



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* April 21, 1998

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President: Barb Park (608) 273-8775 bpark1@facstaff.wisc.edu

Editor: Kate Heiber-Cobb (608) 250-6512; prairieu@execpc.com

PRAIRIE CALENDAR

Saturday, April 25

3:00 - 5:30 PM; **Rehearsal for Roger's
Program at Prairie.**

Evening; **RE Spring Fling.**

7:30 PM; **Prairie Playreaders** at the home of
Jennifer Parker, 186 Ohio Ave. Rosemary
Dorney and Timothy Fast are hosting, so any
questions they can answer at 238-4382.

Sunday, April 26

9:00 AM; **Choir Rehearsal**

10:00 AM; **"Richard Rogers and his
collaborators"**. - Music by members of the
congregation, coordinated by Warren Hagstrom.

Tuesday, April 28

5:30 PM; **Allied Dunns Marsh Cultural
Celebration.** All Prairie members and friends
are invited.

Thursday, April 30

7:00 PM; **Spanish Speakers' Potluck.** At
Prairie.

Sunday, May 3

9:00 AM; **Choir Rehearsal**

10:00 AM; **"To Life - L'Chaim!"**, by George
Calden.

Sunday, May 10

9:00 AM; **Choir Rehearsal**

10:00 AM; **Gail Coover to present. Title to be
announced.**

Sunday, May 17

10:00 AM; **"Taking Care in Business: The
Soul of Selling"**, by Carol "Orange" Schroeder.

OUR SOCIETY

President's Report of the Annual Spring Meeting

The meeting was very well attended in spite of it being a beautiful spring day. The slate of officers was approved. The new Committee-on Committees was elected. These include Rachel Siegfried, Kay Frazier and Barbara Park. The carry-over person from the current committee will be Marilyn Ruecking. The fifth member will be selected by the new Board who will take office at the May meeting.

The By-law proposal on membership from the Fall Meeting was tabled again. A series of meetings will be scheduled to discuss changes in the By-laws, so that everyone who is interested can participate without taking up extended time during an Annual Meeting.

I would like to thank the outgoing Board members and their committee members for a job well done over the past year. Those who were at the meeting heard a long list of wonderful accomplishments by the various committees. I'm sure all this work will continue under the able leadership of our incoming president, Nancy Schraufnagel. -Barbara Park

Next Prairie Fire Deadline is 5/7/98.



RE Corner

Last Sunday's gorgeous weather allowed us to complete two outdoor projects on the year's final Service Sunday. 18 kids and several adults removed trash on the East side of Seminole Highway, between Crawford Street and the Beltline; next to the Grady tract of the UW Arboretum. We were greeted by a ranger from the Arboretum, who gave a short talk on the history and current work of the Arboretum. Meanwhile, a smaller group, with the assistance of Barbara Rames and Randy Converse planted lettuce, spinach, carrots, peas, beans and squash in the garden plot behind Prairie.

The RE committee is looking for people to teach RE next year. If you are interested, contact Robin Carre (286-9165) or Anne Pryor (244-7099). We are also looking for childcare providers for the summer. -Robin Carre

Volunteer Schedules

Grass Mowers Needed!!!!

Be sure to sign-up to mow grass this Summer! It's already in need of it, and no sign-up sheets are up for this and no volunteers!

Hospitality Helpers:

Greeting Visitors:

April 26: Orange Schroeder

May 3: *Need a Volunteer*

Coffee Set-up:

April 26: Phoenix

May 3: Judy Skog

Coffee Clean-up:

April 26: Phoenix & *Need a Volunteer*

May 3: *Need two volunteers*

Taping of Programs:

April 26: *Need a Volunteer*

May 3: *Need a Volunteer*

House Wanted

I am looking for an apartment or small house to rent starting as soon as May 15th or as late as August 31st. I am a female grad student and have an 11 year old Collie. References available. I would like a simple, quiet place within five miles of the UW campus. Ideally, this would be a place with garden space, hardwood floors, a porch, clothesline, clawfoot tub.... I would consider a house-sharing arrangement in

exchange for yardwork and snowshoveling as part of the rent. Please call me at 238-3131 (eves) or email Osh Anderson at bjander2@students.wisc.edu.

Administrator's New Hours

My new hours will be:
Monday: 10:30 am - 12:30 pm
Thursday: 10:30 am to 12:30 pm.

Mary

*What thoughts flow through this tousled gray head,
that cause the frown on her face,
thoughts of today,
or remembering then?*

*Do I fit into these thoughts,
my touch different,
my words more tender,
my "mom" received differently than
"their" Mary?*

*Or am I truly a forgotten daughter,
caring without returned passion,
without thanks,
without hugs and kisses.*

*This isn't my mother anymore,
this cranky, ungrateful woman, who,
doesn't appreciate my time and efforts,
doesn't recognize my
accomplishments,
doesn't grandmother my
children.*

*The mother I knew has faded.
I am caring for this woman,
Mary,
usually a total stranger to me*

*But still...those unexpected, fleeting moments,
a certain look,
a hand gesture,
maybe a word or two,*

*That brings realization and grips my heart,
wait,
this Mary is my mother.*

*I kiss her soft wrinkled cheek,
smooth her tousled hair,
hold the thin, veined hand,*

*With a tear in my eye,
remain devoted,
forever bound,
by forces started 53 years ago.*

Submitted by Kathy Converse
Results of the 1998 Congregational Directives
for General Assembly Action

In order, most Yes votes to fewest Yes votes. 135 eligible ballots were returned. 6 ineligible ballots were returned. Any additional ballots post-marked by April 8 will be included in the count used at General Assembly.

