



Changes in Postal Regulations, increased material, and persistent urging from readers, have forced us to change the format of Prairie Fire. Please help us serve you better by completing and returning this form.

( ) I like this format ( ) Make it more like it was ( ) Delete me from mailing list ( ) **LARGER PRINT**

Most Useful:

- ( ) Calendar ( ) Upcoming Programs ( ) Committee Reports ( ) News
- ( ) Where Are They Now? ( ) Society Business ( ) Original Works by Prairie Folk

Useful in Calendar:

- ( ) Sunday Programs ( ) Social Events ( ) Committee Meetings ( ) Phone Numbers
- ( ) Building Use (Rentals) ( ) Special Events

**Sunday, September 22**

**5:30 - 10 PM**

Yom Kippur  
Shaarei Shamayim

**Monday, September 23**

**8 AM - 10 PM**

Yom Kippur  
Shaarei Shamayim

**Friday, October 11 --**

**Sunday, October 13**

**Upham Woods!**

**Wednesday, October 16**

**7 PM**

Dunn's Marsh Association

**Saturday, October 19**

**9 AM - 4PM**

NCAC/CMD  
Small Societies Workshop  
At Prairie (See Story)

**Saturday, October 26 --**

**Sunday, October 27**

Premier Performance:

**"The Simple Gravity of Stars"**

Elizabeth Alexander

Stephen's Point

**Saturday, November 9**

**time not set**

Rape Crisis Center  
Chimera Program

**Saturday, November 16**

**time not set**

Rape Crisis Center

**Thursday, December 5**

**not yet confirmed**

Chanukah  
Shaarei Shamayim

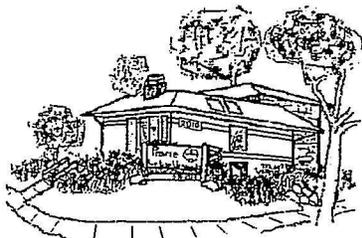
**Wednesday, December 6**

**not yet confirmed**

Chanukah  
Shaarei Shamayim

## *Founders' Day Picnic*

The event to honor Founding Members, Prairie Pioneers, and Past Presidents has been scheduled for Saturday of the Labor Day weekend, August 31.. We really need help from everyone to make this a successful, pleasurable, and memorable event. Some skills we need include:



- Food Preparation
- Publicity/Media
- Activities
- Child Care
- Clean-up
- Final Invitations
- Parks & Permits
- Decorations
- Entertainment

- Cuisine Planning
- Historian
- Botanist
- Archivist/Displays
- Missing Person Finder
- Photographer
- Financier
- Equipment
- and much more ...

Call Marilyn Peters (838-8540) or Arleigh Birchler (273-9811) and **volunteer to help!**

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

### July 21

#### "The Truth About Fiction"

Fran Zell

Where Fictional characters come from, and other confessions of a fiction writer. Award winning writer Fran Zell will tell us about her inspirations. Fran has been active at Prairie for several years.

### July 28

#### "Unitarians in Romania Today" –

Fekete Bela and Ruth Gibson

Fekete Bela, from First Society's Partner Church in Romania, will be visiting Madison. He and Ruth Gibson will talk about Unitarianism in Transylvania. During the Reformation, Francis David established Unitarianism as the state religion. He insisted, however, on toleration for ALL religions and denominations. Learn about modern Unitarians in four-hundred year old churches!

### August 4

#### Four Society Meeting & Potluck

At Sauk Free Congregation

Nancy Graham will represent Prairie's "Convergence and Divergence." Bonnie Jean Casey of First Society is coordinating this gathering of four liberal religious congregations from our area. Our host, the Free Congregation of Sauk City, invites First Society, James Reeb, and Prairie to join in on a collaborative worship experience.

Focus will be on where Unitarianism and Universalism have been, and where they are going. A friendly pot-luck brunch will follow. Bring a dish to pass. This is a family event.

Take highway 12 into Sauk City. Take a right on Water Street. Travel two blocks, then turn left on Polk. The Free Congregation is two blocks down on the right, in the center of a beautiful park.

