

# C M D U U W F NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 1971

## President's Letter

Allerton always has been an occasion for renewing friendships, but having Janet Bowering back in Illinois this year was something special. And another old friend Marguerite Cohen of Peoria, has been elected to the District Board.

In September I visited the Women's groups in Stockton, Illinois, where we formerly lived from 1945 to 1948, and met many old friends whom I had not seen since we moved away.

We are losing one friend --- Betty Schoonover is moving to California. She has had to resign from the Allerton Committee, to which she was appointed after finishing her term on the District Board. We wish to express our appreciation to her and to Doris Jones who also finished her term as a Board member, for all they have done.

I have been pleased to receive program books from several local units. When your unit produces a booklet would you send me one. It is very interesting to see the interesting and varied programs the units are planning. I wish I could attend them all.

In October I plan to visit the Joliet group and am looking forward to seeing many old friends as well as making new ones.

Maves Bell, another new District Board member, has invited Margaret Harris and me to Rockford in November. The Rockford gals are real go-getters and with Marjorie Cooper as Allerton Chairman and Maves on the Board, too, next year holds great promise.

*Betty*

## Chicago Area Report

The meeting of the Women's Federation in the Chicago Area will be held on Thursday, October 14 at the North Shore Unitarian Church in Deerfield. It's a semi-all-day event with registration and coffee from 9:30 to 10, with the program ending by 2:00 so that you can beat the traffic home. There will be a great program a delicious luncheon, and we also provide baby-sitting (mothers are asked to bring sack lunches for their children). So let everyone in your group know as soon as you can so they can plan to be with us October 14th.

Incidentally, the Deerfield Church is a cinch to get to ..... it's on Route 22, about two blocks east of the Tri-State Tollway.

SEE YOU ALL THEN

## Allerton Report

This year's Allerton Institute was another success. Statistically, 61 women attended, representing 16 units including our Keynote Speaker, Janet Bowering, and two representatives of Women's Lib, Cathy Cade and Ruth Mahaney. A new record was set with seven minister's wives present. A large round of applause goes to chairmen Elise Cade, Marjorie Cooper, and Betty Schoonover who did a woman's job of .... "putting it all together" with special acclaim going for the choice of the keynote and guest speakers.

Janet Bowering is a Unitarian-Universalist minister and also married to one. This, plus her dynamic personality more than qualified her to speak to us on woman's changing role in our society.

"Keeping The Tightrope Tight" is the phrase she used to typify woman's precarious position to maintain balance with skill, courage and wisdom. In the working world to move ahead, she must either display special ability and talent without being aggressive, or she must be openly competitive, invoking a "Women's Lib" image, risking being labeled as a trouble maker, or not "feminine".

In keeping the tightrope tight, we must fix on distant goals; some attainable, some so large they will not be realized in our generation. Creative tension can get us across; deciding to be involved instead of sinking in frantic frustration. The tightrope is as long as life, and the act varies from year to year.

The panelists spoke from four different viewpoints as active women in today's society.

Janet Bowering dealt with problems as a "Working Wife with a Working Husband", citing rivalry for importance and dealing with children and domestic difficulties as situations needing solutions in such circumstances.

"Women in Management" was discussed by June Morgan from the North Shore Unit. Such Women present a unique opportunity and challenge. Men often resent working under a woman, and therefore such a situation must bring out the strongest kind of leadership in a woman.

Velane Carnall, Third Church, spoke of the double opportunity offered in "Volunteerism" -- realizing one's own potentialities and satisfying the desire to help others. Need for training & variety of experiences were emphasized.

"How Young Women in Women's Lib Look at the World" was covered by two guests, Cathy C'ede and Ruth Mahaney. Cathy is the daughter of Elise Code. They told of much enthusiasm for communal living -- the woman to woman relationship, and the fact that it's important to feel women can depend on each other to gain security from personal relationships with other women.

There were three objectives agreed upon by the panel: Looking ahead to personal fulfillment, building on one's own experiences, and understanding how today's education of girls has conditioned them to meet life.

On the entertainment side, Rosann White directed the play, "A Dolls House" by Clare Booth Luce. Emil Gudmundson and Ruth Ganchiff gave an excellent performance of this updated version of Ibsen's play.

Cathy C'ede gave a slide presentation of "The Nuclear Family", describing various life styles of family units.

And would Allerton be the same without Lorraine Weber's "Sing Along"?

At the 15th Annual Business meeting it was suggested that a letter be written to the National UUWF offices requesting a UUWF financial report be published in the Bridge, using a similar form used by the UUA, giving a total budget breakdown.

Marjorie Cooper presented the Guide to Long Range Planning for Financing for the CMDUWF. Changes were discussed, and it will be put into future use.

Marguerite Cohen, Peoria, and Maves Bell, Rockford, were elected to the Board replacing Doris Jones, Urbana, and Betty Schoonover, Waukesha, Wisc., after their expired terms. Marjorie Cooper will be 1972 Allerton Chairman, and Betty Steel will fill a newly created post of Chicago Area Director for 1972.

Janet Bowering gave a beautiful and moving worship service at the closing session of the 1971 Allerton Institute. .... "Every parting is an end and a beginning, whether it is the parting of mother and embryo in a joyful new birth or the bitter breaking of a long relationship, or simply the parting of a group of women, changed somehow by three days together. Our meeting here has planted and nurtured ideas and friendships. We leave with gifts that we have exchanged -- gifts ranging from our best hopes and creative thoughts to news of friends and favorite recipes. Let us not forget the gifts of tolerance, sympathy, and remembrance."

We can not forget the memory of specific words and deeds. The warm feeling of friendship will stay with us until our next Allerton Institute, June 20, 21 and 22, 1972

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Editors Note: Janet Bowering's keynote address and/or worship service will be available upon request.

Your Newsletter can be only as meaningful as the material received from YOU. Help! Help! Do you have any interesting thoughts, unit activities or pet causes you would like to share with others?

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