They are as follows:

STUDY/ACTION ISSUES--

S-5 Economic Injustice, Poverty, and Racism

119 Yes; 6 No; 10 Abstentions

S-7 Rescuing Education & Restoring the Liberal Vision

115 Yes; 16 No; 17 Abstentions

S-3 Children, Families, and Community Values

102 Yes; 16 No; 17 Abstentions

S-1 Abortion Availability Requires Trained Doctors

94 yes; 18 No; 23 Abstentions

S-6 Nature, Spirit, and Social Justice: A New Dialogue

80 Yes; 22 no; 33 Abstentions

S-2 Affirmative Action Endangered

56 Yes; 36 No; 43 Abstentions

S-4 Debt Relief for the World's Poorest Countries

37 Yes; 48 No; 50 Abstentions

BUSINESS RESOLUTIONS

B-1 Women's Rights Anniversary

103 Yes; 3 No; 29 Abstentions

B-2 Increasing the Visibility of IARF and IUUC

97 Yes; 4 No; 34 Abstentions

BYLAW AMENDMENTS

4.8 (b) Religious Education Directory Delegates

98 Yes; 5 No; 32 Abstentions

4.12 (i) President's Report on Statements of Conscience

98 Yes; 2 No; 35 Abstentions



UU Service Committee Announces a Partnership with the Sicangu Lakota Sioux of South Dakota

UUSC volunteers and tribal members will join together in July for an intercultural exchange in the form of two work camps.

June 27-July 11: Rapid City to Black Hills for firewood harvesting and planting of seedlings. Tent accommodations, side trips to nearby cultural sites.

July 18-August 1: Sioux Falls to Rosebud Reservation for renovation of substandard housing and assistance in conducting a children's craft workshop. Tent accommodations, side trips to Black Hills and Badlands.

\$350 fee for each project covers housing, food, in-state transport. For more info contact Dick Campbell, UUSC, 130 Prospect Street, Cambridge, MA 02139-1845. Phone # 617-868-6600 or email Kevin McNamara at kmac1@superlink.net or Kimberly Bate at Trennick@aol.com.



Shaarei Shamayim Calendar

Sat., May 2 - Sabbath morning service, from 9am to 2 pm.

Fri., May 15 - Sabbath evening service, from 6:30pm to 10pm.

Sat., May 16 - Havdalah service (to close the Sabbath) from 5:30pm to 8pm.

Fri., June 12 - Friday night service from 6:30pm to 10pm.

Sat., June 20 - Saturday morning service from 9am to 2pm.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Sunday, April 26

"Richard Rogers & Collaborators Music Program," led by Warren Hagstrom & Co.
Come listen to this gala musical event.

Sunday, May 3

"To Life - L'Chaim!" George Calden has the audacity to tackle the weighty subject of Life and Death through readings, music, humor and discussion.

Sunday, May 10

Title to be announced. Organizer Gail Coover.

Sunday, May 17

"Taking Care of Business: The Soul of Selling" presented by Carol "Orange" Schroeder.

Sunday, May 24

Transitions Intergenerational Service.

I Wonder

I wonder why I am in a world filled with hate and fighting;
I wonder why everyone doesn't want to like one another;
I wonder why we don't take the time to get to know other people better;
I wonder why we can't live in peace and harmony?
I wonder why we hate more than solve;
I wonder when fighting and hating just began and how it started?
I wonder why some people like to fight or like to be in fights;
I wonder if it makes people feel better about themselves if they are fighting;
I wonder if hating somebody is just another word of saying "I need you";
I wonder if hate is just another word of saying somebody else has control over your emotions?
I wonder why we just can't settle our problems by talking about it instead of using verbal and physical abuse?

I wonder who wrote "sticks and stones may break my bones, but names will never hurt me"?
I wonder if "hating someone" just means you don't like them because they are different?
I wonder if when you hate someone does it really mean you don't like yourself?
I wonder why these hateful words hurt so much and it takes so long to get rid of them;
I wonder if a fight has to get this far anyway?
I wonder if there is any point in fighting and hating;
I wonder if it will solve anything?
I wonder if we could really try not to "hate" and fight that this world could be a much nicer place?
I wonder if taking your anger upon somebody else is really worth it?
I wonder if fighting and hating is really worth it?

Dedicated to my cousin,
Melinda who "hates" everyone.

"Hate and Rage" are four letter words. So are "Love and Hope".

Daija Marcisz
(12 year old girl)

Submitted by Anne Urbanski, as found on an internet discussion group concerning cross-cultural adoption.



We can use more newsletter submissions. The Prairie Fire does not end with the wonderful spring weather.