

# 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*

Thursday, June 05, 1997

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<http://www.execpc.com/~prairie/>

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## FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR'S DESK

We're having more newsletters this Summer than in the past. I encourage you to submit poems, short articles, quotes, etc. that you would like to see in the newsletter. I'm still new at this newsletter editing, so be sure to give me feedback and suggestions.

Also remember to submit your upcoming Service titles and info by deadline date listed on each previous newsletter. I also need the Service Program info by Wednesday evening the week of the service. Thank you. Kate

## PRAIRIE CALENDAR

### SUNDAY 6/8

Personal Strategies for  
EmotionalHealing

### TUESDAY 6/10

Shaarein Shamayim all night study  
session for Shavuot.

### FRIDAY 6/13

Playreader's Annual Fish  
Dinner 5:30pm at the Ivy Inn, 2355  
University Ave. Call  
Pat W. at 233-5795 by noon on  
6/11 to make reservations.

### SUNDAY 6/15

The Images We Live With I

### Sunday 6/22

The Images We Live With II

### Sunday 6/29

An Indian Experience

### Sunday 7/13

What Drum Do You March To?

### WHAT'S INSIDE THE FIRE?

P1 Administrator's notes, Prairie Calendar; P2 Quiz; P3 Our  
Society; P4 Upcoming Programs, For Your Information.

NEXT FIRE DEADLINE: Sunday, June 15th, 1997 ~  
ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR June 21st-July 18<sup>th</sup>, 1997.

## DENOMINATIONAL AFFAIRS

### Still Working for a Just Economic Community

The quiz below was provided by the national U.U.A. office in Boston. How many of the questions can you answer?

1. Thirty years ago, the average CEO "earned" as much as 41 factory workers. Today, that same CEO earns as much as how many factory workers?
  - a. 65
  - b. 80
  - c. 125
  - d. 157

(Source: Holly Sklar, *Chaos or Community*, p. 8. See Resources.)
2. Over the past five years, the minimum wage of a worker's salary has not increased. However, during the same time period, the salaries of those in the US Congress increased by what percent?
  - a. 10
  - b. 25
  - c. 33
  - d. 66

(Source: Barbara Reynolds, *USA Today*, May 10, 1996)
3. Between 1970 and 1990, the richest 1 percent of the US population increased it's share of wealth from 20 percent to 36 percent.
  - a. True
  - a. False

(Source: Colum Lynch, "Wealth Concentrating, UN Says," *Boston Globe*, July 16 '96)
4. What percentage of children in US families headed by persons younger than 30 were officially living in poverty in 1990?
  - a. 15
  - b. 30
  - c. 35
  - d. 40

(Source: Children's Defense Fund, *Vanishing Dreams*, Appendix, Table 3.)
5. The number pf African-American males in prisons and jails (583,000) is greater than the number of African-American

males enrolled in higher education (537,000).

The US imprisons African-American males at a rate how many times higher than South Africa did under apartheid?

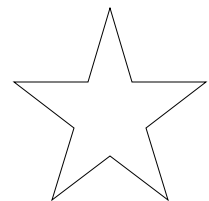
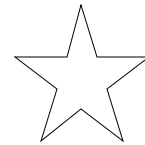
- a. about the same
- b. twice
- c. three times
- d. **four times**

(Source: Jerome C. Miller, *Hobbling a Generation: Young African-American Males in Washington DC's Criminal Justice System*, National Center on Institutions and Alternatives, April '92, as reported in *Chaos or Community*. P. 120)

6. In how many states does welfare pay more than the average starting salary for a janitor?
  - a. 30
  - b. 38
  - c. 47
  - d. 50

(Source: Mona Charen. "The Cruelty of Unwise Compassion," *Indianapolis Star*, June 24, 1996.)
7. If only five tax breaks for businesses were eliminated, \$46.4 billion in additional federal revenue would be collected in 1996.
  - a. True
  - b. False

(Source: Daniel Franklin, "Ten Not So Little Piggies," *The Nation*, Nov. 27 '95)



June 5, 1997

## OUR SOCIETY

Shore Unitarian Church, Deerfield, IL  
Watch for further info.

### SUMMER HAPPENINGS

Brochures for Ferry Beach UU Conference Center for Summer 1997 are available in pamphlet rack.

UU Lake Geneva Summer Assembly is scheduled for 6/29/97 to 7/5/97. "Living by Heart: Seeking Depth, Meaning and Purpose In Our Lives". Information is available in the pamphlet rack.

