious artists who will paint the radiators to color complement the peaceful, still timbre of our sanctuary. We will help you to get the necessary materials for the project.

Sign the *Summer Project Sign up Sheet* and you will receive a phone call!

Building/Property Co-Chair

Facilitate a fabulous committee of volunteers working with the building and property. For more information call Julie Bonser at 274-3248 or Karen Gross at 259-0556.

Play With Fire?

Coordinate the burning of Prairie's prairie under the expert supervision of botanist Diane Derouen, who will supervise the actual burn. Choose the exact date (late March or early April, 1995), get the permit from the Fire Department, arrange for tools and organize a Burn crew. This is an excellent opportunity for a younger or newer Prairie member or friend to work with people toward accomplishing a particular goal. If you're interested, please give Diane a call at 238-3766 and join our Building and Property Committee as well, if you like.

Coordinator Needed

Channing-Murray, a university-age UU young adult group, is seeking applicants for the position of Coordinator. The Coordinator maintains membership activities, including a monthly newsletter, plans and facilitates regular meetings, and oversees C-M's expenditures in accordance with C-M's budget. The candidate should have prior involvement with Unitarian Universalism and with young adult or college-age groups. An outgoing, creative person with leadership training and experience is desired. The position is 1/4 time and will begin on or about August 1 (flexible). There is a stipend of \$280-350 per month, depending on experience, for a 12 month period.

To apply, send a letter of interest, resumé, and three references with phone numbers to David Blough, 121 S. Brittingham Pl., Madi-

son, WI 53715. For a more complete job description or answers to questions, call David at 608/251-3228.

RE Coordinator Needed

James Reeb Unitarian Universalist Church is seeking a 1/4 time Religious Education Coordinator beginning this fall. For information on the position, please contact Joanne Riese at 257-1409.



Back To School Garage Sale

Saturday, August 20, 8 AM to 12 N, and from 1 PM to 3 PM at 3030 Darbo Drive.

WANTED: DONATED ITEMS AND VOLUNTEERS

The Neighborhood Needs You

Garage sale proceeds will help The Salvation Army of Dane County buy the building on Darbo Drive and use it for daycare, recreation, and a community center. Help The Salvation Army help more people.

They are requesting donations. You may deliver small items to their building at 630 East Washington Ave. Larger items can be brought to the garage sale site at 3030 Darbo Drive beginning at 7 AM on the sale date, August 20. Please call early for possible pickup of large quantity donations 256-2321. They also need volunteers to help for Friday, August 19, and Saturday, August 20. Interested persons please call Carol Waugh at 256-2321 for volunteer scheduling.

Volunteers Needed...

For the Homeless Shelter. Prairie is responsible for staffing two shifts on the fourth Monday of each month at Grace Episcopal Homeless Shelter. The shifts are 7:15 PM to Midnight and 5:00 AM to 8:00 AM. The evening shift includes serving dinner and the second shift includes serving breakfast.

A big thank you to *Judy Skog* and *Aileen Nettleton* who worked the evening shift in June and *Pat Cautley* and *Barbara Rames* who worked the morning shift in June.

We're all extremely busy and these shifts are difficult to fill. Please call Cinda LaMar at 259-1114 if you can staff a shift.

Food Pantry

The Food Pantry of the Allied Drive area is open on the fourth Thursday of each month. Non-perishable foods are welcome every week at our meetinghouse entrance. If you add one gift item or more to your weekly food shopping, then bring it in on a Sunday morning, you will be helping ease the end-of-the-month blues for our needy neighbors...

A Quilt To Remember Babies

October is Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Month. In recognition of this, some Madison-area families are making a memorial quilt to remember their babies who have died. If you have lost a baby, or are close to someone who has, you are invited to make a quilt square sharing your special love for that baby.

Squares should be cut at least 9" by 9" to allow for 1/2" seam allowance on all sides. Your design should be no larger than 7" by 7". You may use any washable fabric (not felt) and various decorative techniques e.g. sewing, cross stitch, quilting, embroidery markers, applique, or washable fabric paint. Include the baby's name, special dates, messages, designs, etc.

Please send your completed square by July 1 or ASAP to:

Jean Coons
W7981 Wendlick Road
Pardeeville WI 53954
phone: 608/429-2701

Ministry to the Mentally Ill

Mendota Mental Health Institute, 301 Troy Drive, Madison, WI 53704 243-2504 is presenting a free seminar on Ministry with Institutionalized Parishioners with Mental Illness. Two identical sessions will be offered and address the following:

- Overview of Wisconsin's mental health system
- Confidentiality laws and concerns
- Visitation of parishioners; how, when, where
- Mendota Mental Health Institute's Treatment Programs and Mission
- Clinical Pastoral Education at Mendota Mental Health Institute

The seminar is free but advance registration is required. The sessions are Wednesday August 3, 9:00 AM to 11:30 AM, or Monday August 15 1:00 PM to 3:30 PM.

