

CMD - UUWF

FALL 1983 VOL. 6 ISSUE 1

People!!

Allerton Institute among other things is People!

People we often only see there once a year and yet we consider good friends. People we see each week in our local churches but get to know in a new way while there. People discovering themselves. One Allertonite said, "It is a special group of people because no one gets there easily."

Among the 82 women from 20 churches who gathered this year at Allerton for the conference of Changing Life-styles of Women from Caterpillar to Butterfly we had more than a dozen new folks; we had one who rode a bike to get there; we had one who still hobbled on the healing broken foot; we had those that needed to be healed and those that helped in the healing. We gathered to be enriched by original music, by a poem written just for us, by dance, by art pieces created for us and by us, and by the workshops, the keynote speaker, the skits and the reader's dramas theatre.

People still make up our Allertons. All their talent and work before the conference begins by whatever unit has accepted the challenge, all the interaction of the participants, and all those special private moments that we bring away and find we never can quite communicate to others at home but know we set aside a week in June to go reclaim again each year.

Yes, Allerton among other things is

People!

Our Own Elected

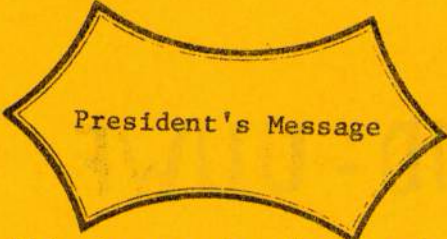
Clarise Jefferson, of the Bloomington UUWF Unit has been elected Treasurer of the Continental UUWF. Having served two terms as Continental Board member, numerous local church jobs and major jobs in our CMD, she brings talent, experience and always that unfailing enthusiasm to this new job. And she never is too busy to visit your local unit to present a program, be a resource leader or just meet with old friends and make new ones in our UUWF circle. Contact her to coordinate your schedule with hers, at 313 Oakdale Ave., Normal, IL 61761. Her telephone number is 309/452-4736.

New Faces to Welcome:

Bonnie L. Shelton became the executive director of UUWF and moved into her office in Boston on Aug. 1. Welcome and join us any time you can in our CMD UUWF activities.

and

Rev. Sid Peterman is serving as interim Interdistrict Representative. He will be in our area from Sept. 20 through Jan. 20. Welcome and never hesitate to call on the women of this district!



President's Message

This day was bound to arrive.

All preliminary stalling has been completed. For better or for worse, I must begin!

"Hello, out there!" How was your summer?" Now that's not very inspiring ...but I really do want to greet you... and I really am interested in what your summers have held for you. So the beginning will have to stay unless I can think of something more inspiring, or at least snappier.

Our life has continued at its exciting pace. Our family wedding was a lovely, happy occasion. The seven weeks of drama work shops have all been successful beyond our highest hopes. The jolly little Sweepstakes have been working away to help keep the IRS's bite from being too painful.

So much for our personal adventures. Next, I'd like to try to thank you more adequately than I managed in June for my place on the Roll of Honor. I still find words most inadequate. Once more I fall back on the simple "Thank You," and pledge that I'll try never to let my efforts for CMD-UUWF lag.

With all these past and present considerations cared for, let's peek at the possibilities lying just ahead! We need: 1. A Conference Coordinator who would essentially be a liaison between the Board and the various Conference Program Committees. 2. A financial secretary to assist the Treasurer. This person would assist the treasurer in sending out dues notices and help in keeping track of dues coming in. She would also be of great help when the budget is drawn up.

A Task Force whose instructions would be to study our UUWF as a district organization and come up with some goals that would keep us growing and healthy.

In order to get some perspective at this last suggestion we should remember that a few short years ago the C.M.D.-U.U.W.F. was close to insolvency. Program Chairs for Allerton were nearly impossible to find and our membership was shrinking.

Today we can happily say that our conference program is expanding; our membership is on the increase and our newsletter is reaching almost a third more women throughout our denomination. Plus all this, the treasury is in a healthy condition.

