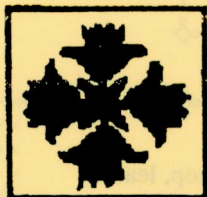


Allerton Conference
June 9-11, 1996

The Fabric of Our Lives

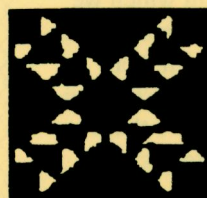


CMD-UUWF ALLERTON CONFERENCE

The Fabric of Our Lives

June 9-11, 1996
at

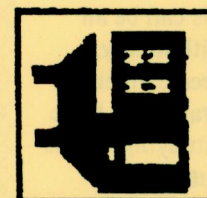
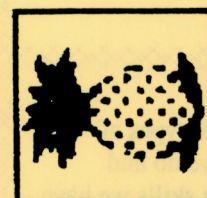
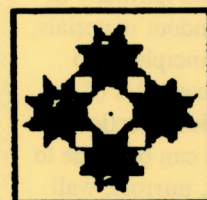
Allerton Park in Monticello, Illinois



Come spend a pampered weekend (Sunday noon through Tuesday noon) in the company of vital and interesting women at Robert Allerton's former country estate. The conference center, approximately thirty miles southwest of Urbana-Champaign, is now operated by the University of Illinois. The 1500 acre wooded grounds along the Sangamon River provides a magnificent setting for the forty room Georgian mansion in which we'll be housed and hold our meetings. Among the pleasures to be experienced are more than seventy outdoor sculptures, acres of formal gardens and miles of hiking trails.

In addition to our theme programming, we're preparing a variety of workshops focussing our attention on our need for satisfying the hand, the head and the heart. Other events being planned are the Hester Huff Honoree Reception, a staging of *Quilters*, games, walking tours of the grounds, and an introduction to Allerton session for newcomers to Allerton. There are always opportunities to relax, regroup and take time for yourself.

And, of course, there's the fun for all in participating in our annual silent auction!



It's our great pleasure to have Nancy Vedder-Schults as this year's keynote speaker and program leader.

Nancy, Ph. D., well known as a minstrel for the Queen of Heaven and Earth, has taught Women's Studies at the University in Madison since 1975. A recent recipient of the UUWF's Feminist Theology Award, Nancy's goal is the empowerment of women in body, mind, spirit and emotions. She's been keynote speaker and has facilitated women's spirituality retreats in North Carolina, Oklahoma, Saskatchewan, California, and Maine as well as throughout the Midwest.

Nancy's work is rooted in ritual, story and song as well as feminist theology and scholarship. As musical consultant for the *Rise Up and Call Her Name* curriculum, she researched goddess chants from around the world. This led to the 1993 recording of *Chants for the Queen of Heaven* with a talented group of ethnomusicians, featuring the music of women and their goddesses from Tibet, Brazil, India, Hawaii, Korea, South Africa, Japan and the USA. This exceptional work is highly regarded and has been received with acclaim.

Nancy has performed and participated in numerous conferences and gatherings. Last summer she provided music at the UU Summer Assembly at Lake Geneva and was also artist-in-residence at the Southwest Summer Institute. She was also featured at the UUWF Biennial in Minneapolis.

The range of Nancy's work extends to all facets of women's lives and art forms. Her workshops, retreats and worship services cover a wide range of topics and themes, including *Quilters*!

Nancy is a member of the First Unitarian Church in Madison, WI.

WORKSHOPS

Quilting 101+ This is a hands-on quilting workshop for beginners and experienced quilters alike. You will have an opportunity to learn the basics and be able to cut and sew a quilt block. Patterns and materials will be available or you may bring your own. It should be 100% cotton, either pre-shrunk or some already worn item ready to be recycled. Your own needle, thread and scissors are also welcome.

Clarise Jefferson, a member of the Quilt Guild in Bloomington will share her love of the craft, which she took up when she was doing all that traveling, conferring and negotiating while she was on the Continental Board. Now a self-styled "free-lance person", she will pass on some of her hard-won knowledge and skills.

