

Voice Of Women

Central Midwest District
Unitarian Universalist Women's Federation

VOL. 14, NO. 2

SPRING 1992

What Does the CMD-UUWF Board of Directors Do???

Their first responsibility is to sponsor conferences and to see that they have seed money for operations. Finding the leadership for these conferences is also important. They account for and manage the dues and other income and use them carefully.

Another major job is to see that the VOW newsletter is written, edited, and mailed to members and key UU women. We owe a great debt to those who help with this vital work and want to thank all the editors and mailers throughout the years.

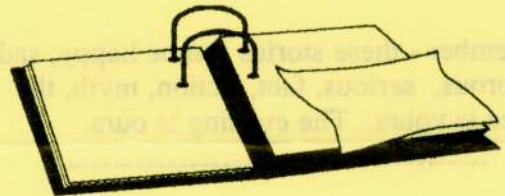
Mileage to the Board meetings is paid at 20 cents a mile and phone calls and postage spent by members of the Board are reimbursed. Most positions on the Board require two to four hours a month at home and Board members are expected to attend at least two out of the three yearly Board meetings. Board Meetings are spaced within the District to give local members and Board members a chance to exchange ideas. VOW postage and printing, small charitable contributions, an allowance for the President to go to UUWF Biennial, Allerton scholarships, and miscellaneous administrative expenses are all budgeted. Profits and losses from our two conferences generally balance out over the year.

If you are asked to serve on the Board we hope you will be able and willing to serve. In any case be kind to the Nominating Committee members who might talk to you. They do not always have an easy job and need some TLC.

Ruth Davis, President

DATES and DEADLINES

- Hester Huff Nominations June 1, 1992
- Allerton Conference June 16 - 18, 1992
- CMD-UUWF Fall Retreat Nov. 13-15, 1992
- Deadline for next VOW Sept. 15, 1992



LOCAL UUWF NEWS

We need more information from local units. Let us know of special honors to your members, interesting projects, or programs that were presented for your group. You may really help some other group or give an individual in another group some support or new idea.

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Story-Telling at Allerton

This year a story-telling workshop will be conducted during the Wednesday programs. In conjunction with this, but not a prerequisite, will be a Wednesday evening Story-Telling program - an Eclectic Gathering of Tales.

Do you have an old favorite that was passed down in your family that you might like to share? Do you have a special experience or event that you think makes for good story-telling? Do you have a wonderful short story that you would like to tell? Bring these with you.

There will be a sign up sheet for those interested in actively participating in the Wednesday Evening program. If you feel you just cannot "perform" in front of a group of people don't worry. Every story-teller needs an audience - and if that is where you will feel most comfortable - this is where we want you.

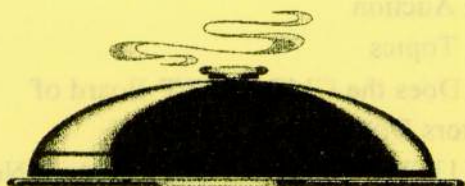
Remember - these stories can be happy, sad, humorous, serious, fact, fiction, myth, the choice is yours. The evening is ours.

Wednesday Evening Dinner - Table Topics

There were so many wonderful ideas given for workshop topics, that we decided to provide Allerton participants one more area of "Choices" Table Topics.

Wednesday Evening your dining companions will be other women who are intrigued by or would like to know more about a specific topic. This is a wonderful way to get to know others at Allerton - especially when you discover your shared common interests.

We have made a tentative list, but it is by no means final. Please share with us your ideas for these Table Topics.



Silent Auction at Allerton - Bring Your Goodies

One of the most painless and fun ways of raising money for the Central Midwest District - Unitarian Universalist Women's Federation is the Silent Auction held during CMD's annual conference at Robert Allerton Park.

Now is the time, if you have not already started to put aside those little treasures you will undoubtedly uncover during Spring Cleaning. Truly the adage "one person's junk is another person's treasure" rings true each year as participants gather around the auction tables placing their silent bids.

Excitement builds over the day and a half of non-stop bidding until the bell rings at 9:00 pm bringing the auction to a close on Wednesday evening. In past year's we have collected anywhere from \$200 - \$400 for the common good.