It would be all too easy to sit back and "point with pride." This must not happen.

Elise Cade was our strong voice for fiscal responsibility as well as for improved program. She not only insisted that it be done, she "showed us the way." It was she who initiated the quilt raffle and the Allerton Silent Auction. It was she who prodded the Board to reach out and involve themselves with local societies through Board meetings hosted by these societies.

If your unit has provided home hospitality for a Board Meeting you can give it a firm pat on the back.

You may glow with pride knowing that 6 or 8 groups have saved our treasury an impressive total by their efforts. In addition to all these benefits we cannot place a value of the networking that has resulted. Its worth will be felt for years to come.

(cont. on page 3)

President's Message continued

It is no wonder that the CMD-UUWF has been able to shoulder the expense of a larger newsletter and a burgeoning mailing list.

It is no wonder that new conferences can ask for and expect to receive "seed" monies to initiate new programs. (All "seed" monies have been repaid and are busy working for our program right now.)

It is no wonder that Allerton has been able to consistently provided high quality programs during the past quarter century.

But we must no longer depend on the inspired efforts of a single individual. Elise was our tremendously needed "light in the dark." She will continue to be a staunch supporter of our womens program. But the health of an organization must be based on the sustained efforts of many of us.

If we are ready to promote such a study and its recommendations, there are many more who will join us. That's all it takes...an idea and the willingness to work for it. Let's get our brains in gear, and our sleeves rolled up. 1984 is just ahead. myb

Another First For Us

A gleam in the eye - didn't last long when it arrived in the eyes of those St. Louis women. Why wait until Spring of '83 for a Southern UUWF Retreat they said in March? And they didn't! April 22, 23 and 24 found 42 UUWFers at Camp Wyman, Mo. fellowshiping, worshipping, workshoping and enjoying under the the theme of "This I Do for Myself." And they intend to keep doing it for themselves and all who will join them this next Spring - see calendar. Congratulation to all those hard working, hurry, NOW Ladies!

Business Bit

During the Annual Business meeting on June 8, the following officers were elected.

President Marion Baker

Secretary: Lorraine Wallis

Directors: Jo Jameson

Bonnie Sue Michel

These officers joined the other Board members and were installed by Carol Wilke Nudo in a candlelight service.

The nominating committee for 1984 was appointed: Pat Murray, Kathryn Neff, and Irene Riehl.

The Hester Huff Roll of Recognition Award Committee for 1984 is the first three recipients: Lucille Kazmard, Ruth Davis and Marion Baker.

OPPORTUNITIES

Sept. 30 - Oct. 1 Life Enhancement Small Societies. Stevens Point, WI. Elise Cade, Registrar

Oct. 1 - Philosofest - Deerfield

Oct. 7-8 - Life Enhancement Small Societies. Macomb, IL Elise Cade, Registrar

Nov. 4, 5, 6 - CMD-UUWF Fall Retreat Searching, Sharing, Soaring See page 7 for details

Nov. 11, 12, 13 CMD Annual Meeting, Pearla. See page 6 for more information

April 6, 7, 8 CMD-UUWF Southern Spring Retreat

June 12, 13, 14 CMD-UUWF Allerton Institute, Allerton Park, IL

June 18-23 UUA General Assembly, Columbus, Ohio

Notice!

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE OF V.O.W. IS DECEMBER 1, 1983. PLEASE SEND INFORMATION TO THE EDITOR.

Come "Play" in Peoria

is the theme of
CMD Annual Meeting on Nov. 11, 12, 13

"Play" with Carolyn Mc Dade, folksinger, in concert Friday night and doing a workshop on Saturday. Who can forget her time with us last fall at the First CMD-UUWF Fall Retreat at Lake Geneva. Come and Reunionize!

"Play" with Sandra Caron, UUA Moderator, as keynote speaker and workshop leader on Saturday. Remember her challenges to us at Allerton just two summers ago. Come and Reunionize!

