



**Communications Chairperson:**

Marion Y. Baker  
1110 Walnut  
Western Springs, IL 60558  
Phone (312) 246-3217

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Greetings to All!

Board Meeting in AVON

Once again one of our local churches scored highly in the role of hostess. On Friday night, March 7, the members of the CMD-UUWF Board met in the Fellowship Hall of the Church of the Good Shepherd in Avon.

After a super soup-plus supper, the Board met for its first business session. Later on in the evening, the Board members joined several local church women for a social hour at Sue Watterson's home. Sue is the newly ordained and installed minister of the Avon church.

New friends were made and old friendships were renewed. Such opportunities as these are considered one of the several benefits of moving our Board meeting places around the district.

After enjoying the hospitality of several Avon homes, the Board members reconvened on Saturday morning to complete the current business.

The whole day continued on the positive note established the night before, accented by homemade rolls during the morning and another delicious meal at noon. Once again the Board members were joined by several interested local church women. This sort of interaction really proves to be the outstanding result of these visits. You are urged to take advantage of such an opportunity in the near future.

Allerton Program Discussed

Carol Nudo presented a progress report on the Allerton Conference plans. They were exciting and a summary of them appears elsewhere in this letter.

Is it "Your Turn"?

Our next Board meeting will be held at the time of the Allerton Conference. Locations for the 1980-81 meetings will need to be established at that time, so come prepared to issue an invitation.

In case no invitations are forthcoming, this Board is not bashful in saying, "Your turn." The benefits to the local as well as the district organizations are so obvious that the policy of moving around will be continued.

Heritage Quilt Update

Elise Cade brought the District Quilt which is ready for the raffle at Allerton. There are some quilt blocks still floating around the district, and if these are sent in the quilt will reach the king/queen size originally planned. As it is, the quilt will be a handsome addition to some lucky linen closet.

Just to Remind You

Are your Heritage Quilt raffle tickets all sold? Do you need more? Tobe Easton will provide more if they are desired.

The drawing will be held at Allerton. The proceeds will swell our treasury, and someone is going to own a unique quilt after June 14. It could be YOU!



Thanks, DeKalb --

Your VOW editor wishes to thank the Unitarian Fellowship in DeKalb for including our district newsletter on their local mailing list.

We're Proud . . .

. . . . Betty Cyrus was a Delegate to Wisconsin's Governor's Conference on Children and Families held in Madison during March 16-18. Gov. Dreyfus was a main speaker for the meeting, which was called "an experiment in grass roots involvement in the shaping of public policy." There were also many small workshops, and regional caucuses met to elect delegates to the White House Conference on Families.

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WHY NOT TRY THIS?

An idea suggested during one of the discussion sessions of the March Board meeting was based on a variation of the "Welcome Wagon" theme.

In this idea each new woman who shows a serious interest in a UU church would receive some sort of a packet of pertinent "little gifties." Such a packet could include invitations from each organization in the church; coupons for transportation to an initial meeting of these organizations; an individual membership in the CMD-UUWF; etc.

The list is limited only by your imaginations, energies, and treasures. Let us know if you adopt a variation of this theme. The results could be interesting as well as rewarding. Please share them.

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The Third Unitarian Alliance, Chicago, reports that Ferol Potter, "practically one of our founding mothers," recently returned from a strenuous 3-week trip to India and Nepal, packed up her things in two days and moved to Columbia, Missouri. Ferol has many years of activity logged with UUWF.

WHAT'S NEW?

The Peoria Newsletter often contains notice of some intriguing "vegetarian suppers." The menus are most interesting . . . are any other groups experimenting with variations on the usual church dinner theme?

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Ask Yourself . . .

What could the CMD-UUWF mean to your local group? It could mean:

- (1) A district-wide support system of associated UU women's groups.
- (2) Programming materials at nominal cost or "for free."
- (3) Human resources for consultation or programs.
- (4) A district UUWF newsletter, VOW.
- (5) An organized way of speaking to our district of our heritage, our dreams, and our ways of acting upon our beliefs.

These things will not happen without some effort on your part . . . but a small effort can bring great rewards.

NOTICE: CHANGE OF DATE

The UU Women and Religion Coalition Convocation planned for the University of New Mexico just prior to GA/30 has been rescheduled for Michigan State University's Kellogg Center in East Lansing, MI Nov. 14-16, cochairs Carol Brody and Rosemary Matson have announced. More information will be available at the Women and Religion booth at GA/80, through mailings by convocation planners, and through the UU World.