Wondering what to bring? Just about anything. Past items have included: special art treasures, lovely books, hand-made items, costume jewelry, ceramic mugs, souvenir plates, posters, wall hangings, kitchen gadgets, plants, bulbs, candles, homemade jellies, pillows, afghans, and the occasional white elephant. Some items are brand new, many are not.

It is all great fun and certainly sometime in the next two months you will find just the thing to contribute to the Silent Auction. See you at Allerton. Rossann Baker-Priestley

Scholarship Application Form

(Deadline June 1)

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Telephone _____

My need is: _____

Send completed application form to:

Betty Jachim

2649 Willow

Franklin Park, IL 60131

You will get a response within 10 days of the deadline.

Other Districts

After some trouble and a long wait, contact with some other districts has been made.

Pacific Southwest

Catherine Eels, President of Pacific Southwest District, shared their programming details with us. They have 1 week-end conference every eighteen months and 2 or 3 day-only meetings. They call their conference committee the Creation Crew. "Empowerment" is probably the core theme that attracts a wide variety of people. In my mind it is also closely associated with women's spirituality as we weave in worship and ritual. "During the past two day gatherings, we have also sponsored a boutique to earn scholarship funds. We currently have \$1,000 in our scholarship fund for our next week-end conference." How could we use this idea? We will try to find out.

Vermont-New Hampshire

Katherine Winthrop of the Vermont-New Hampshire District attended the Womenspirit conference (sponsored by Women and Religion CMD). "We came back fired up to have the UUWF the main group through which programming and communication flowed, and to restore the W & R to its original mandate; to be a watchdog on sexism within the district. We are now in the process (a gradual one) of bringing the two groups together."

Massachusetts Bay

Massachusetts Bay District has at present no District UUWF structure but the Women and Religion group has sponsored a conference on Women and Violence.

NOTE:

Enclosed for your use is a two-way flyer for posting. Use one side now for Allerton and the reverse side this Fall!

CMD-UUWF FALL RETREAT !!!!!

Mark your calendars now - The CMD-UUWF Fall Retreat will be November 13 to November 15. Beginning on Friday evening and ending on Sunday afternoon at George Williams Conference Center, Lake Geneva, Williams Bay, Wisconsin.

The sponsoring unit is the Olympia Brown UUWF of Racine, Wisconsin. Paula McCabe is the chairperson and the Racine Committee is planning an empowering and enjoyable weekend for all women who attend.

More information will be available: in the Fall issue of VOW, at the June Allerton Conference, and will be sent to your local unit and church office as well.

The registration is being coordinated through a CMD-UUWF Board member - Mina Riddle, 527 S. Elmwood, Oak Park, IL 60304. Please write or call (708) 524-1371 if you have questions about the site, housing, or cost.

Womenspirit '92

Planned by the CMD Women & Religion Taskforce and produced by the women of the Evanston Unitarian Church, over 300 women participated in a weekend of spiritual & personal growth amidst creative and colorful art work in every room of the building.

The highlight of the weekend was the inspiring address by Rev. Dr. Rebecca Parker, President of Starr King. Workshops were conducted on the conference theme that ranged from personal empowerment, visual arts in worship, the sacredness of wild places on our earth, an overview of the new curriculum "Rise Up and Call Her Name," the Wiccan Wheel of the Year, music & ritual in goddess-based celebrations, sacredness in community action, and identifying "coming out" differently as being in the realm of the spiritual.

The weekend ended with a Sharing Circle of story-telling, music, poetry, and inspired with ways of worship, and determined to meet again for Womenspirit '93 in Madison, WI next January.