"Play" with Ann Fields, UUA Religious Education staff, Anne Barrett, UUA UUSC staff, Bob Wheatley, UUA Office of Aging, Office of Gay Concerns staff, Gene Reeves, President of Meadville as workshop leaders.

"Play" at the banquet Saturday evening with Tony Larson of Racine as he conducts an old fashion UU Revival and stay for dancing. Only UU's would have the best joy of all three worlds in one evening.

"Play" by being an elected delegate or observer to the annual business meeting.

"Play" Sunday morning in joining the Peoria congregation for their Worship Service.

"Play" by having lunch with other UUWFers on Saturday.

A CALL TO ALL UUWF WOMEN - Come and Reunionize in Peoria!!!

Sugar Free Cookie 350° 12 minutes

Beat together:

1/2 cup butter or oleo

1 egg

2 teasp. vanilla

Mix and add to above

1 cup flour

1 teasp. baking powder

1/8 teasp. salt

Add:

1 cup fine cut dates

1 cup shredded coconut

1 cup fine nut meats

Form ball and flatten Bake.

A surprise
To Make!

Special Sharing

From the First Unitarian Church of Alton,
11 Newsletter, March 15, 1983.

This was read by Sylvia A. Falconer, minister, as the Closing Reading March 6 - her last service in that church.

Comes the Dawn

After awhile you learn the subtle difference
Between holding a hand and chaining a soul,
And you learn that love doesn't mean leaning
And company doesn't mean security,
And you begin to learn that kisses aren't
contracts

And presents aren't promises,
And you begin to accept your defeats
With your head up and your eyes open,
With the grace of a woman, not the grief
of a child,

And learn to build all your roads
On today because tomorrow's ground
Is too uncertain for plans, and futures
have

A way of falling down in mid-flight.
After awhile you learn that even sunshine
Burns if you get too much.

So you plant your own garden and decorate
Your own soul, instead of waiting
For someone to bring you flowers.
And you learn that you really can endure...
That you really are strong
And you really do have worth.
And you learn and learn...
With every goodbye you learn.

THERE IS NO ENDING NOT FOLLOWED BY A NEW
BEGINNING!

Another Sharing

From Rockford -

Fall Family Fest - after church every-
one stays for lunch, a mini-bazar, a
bake sale and fun booths for the kids
provided by the R.E. Committee. Bal-
loons, popcorn, face painting, fortune
telling and good fun for all ages. A
fund raiser - 5 tickets for \$1.00 -
all going to the Alliance.

THE UNSUNG UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST AWARD
THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST ASSOCIATION JOINS WITH THE

CENTRAL MIDWEST DISTRICT
IN HONORING

MARY E. WILLIAMS
OF

ELIOT UNITARIAN CHAPEL

FOR MAKING THE MOST SIGNIFICANT EXPRESSION OF
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST RELIGION
PRESENTED AT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST ASSOCIATION

1983

Because you, Mary Williams, have served and supported your local society and our wider movement by your presence, your unflagging efforts, your cheerfulness, your dedication, and your gifts of self and goods;

Because you have kept your sights on and served the vast needs of other human beings on this planet and in the human community, and have quietly helped the rest of us to do likewise;

Because you have done the work that makes things happen but have turned down position, power, and honors;

Because in teaching of the handicapped, in daily calls to the elderly, in your many activities for the welfare of humankind, you are for us both inspiration and model of what it means to be a Unitarian Universalist;

Because your life is one of freedom, tolerance, and reason, of dedication, love and joy;

We celebrate you as our 1983 Unsung Unitarian Universalist.

We Honor Our Own Again

In her "work clothes" - a costume no less - Marion Baker received the 1983 Hester Huff Roll of Recognition Award at Allerton in June. For all her many years of dedication to our CMD UUWF, to her local church in many roles, to our continental UUWF as a member of its first Board of Directors and always to the UUA and herself - she was honored. And of course the list continues with her acceptance of the Presidency this year. She was the guest of honor at a reception immediately following the presentation (and a quick change of costume - to a lovely party dress!) Our warmest congratulation, our sister, our friend.