Stone Diaries by Carol Shield (Penguin Books), the 1995 Pulitzer Prize winner, is the subject of this workshop lead by bibliophile, **Betty Jachim**. "From her calamitous birth in Manitoba in 1905 to her journey with her father to Indiana, throughout her years as wife, mother and widow, Daisy Stone Goodwill has struggled to understand her place in her own life. Now she listens, she observes, and, through sheer force of imagination, she becomes a witness of her own life: her birth, her death, and the troubling misconceptions she discovers in between." These words are the on the jacket cover. Let's talk about this work of art and the responses it raises within us as readers.

Patchwork of Diversity Explor the variety of UU women's groups throughout the continent. What a rich variety of programming takes place, from social activism, history of the women's movement, education, celebration of the many passages of women's lives and their loved ones', book reviews, holiday teas and luncheons, intergenerational gatherings and much more. Come and share what your group does or would like to do. See successful models of UUWF groups that are nurturing, celebrating, involved in social justice, hardships and love being a woman. We'll see slides, videos, programs, music and share in our own celebration of coming together as UU women at Allerton.

Janet Nortrom, UUWF Continental Board member, teacher and activist from Milwaukee area will help us become energized in gathering a patchwork quilt of ideas to take back to your church.

Women Mentoring Women In this workshop, lead by **Rosemary Sammons**, a long term UU who's a clinical social worker, we will explore and share the ways in which we ourselves have been mentored and ways in which we might have influenced others. How do you, in your church, celebrate, honor and foster the growth of women, both young and old? Has this been meaningful for you? What more could have been wished for? Let's explore these issues as we share what mentoring has done for us.

Feng Shui - The Chinese Art of Placement has evolved from centuries of observation of natural phenomena, such as land formations and their effect upon the placement of a home or place of business, taking into account the flow of energy, or "Chi". **Nancy Babel**, a Licensed Professional Counselor who uses art therapy, relaxation training and spiritual principles in her work, will introduce us to the philosophy of this art of placing and decorating our environments to bring good fortune, health and harmony in relationships. The workshop will provide handout materials, discussion and guidance in applying these principles into one's life, work and living spaces. Specific examples of feng shui principles will be given, such as color selection to achieve one's purposes and alterations which can be made to remedy "bad chi flow" by using wind chimes, mirrors, wall decorations, plants and furniture arrangement. This is an introductory experience for those who are curious about this area of study.

The Enneagram is the study of the nine basic types of people. It explains why we behave the way we do and accounts for how we've developed the coping skills we have. The Enneagram is different from other personality assessment systems because it points to specific directions that may be taken for individual growth. This can be an important tool for improving relationships with family, friends and coworkers. **Doris Knight**, a retired elementary school teacher, once introduced to Enneagrams at a Lake Geneva Summer Assembly, has continued studying in this area. She's shared what she's learned about this fascinating system with her Park Forest church community and now you have an opportunity to get acquainted with it, too.

Home is where the self is: Where do you live? This workshop will explore the ideas in the groundbreaking new book *House as a Mirror of Self: Exploring the Deeper Meaning of Home* (Conari Press, 1995). Clare Cooper Marcus, a professor of architecture from Berkeley, writes from a Jungian perspective about how our home reflects the many dimensions of who we are and offers explanations about what our relationship to our home says about ourselves. Exercises designed to invoke a deeper understanding of the many meanings of home will be included. **Carol Lytle**, a residence hall director at Graceland College, Lamoni, Iowa will lead this workshop.

Women of El Salvador What's on the road ahead for them? Where does the road lead? What can be done for them? With them? Come explore these issues with **Helen Johnson**, our indomitable UUSC truck driver, activist who's a member of both the Muckwanago and 1st Unitarian/Milwaukee churches.

Violence in the Family Not just physical abuse, but verbal and psychological abuse can dehumanize the spirit. Can it happen here, among us? How can we deal with it? Let's look into the UUSC (Unitarian Universalist Service Committee) curriculum kit *No Punching Judy* with **Rossann Baker-Priestley** for tools we can use to support women of

I Found God in Myself is a workshop centered on investigating how goddess imagery strengthens your power as a woman through story, ritual and song, as only our keynote, **Nancy Vedder-Shults**, can.

What Shall We do About the Religious Right?