-- CMD-UUWF BOARD HIGHLIGHTS --

Continental Board Member Report

Clarise Jefferson, UUWF Continental Board Member from CMD, reported on her busy agenda. She had attended the Meadville-Lombard Winter Conference which had the family as its theme; the R.E. Conclave, which dealt with different styles of leadership; and the UUWF Board Meeting in Dallas.

Since the Continental Board follows a policy similar to that of this District, it encourages the host church to organize a district meeting at the time of its meeting.

Clarise reported that 160 women of the Southwest District gathered to meet with the Continental Board members for part of one day. Many of the participants had traveled several hundred miles to be a part of this meeting.

Some of us worry about the time it takes to get to Allerton . . just take a look at the territory covered by the SW District (Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma and Texas) and realize that members from all parts of that district were in Dallas for that winter meeting.

Clarise also reported that there will be a booth for membership and for the sale of items at the G.A. in Albuquerque. There will also be LERADA and UUWF workshops as well as an ERA Caucus at G.A.

Business Items Considered

The balance of the Board Meeting dealt with proposed changes in the CMD-UUWF by-laws; suggested guidelines for paying expenses of board members to official business meetings; and suggested job descriptions for board members. The latter were presented in order to help the nominating committee and prospective new board members.

Religious Communities Unite for ERA

The main thrust of Clarise's report concerned the newly organized Religious Committee of Illinois for ERA. The state of Illinois must ratify the ERA by June if it is to serve as the necessary boost for the amendment's adoption by other needed states.

All of Illinois has been divided into areas for coordination of efforts by women of every church community. Identification of supporters and enlisting active workers is of prime importance. Is your church actively involved in this massive effort to get the ERA ratified in this state? Are you donating time and monies to make this effort a success?

Your contributions can go to:

Richard Wood, Treasurer  
Illinois Religious Committee  
for ERA  
615 S. Fifth Street  
Springfield, IL 62703

You can help by:

- (1) Offering your services to your local Action Team. If your minister doesn't have the information, write to Clarise and she will put you in touch with your area leader. (313 Oakdale, Normal, IL 61761)
- (2) Getting information concerning your district legislator to your Action Team, such as: his home address, phone number, number of children and whether they are in public, parochial or private schools, his profession, and like information.
- (3) Being ready to spend hours at letter writing or phoning, if needed.

This is NOT just a UU effort, but the combined efforts of interested church women in the state of Illinois. It is being supported by nationwide efforts of those who believe that Illinois' ratification of ERA is crucial.

Lose no time in offering your energies and monies. June is not far away!



Help!

We would appreciate your help in locating the following people who have moved. Please notify Marion Baker (her address is on the front page) if you have any of these addresses or if you know of anyone who is not receiving this newsletter.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>FORMER ADDRESS</u>
Rosemary Armbruster	10034 Bunker Hill Dr., St. Louis
Pat Borgel	409 Edgewood Drive, Clayton, MO
Alice Brumage	40 E. Cedar, #3C, Chicago
Nan Corliss	156 East Lane Alamo, CA
Miss Dorothy Cosgrove	1413 Jonquil Terrace, Chicago
Virginia Fechner	3622 Humphrey St., St. Louis
Lorraine Keener	1199 Oswego Rd., Naperville
Carolyn F. Locke	3006 Bethel Blvd., Zion
Jo Mitchell	800 Roosevelt Rd., Glen Ellyn
Mrs. Russell Morgan	619 Greenleaf Ave., Wilmette
Karen Perrino	4724 Springcreek Rd., R.R.10, Rockford
Joan Prims	239 E. Walnut, Hinsdale
Viola Shafer	3815 W. War Memorial Dr., Peoria
Rosemarie Sharp	15 Bellevue Ave, Westerly, R.I.
Betty Steel	Heritage Court, Westover 1J, Frankfort
Miss Elisabeth Tarver	688 Hobbs, Memphis, TN
Linda Wiltz	2713 E. High St., Urbana
Annette Earl	1328 N. Jefferson, Milwaukee
Mary Flick	1570 N. Prospect Ave. #807, Milwaukee
Billie Funck	534 Atlanta, Webster Groves, MO
Lona Huffington	615 John, Rockford
Alice Jonietz	806 S. Lincoln, Urbana

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PROPOSED BY-LAWS AMENDMENTS

On the following pages is a working copy of the District By-Laws. Proposed deletions are underlined; proposed additions are bracketed. These amendments will be voted on during the Allerton Conference. As the outcome of the voting is determined, participants at the conference will be asked to mark their own copies. A report of corrections will be issued in the V.O.W. newsletter, but a new copy of the by-laws will not be circulated immediately. SAVE THIS COPY!

We have tried to improve all items being deleted. Please read carefully.

Tobe Easton (for the Board)