### August 25

#### "Summer Musicale"

Barb Park & Rosemarie Lester

Calling all Musicians, Poets, and other Performing Artists. Please contact Barb (273-8775) or Rosemarie (255-7039). Help make the '96 Summer Musicale an Event to Remember!

### August 11

#### "Margaret Fuller"

Jonalu Johnstone

One of the most influential literary figures of her day, Margaret Fuller was a leading exponent of



Transcendentalism and edited (1840–42) its journal, **The Dial**. She was closely associated with Theodore Parker, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Thoreau, Hawthorne, and many prominent Boston Unitarians.

**Woman in the Nineteenth Century** (1845) expresses her feminist views. Her essays as first literary critic of the New York *Tribune* are collected in **Papers**

on **Literature and Art** (1846). In 1847 she went to Rome, where she married the Marchese Ossoli, a follower of Mazzini, and with him took part in the Revolution of 1848–49, writing about it for the *Tribune*. Returning to the U.S. (1850), she, her husband, and their baby were drowned in a shipwreck.

Jonalu Johnstone is the minister of James Reeb Unitarian Church, on the east-side of Madison.

*Picture – Library of Congress; Article – Adapted from The Concise Columbia Encyclopedia*

### August 18

#### "U.U.A. General Assembly"

Cinda LaMar, Nancy Graham, & Barb Park

The Unitarian Universalist Association holds its

General Assembly in a different city each year. This year our delegates traveled to Indianapolis. They will return full of stories of Plenary Sessions, General Resolutions, Youth Activity, Fellowship, Worship, and Celebration. Come learn more about the U.U.A.



## Many Thanks ...

... to Rick Ruecking, Bob Steinhofer, Al Nettleton, & Paula Pachciarz for mowing the lawn; to Kathy Converse and Rachel Long for child care; to Barbara Rames, Paula Pachciarz, Rachel Long, and Bob Steinhofer for being Greeters; to Anne Urbanski, Paula Pachciarz, and Barbara Rames for Coffee Set-up; to Paula Pachciarz, Mike Sheehy, and Jan Howe for Coffee Clean-up; to Fran Remeika, Metje Butler, Pat Cautley, and Kay Frazier for working at the Homeless Shelter; and to Linda & Mike Sheehy, Kay Frazier, José Rodriguez, and Doleta Chapru for their quiet work in the shadows. Serving on committees, volunteering, and Social Action, are all excellent ways to meet exciting new people and become more involved at Prairie.

A million thanks from all of us ...

# MEMBERSHIP

## OOPS!!

Abject apologies to Randy, Reid, and the member of the board who was so helpful while I was so scatter-brained. I have searched Prairie and my apartment for the last two hours, and I can't find the article!

## Salad Bar Movie

The next salad bar movie will take place on Sunday evening, July 21, at 6 PM (note change in date) at the home of Ruth and George Calden, 4606 Waukesha St. Please bring a salad to add to the salad bar. Drinks, bread, and utensils will be provided.

One of Woody Allen's most thoughtful films, Crimes and Misdemeanors, will be shown after dinner, followed by discussion.

Call the Caldens at 233-5717 by Friday, July 19, to let them know if you are coming.

## Caring Circles

We are working to help assimilate new members, and to strengthen ties within the Prairie Community. Five dedicated, caring, and empathetic individuals are quietly working to help set up caring circles. We need six more volunteers. The circles include **Affinity Circles** and **Outreach Circles**. Creative people are still needed to come up with bigger and better ideas and plans, and to help with **Adopt a Friend** and **Making Links**. Please stop by the Caring Circle table at Prairie.

### Affinity Circles

These are people who share many similarities. If they are fairly active at Prairie, they probably know each other very well, and already do many things together.

Anyone on the list who would like to could contact the others and get to know them better. This group could form the basis of shared activities, such as circle dinners, or other creative fun.

### Outreach Circles

This group attempts to match very active people at Prairie with new and inactive people. The most active members could help the others to become more involved.

One of the more active people could contact the others and get to know them better. This group could help provide support to the new and inactive folks, as well as getting together to have fun!

### Adopt a Friend

Take one or more laminated cards from the basket on the table. Contact the person on the card and get to know them better. Introduce them at Upham Woods.

### Making Links

Find your 2x4 card in the index card box. List two to six people to whom you feel close. This will help us to organize the phone tree, and help integrate new people into a support system.