This workshop will deal with political activism aimed at countering the impact of Religious Right groups. Recent issues of UU publications will be used as the basis for the discussion: A Religious Pro-Choice Position by Rev. Dorothy Boroush in the January/February issue of the UUWF newsletter, *The Communicator* and Tom Andrews: Taking Lessons from the Right by David Reich in the March/April issue of the *UU World* magazine. **Lu Krug**, a community activist long engaged in League of Women Voters and now in the Milwaukee Task Force for Religious Pluralism and United for Diversity groups will lead us.

Crazy Quilt: Theatre Improvisations Take a leap into the unknown! Learn to trust the first thing off the top of your head in the joyous, raucous game of improv. Quotes from women who have taken this workshop: "Fabulous; inspiring; the most fun I've had in years; relaxing; went by too fast; delightful; everyone should try improv; liberating; I loved it!" Intrigued? Come join **Beverly Feldt**, a professional actor for nearly 20 years who studied improv with the legendary Del Close of Second City in Chicago. Beverly, a member of the Park Forest church, narrates industrial films, is a script and lyrics writer and is a member of the women's drumming group ABOUSAD.

Crafting Small Books This workshop will give you hands-on lessons and an opportunity to create a small book that you can take home with you. The knowledge and experience you gain will help you plan future projects for yourself or others. Think what fun it would be to have a journal that is all your very own, from start to finish! **Catherine Walker** of Madison, WI will guide us.

CALL TO ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CENTRAL MIDWEST DISTRICT UUWF

to be held during the Allerton Conference
June 9-11, 1996 at Allerton Park, Monticello, Illinois

The purpose of the meeting is to hear reports of last year's activities and of the financial condition of the organization and to elect officers, directors and a nominating committee.

Silent Auction at Allerton

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 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 round the auction tables placing their silent bids.

Excitement builds over the day and a half of non-stop bidding until the bell rings bringing the auction to a close on Monday evening. In past years we have collected anywhere from \$200 to \$400 for the common good.

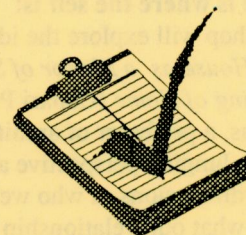
Wondering what to bring? You can bring just about anything. Past items have included: special art treasures, lovely books, handmade items, costume jewelry, ceramic mugs, souvenir plates, posters, wall hangings, kitchen gadgets, plants, bulbs, candles, homemade jellies, pillows, afghans, and the occasional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

A new request: in addition to the usual variety of white elephants, we ask you to bring at least one nicer item for folks to bid on!

It's all great fun and certainly sometime in the next few weeks you will find just the thing to contribute. Start looking now!

TO LEAVE AT HOME:

Allerton phone number
(217) 762.7011



TO BRING WITH YOU:

- comfortable clothes (dressing up for dinner and the Hester Huff reception is optional)
- camera
- notepad/journal/sketch book
- binoculars
- flashlight
- insect repellent
- mat for stretching
- walking shoes
- games
- musical instruments and drums
- silent auction items
- recommended books to share
- a treasured object for our altar
- needle, thread, scissors
- material remnants (100% preshrunk cotton)
- quilt projects (pieces, clothes, coverlets, etc. to display)

SCHOLARSHIP/GRANT APPLICATION

Four grants of up to \$125 each are available. Applications must be postmarked by May 20th.

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

My need is _____

Mail completed application to registrar, Betty Jachim, 6341 Blackhawk Trail, Indian Head Park, IL 60525.

You will get a response by June 1st.

CMD-UUWF ALLERTON CONFERENCE
JUNE 9-11, 1996

REGISTRATION FORM

(please print)

NAME _____ DAY PHONE _____ EVE _____
 ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
 CHURCH _____ CITY _____
 ROOMMATES(S) _____ FIRST TIME TO ALLERTON? Y/N _____

ACCOMMODATIONS and rates per night. Please indicate 1st, 2nd and 3rd choice.

