PRAIRIE FIRE

… 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. From Prairie’s Bond Of Union

The Prairie Fire is the newsletter of Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society and is published semi-monthly Sept. through May; monthly June through Aug.

Wednesday, April 30, 1997

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Welcome to Kate Heiber-Cobb as Prairie's new administrator. She is a jewelry artist, a long time resident of Madison, and has has computer as well as bookkeeping experience. Let's give her a bit of time to adjust to the job before burdening her with lots of new tasks. Her initial order of business, other than learning how to publish the Prairie Fire, will be to organize the downstairs office into a better place from which to conduct the daily affairs of our Society. She will be publishing regular hours when she is available in the building. I am hoping that this is the beginning of a long and productive relationship.

Yours in Faith,
Barbara Park

WHAT'S INSIDE THE FIRE?

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NEXT FIRE DEADLINE: Monday, May 12th, 1997 ~ ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR MAY 17th - June 13th, 1997
NEW MEMBER PROFILE: The Reinebachs

"The thing I really like about Prairie is that it's like people going to school," observed Diane Reinebach, a new member of Prairie along with her husband, Ken. "It is also more of a community than most churches," she added.

Diane and Ken moved to Madison in 1987. Diane came here to go to the UW-Madison's Solar Energy Lab, Department of Mechanical Engineering. She now has a degree in mechanical engineering and experience in construction work for electric utilities, including working with turbines, coal and renewable energy. She is also blazing a trail for other women who choose to follow a non-traditional occupation.

Ken has had a different kind of career. He graduated from the University of Illinois at the Chicago School of Public Health with a degree in industrial hygiene. He currently works for the UW-Madison maintaining chemical safety and training others in this critical area.

The Reinebachs were married in 1985 at the famous Frank Lloyd Wright UU Church in Oak Park. They are now proud parents of two year old Alma, whom her mother describes as the "joy of their lives." Their favorite recreation activities are: canoeing, camping and outdoor sports. Little Alma has also become an outdoor enthusiast. (R.D.)

ANONYMOUS GIVES TO UUSC
An anonymous donor contributed $500 to the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee in the name of Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society!

WHAT A GIFT!
Have you ever given a gift that didn't go over very well? One that ended up in the closet, never to be seen again? One that was returned to the store the day after you gave it? The American Red Cross has a gift idea that will never be hidden in storage or returned for cash. That gift is blood...the gift of life.

The three UU Societies together are contributing well, but only Prairie people gave in April (Fredericka Schilling and Barbara Rames). Please give a pint! (sac)

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS YOUR GIFT!
Recent newspaper stories tell us how welfare rolls have declined, while food pantry demands have risen. Have you written "food pantry" on your market list each week? How about doing it now? Then, put the food in a bag at the door you take to the car, ready for Sunday morning! (sec)

KARAOKE PARTY HERE!
On May 17 (7:30pm?), we'll have a karaoke party at Prairie - to have fun and hopefully raise a little money. Karaoke is a machine that plays music and provides the words to the songs on a screen. People can choose one of the over 1500 songs, take the mike, and sing their hearts out...or just come and observe the antics of others. The more people the better. So, invite your non-Prairie friends. Donation: $5 adult; $2 ages 13-18; $1 ages 12 and under. (E.B.)

MEN WORKING
A CADRE OF Prairie men is creating the third incarnation of a "Prairie Men's Group." If you are interested in joining this opportunity at the bottom floor as an early investor, act now. Our next meeting will be at Prairie after the Sunday Service May 18th. For more information call: Reid Miller 437-3388 or Rick Ruecking 838-8540 (R.R.)

MAY PLAYREADERS CANCELLED because of karaoke!
An alternative May meeting has not been arranged. Please join us for the June play reading! Apologies those that planned to attend. Rachel Siegfried 271-2173

PYGs CAR WASH PLANNED
Anyone that bought a car wash from PYGs at the Prairie auction should plan to come to 1920 Monroe Street (Minor Procedures) on June 7th from 10am to Noon to get their car washed. If you didn't purchase a car wash at the auction, it will be open to the public. Price to be announced. Remember, bring your cars!! - Your Friendly Neighborhood PYGs

SPANISH SPEAKERS MEETING/POTLUCK
The monthly potluck at the Prairie Meeting House will be Monday, May 19th at 7pm. Please call: Kate Tucker (221-2168) or Rosemary Dorney (238-4382) with any questions or if you need a ride. (R.S.)
Upcoming Programs

May 4
Race in the 90s: Can't We All Just Get Along on T.V.?