### Contests!!

Thanks to an anonymous gift (please don't embarrass her by asking) we can offer great prizes in three upcoming contests.

These are: **Name That Plant**, **Who Are Those People?**, & **Prairie Through Time and People**. These are team contests. All teams must have at least four members. All members must be in the same caring circle as of Saturday, August 20. At least two members must either not be listed in the 1993 directory, or not have been listed as an active friend or member on July 1, 1996. Call Arleigh (273-9811) to find out who is in your caring circle, or to add or delete members from your circle. Winners will be announced at the Founder's Day Picnic, and must be present to win.

These are all experiments. We will be trying hard to find things that work, and discard those that don't. Call 273-9811 to change your caring circle, or to add or delete members. Contact Arleigh and let him know how the group is working out.

## Prairie Memories

Stop by the Caring Circle table and read the letters in the Memory Book.

### Reminiscence

**Jim Novak** wrote and shared memories of Prairie. (Feminists: be warned!)

### Where Are They Now?

**Lilo Koehl** is busy with the U.U. Fellowship in Prescott, Arizona. They are experiencing growing pains, and may divide into two groups soon. Lilo invites us to come visit her, and offers free bed & breakfast. She says she is especially looking forward to a visit from Dick and Julie.

**Barb Bailly** is living in a suburb of Chicago. She stays busy with the family carpet-cleaning business, and with her art work, while raising two boys, age 12 and 14. She visits Madison a few times a year. (Perhaps she could come help us clean our carpets after our flood...)

**Elizabeth Alexander & Paul Adams** are very involved with the U.U. Church in Ithaca, New York. Elizabeth taught the sexuality class and conducting the youth choir, and Paul chairs the nursery committee. Elizabeth's new orchestral work, The Simple Gravity of Stars, will be premiered in Steven's Point October 26 & 27 by the Central Wisconsin Symphony Orchestra. Simon is 4, and Oliver is 2. Paul enjoys his work at a computer software company. They wish Rachel a speedy and solid recovery.

**Galen & Rose Smith** have been to Prairie several times recently. They were in California recently. They went to Spindrift Point, overlooking Muir Beach, where they were married 46 years ago. Galen has been doing work at the U.C. Berkeley, California Academy of Science, & Lawrence, Nebraska herbaria. He also attended the Society of Wetland Scientists meeting in Kansas City. I've been trying to talk him into helping me write a guide to the plants in our Prairie.

**Annis & Henry Pratt** have just gotten back from a spring trip to East Anglia, where they went birdwatching on the North Norfolk Coast. Annis finished her first novel this year, full of Prairie-style folk having canoe adventures. It's called The Marshlanders. She teaches adventures 3-4 year old Sunday School at Birmingham Unitarian Church and is active in working for Public Transportation for the Detroit region.

Henry has returned to teaching political science after five years as Associate Provost at Wayne State University. He is on the Board of B.U.C., and helped raise money to build a brand new acoustically engineered sanctuary that was dedicated last spring.

Annis and Henry are proud grandparents of Griffin Smith, born a year ago to Lorien and John Smith, who live in Colorado. Faith was married last spring to Ron Hopp, and they are living nearby in Ann Arbor.

## Marguerite Harris

Good luck in Minnesota. We'll miss you!

## Hazel & Tali

Congratulations to the Taliaferros on their 90<sup>th</sup> birthdays this summer! Greetings can be sent to: 6830 Birchwood Court, Verona, WI, 53593 or call Tali at 233-2208. He enjoys keeping in touch with friends.

## Rosemarie Lester

Congratulations on *officially* retiring from the U.W. Extension - German Dept. at the end of June. Good luck on your travels.

## Help Wanted

**Judy Perlman (258-8390)**— I am confined to a wheelchair, and am dependent on high rates of oxygen. I am being evicted from my room at the YWCA at the end of July, due to my medical needs. I would appreciate any help anyone can offer.

**Arleigh Birchler (273-9811)**— After a 3½ year struggle I have finally realized that I am simply unable to tolerate the level of care given to nursing home residents, and that I am incapable of continuing to work in one. I am looking for part-time work. I am an advanced Nurse certified in Gerontology, a computer programmer/system analyst, desk-top publisher, and general duty administrator. I hope to keep a roof over my head, eat occasionally, and pay my child support.

