

# VOICE OF WOMEN



CMD-UUA

## CMD-UUWF

FALL 1985

VOL. 8 ISSUE 1

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello out there...all you UU women.  
Hello to you UUWF-ers and W/R-ers  
and CLF-ers and friends...plus inter-  
ested acquaintances. That should  
cover you all. You represent the UU  
womanpower of our Central Midwest  
District of the UUA and I need to  
reach each of you. My message is:  
**YOU ARE NEEDED!** Not just by your  
unit, or your local UU society; not  
just by your denomination, or your  
sex...but by the world as a whole!

Isn't that just what you need to  
confuse, defeat, and/or otherwise  
"turn off" many of you? Our shrink-  
ing membership and fragmented pro-  
grams seem to reflect such defeatism.  
It is enough concern that I would  
like to beg you to "hear me out" and  
then make your plans and establish  
your priorities.

At a time when the impact of UU  
women is needed as never before, we  
are not united...we are not listening  
to each other...we are not really sup-  
porting each other. In spite of all  
our touted relish of "diversity", we  
do an amazing job denying it when  
such diversity doesn't meet our indi-  
vidual standards.

### DATES TO REMEMBER

OCTOBER 7 Registration Deadline  
Fall Retreat CMD-UUWF  
18, 19, 20 CMD-UUWF Board  
Meeting & Retreat

NOVEMBER 1-3 Fall Retreat CMD-UUWF  
Lake Geneva, Wisconsin  
8-10 CMD Annual Meeting  
Hinsdale, Illinois

DECEMBER 1 Winter UOW DEADLINE!  
1 CMD-UUWF Dues DEADLINE

APRIL 1 Spring UOW DEADLINE!

JUNE 10-12 CMD-UUWF Allerton  
20-28 UUA General Assembly  
Rochester, New York

The women of the Central Midwest  
District of the UUA have a rare op-  
portunity to demonstrate that this  
condition need not exist. It is ter-  
ribly crucial that not one bit of our  
time or energy be wasted in negative  
activity. It doesn't matter whether  
you espouse feminist theology, serv-  
ice activities, support groups or any  
number of other "worthy causes".  
The point is that distrust, irritation,

(cont. p.2)



and similar negativisms will keep our whole program from thriving as it must.

I had a rare opportunity this June in that Allerton was followed closely (too closely, really) by our Biennial. But it did give me a tremendous opportunity to observe us as district and continental levels. I came away with a deep sense that our leadership must find ways to communicate how much the world is hungering for the positive emphasis that we can bring. My days at Allerton and our Biennial made this need for a positive forward thrust clear.

I'd like to take a moment to thank you all for budgeting the money to help defray the expenses of our president at this Biennial. That was a "positive act" that I hope will continue and will also encourage in your local units. Our UUNF Biennial welcomes any paid member as a voting delegate to its business meetings, just as we do at our Annual Meeting at Allerton. You have two years before the next Biennial, and I hope your local units will find ways to send a substantially larger delegation to the 1987 meeting.

You were all much aware that the dates of Allerton and my prior commitment to our Drama Workshops made my trip to Atlanta this June seem unwise if not actually impossible. I must tell you all that without the reluctant cooperation of Woody and the staunch re-assurance of both daughters, I fear I might have been among the absent. As it was, it was an experience that should not have

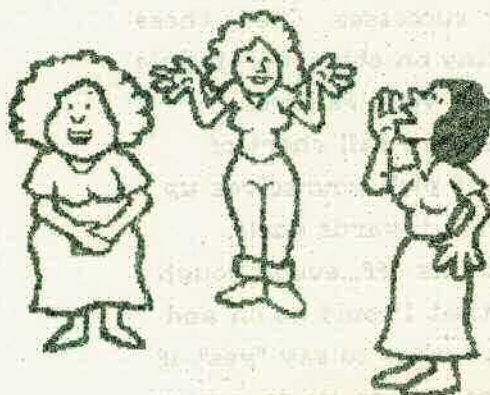
been missed by your president, no matter whom she might have been.