The program is about the role of the media, especially television, in maintaining racism.

Lay Minister - Gail Coover

May 11
How The Irish Saved Civilization With Music
By Samuel Barber

In the 8th and 9th Centuries, classical civilization collapsed in continental Western Europe. Much classical literature, pre-Christian as well as Christian, was preserved by the monks and nuns (lots of women were involved) of Ireland. They copied the literature and added lavish ornamentation. In the margins, these holy scholars wrote snatches about their own religious and secular lives. In this Century, those marginal notes have been translated into English poetry and set to music by Samuel Barber. We will sing some of them.

Coordinated by Warren Hagstrom

May 18
Transitions Service

Celebrate the 8th Grade RE Youngster’s passage from Middle School to High School with the annual Transitions Service. Planners for the service include: Randy Converse, Paula Pachciarz, Erin Bosch, Reid Miller and the 8th Grade youth and parents. There will be presentations by the 8th Graders, a special children’s story, a special song, surprises, and a potluck following the service. Bring well wishes, a dish to pass and enjoy the fun!

Prairie Religious Education

May 25

Memorial Day Weekend Picnic

Mark your calendar today for a potluck picnic this Memorial Day Sunday at Carl and Marian Thompsons: 3418 Old Stage Road at 12 Noon.

TO GET THERE: take Park Street south (which becomes Hwy 14 south of the Beltline); turn left on Old Stage Road (it is the first left after County Trunk A); drive about 5.5 miles on Old Stage; RED RIBBONS on MAILBOX will be OPPOSITE the Thompson driveway. Their house is not visible from Old Stage Road.

June 1
The Sensuality of Nature

A series of meditations on senses and elements uniting in experience. It will be Prairie’s annual outdoor service held near the entrance of Picnic Point. (more detail and directions to the site will follow).

Service Leader - Anne Pryor

OTHER STUFF

CUUPS MAY DAY CELEBRATION
MAY 4 at First Unitarian Society - 3pm
Information or questions, Susan 258-9035

"The Dead Sea Scrolls: Reassessing the Excavations of Qumran" Prof. Jodi Magness Wednesday May 7 - 7:30p at 2080 Grainger Hall For more info: Dr. Keith Schoville 262-3204 or e-mail: knschovi@facstaff.wisc.edu

Stillpoint invites you to the Labyrinth, walking a sacred path. May 11th 3-5pm at First Congregational UCC(University and Breese Terrace). Donation.

Briarpatch’s 25th Anniversary Party. May 16th at 7p. Call 251-6211 for more information or reservations for dinner and entertainment.
PRAIRIE CALENDAR

ALL SUNDAY SERVICES ARE AT 10 AM

SUNDAY 5/4
RACE IN THE 90s: CAN'T WE ALL JUST GET ALONG ON T.V.?
Gail Coover - Lay Minister
Choir Rehearsal 9am

MAY DAY CELEBRATION
CUUPS - First UU Society @ 3pm

SUNDAY 5/11 MOTHER'S DAY
HOW THE IRISH SAVED CIVILIZATION WITH MUSIC
Warren Hagstrom - Coordinator
Choir Rehearsal 9am

After service:
WORK DAY & RE PICNIC

MONDAY 5/12
BOARD MEETING 7:30PM

SATURDAY 5/17
KARAOKE PARTY 7:30PM - DONATIONS (see page 2)
Playreaders cancelled (Rachel Siegfried 271-2173)

SUNDAY 5/18
TRANSITIONS INTERGENERATIONAL
After service: Prairie Men's Group
Shaarei Shamayim Finance Mtg 3-5pm

MONDAY 5/19
Spanish Speaker's Meeting/Pot Luck 7pm

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
May 4 Spirit Circle (combined opening)
May 11 Last RE Classes
"LAST BLAST" PICNIC/POT-LUCK @ Marlboro Park, following classes
May 18 Annual Transitions Intergenerational
We will honor "8" Eighth Graders!
and this year's RE Teachers!

May 19 - Sept. 6 SUMMER BREAK

RE Evaluations should be addressed to the RE Committee and can be put in the special box on the Welcome Table. Thank you.

John-Brian Paprock, DRE