# SOCIAL ACTION

## Volunteers needed...

... to help with evening or early morning shifts at the Grace Episcopal Church Homeless Shelter (4<sup>th</sup> Monday evening and following Tuesday morning.) Contact Fran Zell at 233-0213. Please remember the grocery drop-off boxes for breakfast staples for the shelter, and for the Allied Drive Food Pantry.

Social Action will be sponsoring the use of the meeting house for a neighborhood special-needs child and her teacher.

## Allied-Dunn's Marsh Neighborhood Festival

Support our community August 10 from noon to 5 PM at the Neighborhood Center, 4705 Jenewein Rd. Call Bob Steinhofer at 221-9417 for more information.

## Next Meeting ...

... will be Tuesday, July 23, 7 PM, at the Meeting House

## Priceless 5%

That's the percentage of American citizens who are blood donors. Bob Steinhofer is the Prairie Society member who gave blood most recently, at a time when holiday accidents raise the need for the precious fluid.

But 100% of us are at risk of needing blood! Let's celebrate our good health, plus the safety and efficiency of the Red Cross collection system, by giving a pint.

## FINANCE

### Thanks to All ...

... who have sent in checks to the treasurer, Judy Skog, in response to the pledge updates. Prairie has had extra expenses this year due to tax penalties from past years. We have now contracted the services of an accountant to assist in our regular payroll and taxes.

Please help us keep up with our obligations and support our ongoing programs with you pledges and contributions.

### Second Garage Sale at Nettletons'

The second in a series of Prairie garage sale fund-raisers will be held at the Nettletons', 645 Sheldon St., Friday and Saturday, August 9 & 10. We will need more donations - so if you didn't clean house for our first sale, this is your second chance!

Please bring items Thursday, August 8, 5-8 PM. Call Aileen, 238-6053, if you can help set-up, sell, or help clean-up at the end of each day.

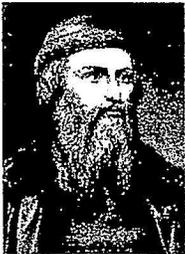
### Thank you ...

... to Pat Watkins, for the use of her wonderful garage and driveway for our garage sale, and for all the great help: Jean Matos, Mary Mullen, Rita Reffner, Rosemarie Lester, Shannon Hayes, Nancy Schraufnagel, Paula Pachciarz, Cindy Haq, Heather Lawrence, Dawn Ace, Arleigh Birchler, Bob Dopp, Al Nettleton, Leslie Watkins, Nikki Bromberg, and everyone who contributed items. We raised \$360.00 - a success!

## GERMANY

### History, Wine & Art

... are the focal points of a university sponsored tour to Germany's beautiful south-west, led by Rosemarie K. Lester, from September 30 to October 14. Only a very few spaces are still available; the tour is limited to fifteen participants.



We'll spend the first week based in the nine-hundred jahre-old Freiburg, gate to the Black Forest and a treasure-trove of Renaissance history and art. Day trips will take us deep into the Schwarzen Wald; to vineyards and wine festivals; to magnificent Colmar in the French Alsace; on nature hikes; and all along we'll enjoy the hospitality of the Madison-Freiburg Sister City Committee.

The second week we're based in Frankfurt, the twelve-hundred jahre-old City of Emperors, international banking, and book fairs, with its "museum mile" along the Main river, that houses some of Europe's finest art collections, the Jewish museum, and the German film museum. Day trips include the two-thousand jahre-old Mainz, the city of Gutenberg; Bad Homburg, last of the truly elegant 19<sup>th</sup> Century spas; a Roman castellum in the Tannus mountains, and, of course, Heidelberg.

Tour price including round trip air fare from Chicago by Lufthansa is \$3,350. Call Rosemarie at 262-2075 (work) or 455-7039 (home) and **pack your bags!**

*Picture - Culver Pictures, Inc.*

## DIRECTORY UPDATES

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244-7099

**Donna C. Murdoch**  
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**Cinda LaMar**  
259-1114

**Anne Pryor**  
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**Chris Smith**  
238-5226