### WOMEN'S FOLK DANCE

Women's Folk Dance with *Dark of the Moon Contra-Band* (with Mary Mullen) and caller Norma Briggs. It is Saturday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, 7:30pm at the Grace Episcopal Church Hall, West Washington Avenue at the Square. Call Mary at 271-5192 for details.

### 4<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL WOMANSPRIT SUMMER GATHERING

"A Gather of Voices" is the theme for this year's Summer Gathering. It will be held August 1 -3, 1997 at Camp Ronora Nature Preserve & Retreat Center in Watervliet, MI. Pamphlets and registration forms can be found on the table in the meeting room.

### PHILOSOFEST 1997

**THE DECLINE OF CIVILITY IN AMERICA:**  
Political Manners  
And

**The Crisis of Democratic Values**  
Philosofest will take place on Saturday, October 11, 1997 at North

## OTHER STUFF

### WESTSIDE SENIOR CENTER BOOK SALE

Sale to be held June 7<sup>th</sup> - June 14<sup>th</sup>. Donate your used books now. Books may be delivered to Westside Senior Center at 602 Sawyer Terrace. For any questions and further info please call 238-0196.

### RETIRED & SENIOR VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Driver Escort Needed! Are you 55 or older, a safe driver, and willing to use your automobile to provide an important service to Madison/Monona residents? Call the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program at 238-7787.

### WE ARE SEEKING A HOST FAMILY

We are seeking a host family for a 16 year old boy from Germany for the 1997/1998 school year. He's allowed to share a room, has been well screened for flexibility in living in a busy family where both parents work, and will have his own spending money and medical insurance. The hosts provide room, board and guidance. For more information contact your local World Heritage representative, Larry, at 800-888-9040 or in the Madison area 608-837-4751.

### THE COLOR OF FEAR TO BE RESHOWN

"The Color of Fear", Le Mun Wah's disturbing, hopeful film about race relations in America, will be re-shown with a structured discussion on Sat., July 19<sup>th</sup> from 9am - 2pm at the "First Unitarian

Society". Contact them for more information.

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

### June 8

#### Personal Strategies for Emotional Healing

A panel of Prairie members will discuss internal strategies and external resources that aided their emotional healing after life traumas. Coordinated by Doleta Chapru.

Prior to the service please think about your friends in Prairie and be prepared to write down the name of someone in the congregation who has maintained a zest for life despite traumatic events or circumstances. You may be asked the secrets of your own resilience.

### June 15 and June 22

#### The Images We Live With

Rosemarie and Nikki Bromberg will present a two part series on Images -

From biblical admonition against "craven images" to the images in the mass media that surround us daily and the images we carry within us from childhood. Slides will be used to make their point.

#### **For Your Information**

If we could shrink the Earth's population to a village of precisely 100 people, with all existing human ratios remaining the same, it would look like this:

- ❖ There would be 57 Asians, 21 Europeans, 14 from the Western Hemisphere (North & South) and 8 Africans.
- ❖ 51 would be female; 49 male.
- ❖ 70 would be non-white; 30 white.
- ❖ 70 would be non-Christian; 30 Christian.
- ❖ 50% of the entire world's wealth would be in the hands of only 6 people and all 6 would be citizens of the U.S.

### June 29

#### An Indian Experience

Guest speaker Joanne Seckman, who is part Osage Sioux and a member of the Southwest Indian Spiritual Center, has taught every grade from kindergarten through college. She had a near-death experience in 1985. Her program will focus on why Indians call us "Wasichu" or blind.

### July 13

#### What Drum Do You March To?

This service is dedicated to your hero or heroine. Share your story of who or what inspires your life. All are invited to tell a tale, ballad, poem or other expression from their personal journey. The service will be lead by members of the Social Action Committee with an open Committee meeting to follow the service. Talk with Rob Steinhofner (221-9417) or Nancy Graham (244-6595) for more infor-

Mation or special arrangements for your part.



- ❖ 80 would live in substandard housing.
- ❖ 70 would be unable to read.
- ❖ 50 would suffer from malnutrition.
- ❖ 1 near death, 1 near birth.
- ❖ Only 1 would have a college education.
- ❖ No one would own a computer.

When one considers our world from such an incredibly compressed perspective, the need for both intolerance and understanding becomes glaringly apparent.