The Bloomington and Peoria delegations took me "under their wings" and became my support group, whether it was transportation, room, or meal companions that I needed. My mind was challenged with academic exercises provided by the scholarly presentations on "feminist theology." Workshops on leadership, programing, and dialoguing between gays and straights provided widened horizons and participation of a more practical variety. And then there were the "high moments:" The beautiful worship services which nourished my spiritual needs, the wonderful opportunities to make new friends and to renew old associations, and topping all these, the excitement of seeing Clarise installed as our Continental President. There were many hilarious moments, but none compared with our mad dash to get the CMD-UUNF banner which had been hung so beautifully in the auditorium where the installation was to take place.

This story must be shared with you. Clarise's installation was to follow hard on the heels of our business session! You've guessed it...the business session ran much over time. When we realized that the installation was going to have to be done right in the room where our official actions had been taken it seemed appropriate, but quite un-beautiful. Two of us decided to sprint across the campus and get that banner. I won't give you the details of our problems in getting the banner down

(cont. p.4)





### WOMEN FOR ALL SEASONS

Fourth Annual Fall Retreat

Central Midwest District

November 1, 2, 3, 1985

George Williams College

Lake Geneva Campus

Williams Bay, Wisconsin

Sponsored by: Unitarian Women's

Alliance of the First Unitarian

Society, Madison, WI. & Prairie

Unitarian Universalist Society

Madison, Wisconsin

The Retreat will feature speakers talking about Our Public Lives & Our Inner Lives. Workshops will deal with Peace, Leadership, Health, Self-acceptance Training, Photography, and singing and dancing. If you have not seen the complete details of this conference and would like to have more details, contact Mildred Richards at (608-238-1314). There will also be a special boat ride on Lake Geneva if at least 40 people sign up for it. Watch the mail for your complete information and registration form. Registration deadline is October 7.

### CMD ANNUAL MEETING

The Central Midwest District (CMD) will meet in Hinsdale November 8th, 9th, & 10th. The keynote speech will be on Friday evening, the 8th, and will be delivered by the Reverend Judith Walker-Riggs, Trustee-at-large on the UUA Board.

Other highlights include a variety of workshops, a banquet, a jam-boree, the CMD business meeting and the Sunday morning worship service. Mark your calendars now and look for complete details in your local church newsletter.

### CLARA BARTON SISTERHOOD

The Clara Barton Sisterhood is a special category of life membership created as a means of honoring UU women ages 80 or older. The contribution for sisterhood membership is \$25, which is added to the UUWF's general operating fund.

### CONGRATULATIONS!

To Clarise Jefferson of Normal, IL who was elected President of the UUWF Continental Board at the Biennial.

### MAD SLASHER TO SLASH!

If your CMD-UUWF dues are not paid by December 1, 1985 your name will be removed from the mailing list.





(President's Message cont.)

from its place of honor and up as a back ground for the installation service, but it did get there, with minutes to spare. Such satisfaction!

Of course, I was terribly reluctant not to be able to stay on for GA...but that was truly impossible. As it was, I returned to Avon to pick up the role of drama director and teacher a scant 24 hours tardy. The workshops were my main summer activity until August 14. At that time we returned to Western Springs. For the next 2 months UUWF, 50th wedding anniversary celebration and Spoon River Fall Festival will claim our attention.

For the UUWF part of my life let me give you a brief outline of what I hope will happen in the near future

- (1) Plans will be made for a goal setting session and business meeting of our Board on October 18-20.
- (2) Last minute details for Fall Retreat will be attended to.
- (3) Membership growth and fund-raising plans will be given prime consideration.
- (4) Consideration of a Women in Religion Convocation in the CMD, possibly in conjunction with a Continental UUWF Board Meeting. Scheduling, financing, and all other planning tasks make this a BIG project. In the meantime, don't despair if you can't find the magic to get the whole world on the "right track." Pick out your favorite cause and get some like-minded women to join in your concerns. Don't try to do it all by yourself.

Share your successes. Cheer those who are working on other worthwhile projects. Share your failures. Grieve when others fall short of their goals...But pick yourselves up and keep moving towards goals.

I must cut this off...even though it is obvious that I could go on and on! And don't forget to say "yes", if you possibly can, when we come your way with a UUWF need.