1991 - 1992

CENTRAL MIDWEST DISTRICT UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST WOMEN'S FEDERATION

President

Ruth M. Davis
Box P., 203 Fulton
Avon, IL 61415
(309)465-7551

Vice President

Sandra Drenth
Rt. 4, Box 120
Elmwood Court
Mokena, IL 60448
(708)479-2679

Secretary

Carol Wike Nudo
401 George Street
Alton, IL 62002
(618)462-3160/462-8897

Treasurer

Pat Baker
1528 Fontana
St. Louis, MO 63146
(314)434-3314

Directors

Marilla Missbach
7735 W. 65th Place
Bedford Park, IL 60501
(708)458-0108

Melinda Perrin
241 S. Ashland
La Grange, IL 60525
(708)579-5695

Mina Riddle
527 S. Elmwood
Oak Park, IL 60304
(708)524-1371

Lorraine Weber
810 S. Race
Urbana, IL 61801
(217)367-4501

Continental Board Liaison

Peg Carlson
P.O.Box 351
Salem, WI 53165
(414) 834-4221/835-4343

V.O.W. Editor

Susan Karcher
154 N. Humphrey
Oak Park, IL 60302
(708)383-8456

V.O.W. Mailing

Carol Wike Nudo
401 George Street
Alton, IL 62002
(618)462-3314

Allerton Co-Chairs

Rossann Baker-Priestley
159 E. Grove
Galesburg, IL 61401
(309)343-2490

Betty Jachim

2649 Willow
Franklin Park, IL 60131
(708)455-8631

Susan Karcher

154 N. Humphrey
Oak Park, IL 60302
(708)383-8456

Lake Geneva Chair

Paula McCabe
1529 1/2 Blaine Ave.
Racine, WI 53405
(414)637-6083/631-7380

Women & Religion Chair

Judy Holman
3028 Grand Street
Evanston, IL 60201
(708)491-7507/475-4423

RCAR

Phyllis Pears
128 Berry Street
Park Forest, IL 60466
(708)481-5055

CMD - Administrator

Helen Bishop
114 S. Marion
Oak Park, IL 60302
(708)383-4344

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HESTER HUFF ROLE OF RECOGNITION

Information

The Central Midwest District Unitarian Universalist Women's Federation wishes to recognize an outstanding Unitarian Universalist lay woman for service in the Central Midwest District. To this end we establish the Hester Huff Role of Recognition.

Nominations

Nominations may be made by individuals or UUWF units. These nominations throughout the year must be made in writing by May 15.

Committee

The current nominating committee making the final selection will be composed of the three most recent Hester Huff recipients. The Chair shall be the longest standing member of this Hester Huff nominating committee. The present CMD-UUWF Board members are exempt from this committee, but are responsible to find a replacement to act on the committee if a vacancy occurs. The award may not be given to any women currently serving on the selection committee or current CMD-UUWF Board members.

Job Description

The committee will solicit nominations from Central Midwest women's groups and individual Unitarian Universalist women. They will provide a nomination form. Each woman who is nominated will receive a letter of recognition from the committee prior to the Allerton conference. If the nominating committee chooses, they may notify the winner before the Allerton conference. A letter will be sent by the committee to invite past Hester Huff recipients to the Allerton Conference.

Award

The recipient's name will be engraved on the Hester Huff Role of Recognition plaque, the last recipient will have the new winners name engraved. This plaque will remain in the recipient's possession for one year.

The recipient will also be given a certificate of recognition made by the nominating committee. The presentation will be made annually at the Allerton Conference.

A letter of congratulations will be sent to the Board of Trustees of the recipient's society, by the nominating committee.

The committee keeps the H. H. sashes and sees they are at Allerton each year.

The Allerton Planning Committee appoints a group to be in charge of the reception or may choose to do it themselves, including table cloth, decorations, food, drinks and winners course (optional).

NOMINATION FORM

HESTER HUFF ROLE OF RECOGNITION

Complete this form and send it to: Bonnie Olsen
1091 Kinmonth
Joliet, IL 60433

Closing date: June 1, 1992.

- 1. Nominee: _____ Address: _____
City: _____ Phone: _____
- 2. Church: _____ Address: _____
City: _____ Phone: _____
- 3. Nominated by: _____ Phone: _____

Renomination: If complete materials have been submitted on a candidate, please renominate adding only current material. The committee will review the earlier material in their files.

NOMINATION INFORMATION

Number of years member of church _____

Principal church activities or services: _____

UUWF-CMD activities or services: _____

UUWF and UUA Denominational services or activities: _____

Community activities or services: _____

Personal or religious attitudes of nominee which support nomination: _____

Use additional pages or letters to support nomination and attach as desired.

Central Midwest District
Unitarian-Universalist Women

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THIS ISSUE OF V.O.W. CONTAINS:

ALLERTON REGISTRATION FORMS
HESTER HUFF ROLE OF RECOGNITION FORMS
AND MUCH MORE!