_____ Dormitory Main House \$28.00

_____ Double Main House \$34.00*

_____ Single in Main House \$45.00*

_____ Double Gate House \$34.00
 (about a half block from the main house)

_____ Dormitory Gate House \$28.00
 (about a half block from the main house)

_____ Double in Evergreen Lodge \$34.00**
 (the motel near the parking area)

_____ No Lodging needed 6% Hotel Tax will be added

* These rooms are recommended if steps are a problem

** Smoking permitted

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:

_____ STEPS ARE A PROBLEM

_____ MOBILITY/STAMINA RESTRICTIONS
 (i.e. cannot readily walk other buildings)

_____ DIETARY CONCERNS/RESTRICTIONS
 (please specify: e.g. vegetarian, no red meat)

_____ OTHER SPECIAL NEEDS

If you stay for the entire conference, you will be expected to pay for all meals. The only exceptions are lunch on Sunday for late arrivals or lunch on Tuesday for early departures. If you stay only one night of one day, you will pay for appropriate meals. If you are coming for a shorter time, please indicate meals and lodging required.

NOTE: The University charges a usage fee of \$7 per day for each person attending the conference whether or not you stay overnight. Total cost of conference will vary according to your room assignment and length of stay. *Not many first*

Sunday, June 9th

_____ Lunch \$7.00
 _____ Dinner \$14.75
 _____ Lodging

Monday, June 10th

_____ Breakfast \$6.00
 _____ Lunch \$7.00
 _____ Dinner \$14.75
 _____ Lodging

Tuesday, June 11th

_____ Breakfast \$6.00
 _____ Lunch \$7.00

6.25 % tax on food will be added

floor rooms are available in the main house. Some gate house rooms (half block from main house) may be used. Since rooms are assigned on a first come first served basis, please return your registration form with registration fees ASAP, noting special needs, if any. We can't guarantee all requests can be filled, but we will do our best. If all else fails, we'll check back with you. The registration fee is \$35 through May 30th, afterwards it's \$40.

Also, note that, if your membership is not current (check the mailing label for dues expiration date) you must add \$5 to update your status on our mailing list.

Enclosed: Registration fee _____
 \$5 dues update? _____
 for a total of _____

Make check out to CMD-UUWF. Send Registration form & fees by May 30th to
Betty Jachim, 6341 Blackhawk Trail, Indian Head Park, IL 60525,
 You'll receive a confirmation letter and map. Questions? Call Betty at 708.784.0742.

CMD-UUWF 1995-96 Directory

President Nancy Babel, (314.567.3867), 1218 Oxford Hill Dr., St. Louis, MO 63146
Vice President Susan Karcher, (708.495.6061), 1431 Lombard Ave., Lombard, IL 60148
Secretary Betty Jachim, (708.784.0742), 6341 Blackhawk Trail, Indian Head Park, IL 60525
Treasurer Irene Sanderson, (414.964.5026), 5005 N. Palisade Rd., Whitefish Bay, WI 53217
Director Helen Cadoret (314.725.1739), 6363 Alamo, Sty. Louis, MO 63105
Director Janet R. Collins (314.225.4712), 836 Potoison Dr., Manchester. MO 63021
Director Linda Johnston (309.662.3188), 2920 Capen Dr., Bloomington, IL 61704
Director Lucile Krug (414.962.1394), 2695 N. Wahl Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53211
VOW Editor Bette Rotert (847.362.1208) 30 Lindon Ln., Vernon Hills, IL 60061
Allerton 1996 Chair Rossann Baker-Priestley, (309.343.2490) 159 E. Grove, Galesburg, IL 61401
Lake Geneva 1996 Chair Rebecca Rose (708.343.2490), 8123 Lake St., North Ave, River Forest, IL 60305
Women & Religion Chair Nike Mendenhall (217.228.0822) 2830 Cabot Road, Quincy, IL 62301
CMD Administrator Helen Bishop, (708.343.3478) 1701 S. 1st Ave, Suite 310, Maywood, IL 60153
Continental UUWF:
Executive Director Mari Maeks (617.742.2100), 25 Beacon St., Boston MA 02108
President Arlene Johnson, Tulsa, OK
Board Liaison Janet Nortrom, (414.964.3764), 4332 N. Woodborn, Shorewood, WI 53211

The Fabric of Our Lives

UUWF

Unity Temple UU Congregation

875 Lake Street

Oak Park, IL 60301

Nonprofit
 Organization
 U.S. Postage
 PAID

Oak Park, IL 60301
 Permit No. 305

TIME DATED MATERIAL

PROMPT DELIVERY REQUESTED