Much love,

*Marion Baker*

WRITTEN IN CHURCH NEWLETTERS

Each month in Community Post, the newsletter of Park Forest the UUWF is mentioned whether it is a "thank you" for help with the Spring luncheon, summer picnics & outings, or the minister attending Biennial.

In the Peoria newsletter it explained the meaning of UUWF, purpose as well as listed the officers and time and locations of meetings.

Delores Butler wrote a report for the Avon newsletter after attending Allerton.

From Rockford:

Allerton is...  
women from the CMD  
hugs from old friends and warm hands extended in friendship to the newcomers.  
living like the Lady of the Manor.  
early bird-walks  
late games like bridge, boggle, and the UN game.  
celebrating the worship,  
with laughter and serious discussion.

(cont.p.5)



Allerton Is. cont.

many ages gathering to exchange thoughts,  
a mingling of tears and joy,  
sitting in workshops,  
walking to Sunsinger.  
teamwork by fifteen women from the  
Rockford area.  
feeling good, driving home, goals met,  
done.

Pat Murray

CMD-UUWF BOARD MEETING NOTES

Sixty-four women attended the  
Allerton Conference, representing  
18 churches out of a possible 70.

Clarise Jefferson, Continental  
Board member, reported that plans  
are underway to make Clara Barton  
Camp a separate corporation from the  
Federation. This will occur legally by  
January 1986.

Lyn Rund estimated that the  
CMD-UUWF retreats touch about 200  
women in our district.

Pat Scanlon stated that she felt  
Jo Jameson being elected again was  
in conflict with our by-laws. The  
Board decided and Jo agreed that  
she should not serve for another  
term.

The Nominating Committee reported  
that Nancy Eabel, from St. Louis had  
accepted the nomination of director  
for 1985-1987. She was elected.

Marion thanked Bonnie-Sue  
Michael, Jo Jameson and Lorraine  
Wallace for all their work on the  
Board.

Jet reported that the silent  
auction made \$259.

Jo Jameson, Anita Schiavi, and  
Lorraine Wallace were appointed by  
Marion to the '86 Nominating Comm.

Gloria Grimm urged units to send  
in Nominations for the Hester Huff  
Roll of Recognition and she asked the  
Board to consider letting the winner  
know so that they will be present for  
the reception. Elise Cade of Hinsdale  
was this years winner.

Joanne Fought is the new Women  
in Religion Chair.

CMD-UUWF BUDGET 1985-1986

INCOME		EXPENSES	
Dues	1000	Board Mtg.	500
Stock &		UOW	400
Interest	150	Donations	300
Refund Conf	2320	Misc.	100
Fund Raiser	300	Dist. Contact	25
		Conf. Seed	2320
		Pres. Biennial	100
TOTAL 3770		TOTAL 3745	

Donations: \$75 each to: RCAR,  
Clara Barton Camp, Clara Barton  
Birthplace and UUWF Federation. To  
CMD we sent \$25.

UUWF PROGRAM SUGGESTIONS

Did you know that your unit  
could order program materials, study  
guides, workshop kits, and Organiza-  
tional aids from 25 Beacon St? Free  
materials include UUWF Membership  
Brochures, UUWF Gift Catalogue,  
Advocacy Materials, and Brochures  
about Clara Barton Camp. T-shirts  
pens, posters, notepads, etc.

HINSDALE QUILT

The women of the Hinsdale church  
worked all summer to create a quilt.  
Raffle tickets are being sold with a  
drawing to be held on December 7th.  
The women hope to raise several  
thousand dollars which will go to  
their church building fund. Come to  
the CMD Annual mtg. to view the quilt.



1985 - 1986

CENTRAL MIDWEST DISTRICT UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST WOMEN'S FEDERATION

Presidents: Marion Baker  
1110 Walnut  
Western Springs, IL 60558  
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(815) 624-2003

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Pam Bowers  
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Bloomington, IL 61701  
(309) 663-4116

UUWF Continental President  
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Normal, IL 61761  
(309) 452-4736

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Women and Religion Chair  
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Spring Retreat Chair  
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CMD President  
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RCAR Representative  
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