Our Own Special Lady Doll

Lady Allerton was unveiled for all to enjoy at the Allerton Institute in June. Now she is ready to visit your group. She will be attending the UUWF Fall Retreat in early November and the CMD Annual Meeting the next weekend. Her schedule is then open until June when she returns to Allerton for her new owner to be established by a draw of a card! Please contact Leigh Lakey, 2122 Oxford, Rockford, IL 61103. Telephone number 815/964-4421 to schedule your visit with this special lady. As you remember this elegant Pedler Doll in a 12" glass dome designed and created by Elise Cade is for the benefit of local UU Women and the CMD-UUWF. 50¢ of each raffle ticket of \$1.00 stays in the local UUWF unit and 50¢ goes to CMD-UUWF. Sell those raffle tickets and send you money and stubs to Leigh Lakey.

Sharing:

From Peoria -

A food cooperative and nights together after local theatre events. How many other groups are doing these two kinds of sharing?

More Sharing

From Rockford -

If you are lucky enough to be in Church the first Sunday of September and the first Sunday in June you get to participate in an Allerton Brunch after the service. Yes, the Alliance cooks the food, the folks pay to eat (a small fee of \$2.00 or \$2.50) and the money goes to the Allerton Scholarship Fund. This past year each alliance member attending the Allerton Institute received a \$50.00 scholarship! What a Boost!

We Continue!

When the editor of VOW accepted another position in the CMD - UUWF scheme - a vacancy occurred. And I volunteered (with Marion's arm about my shoulders and a question on the face)! Having worked with Marion and Susan these past two years in the area of trying to update the ever slippery and never quite right but always working toward perfection mailing list - I got caught up in the spirit of VOW and committed to its possibilities as a communication vehicle. So now with Susan's continued aid as chief producer and Gail Perr's volunteering to take over those boxes of address cards, I'll try my hand at "pulling it all together and passing it on."

I ask a couple of things of you now - Please see to it - by whatever means it takes - that I am placed on your mailing list of your local newsletter - that's where the material for the "pulling together" comes from AND please send the names and addresses of all the members you are paying dues for to the treasurer when you pay those dues. We can only promise to give you your money's worth of communication when we know who each of you are and where you live.

Besides whenever UU Women get together across this CMD, special times and feelings occur. And "putting out a VOW" is an opportunity for just that. Pag

SEARCHING, SHARING, SOARING

Annual C.M.D. U U Women's Fall Retreat

George Williams College Campus
Lake Geneva, Wisconsin
November 4, 5 and 6, 1983

SCHEDULE:

TOTAL COST: \$40.00

Friday Evening 7PM

Harvest Table - cold meat, cheese, breads, fresh fruit
(no need to stop to eat on the way)

8PM Sing-along and Water Ceremony

Saturday Morning

9:30AM Featured Speaker: GRACE MARY STERN
"Keeping All Those Balls in The Air"
*Mother of Ten
*Public Official
*Recent Candidate for Illinois Lt. Governor

Saturday Afternoon

1:30PM Workshops -

- *Book Discussion
- *Massage Class
- *Yoga
- *Centering Through Writing

5PM Dramatic Presentation based on the life of Sophia Lyon Fahs

Saturday Evening 7:30PM Worship Service

Sunday Morning 9AM Closing Water Ceremony

As always, just resting, exploring or antiques
in Lake Geneva are options, too.

Please reserve me a place at the Fall-Retreat. Enclosed is my check
for \$15.00 for each reservation.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Church Affiliation: _____

Mail to:

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10244 South Longwood
Chicago, Illinois 60643
(312/779-2510)

Make check payable to: BEVERLY WOMEN'S ALLIANCE

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