

September, 1976

ALLERTON 1976

Thanks to the imaginative and efficient planning and the hard work of Tobe Easton, Clarise Jefferson, Marietta Hunsche, and the Bloomington Committee, the Allerton Institute, 1976, is another forged link in the communication chain of a group of midwestern UU women. 88 women attended the Institute, and "drop-ins" brought the number to 94.

The theme was "Honor Thy Womanself" and discussion groups considered the topics Being Our Age and Learning to Like It, Focus on Values and Goals, Growing Up Human, Self--Discovery, and Assertion Training. Leaders were Ann Cooper, Alice Joenitz, Ethel Sinclair, Pamela Bowers, Wanda Hoover, Marian Baker, Ruth Davis, Bonnie Olson, Carol Nudo, Linda Wiltz, Ellen Dohner, Gertrude Lindener, and Mildred Richards.

Gertrude Lindener, minister of education of the Madison Church, and Liza Brown and Carol Buse, leaders of the Dance Fellowship of that church, presented the keynote event which was a reading and a dance interpretation of the poetry of Lorca, "Ancient Voices of Children." The participation of these three talented women in the Institute was made possible by a gift from the Madison Alliance.

In Tobe's words, "Gertrude's gentle deep look at Self united us in the worship service (and I must admit I found particular reaction to the value of the trained talent of a woman minister---- too infrequent an experience even in our beloved UU church)."

Liza and Carol also conducted workshops and they and their "pupils" were involved in the other worship services which Gertrude coordinated and led. Again quoting Tobe, "Looking back, it seems incredible that those two little powerhouses, Lisa and Carol, could loom so large in setting and holding the tone of understanding and expressing self. No, not incredible, Wonderful. They involved many members in presentations, sometimes all members....."

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ELECTIONS

Business had to be attended to also at the Allerton meeting. Bonnie Olson, Will County, was elected to succeed herself as treasurer of the CMD--UUWF. Judy Stefl, Oak Park, and Eleanor Bethel, St. Louis, were elected to serve as Directors. Other members of the Board who will be serving the second of their two-year terms are Doris Jones, President; Betsy Davis, Secretary; Clarise Jefferson and Mildred Richards, Directors. Marian Baker as Allerton Chairperson for 1977 will be an ex-officio member of the Board.

TREASURER'S REPORT

A condensation of the treasurer's report given at Allerton shows:

Cash on hand, 6/1/75	\$1,155.92
Receipts	<u>1,317.47</u>
	\$2,473.39
Disbursements	<u>\$1,611.67</u>
Balance on hand 6/1/76	\$ 861.72

\$506.61 of the amount is in a savings account. The treasurer deposited \$500 in the account on January 9, 1976 in order to have some of our money earning interest.

BOARD MEETING

The next CMD--UUWF board meeting will be on Saturday, December 4, 1976. Meetings formerly were held at Marshall Fields, but this space is no longer available to us. Board members will be notified of time (usually 11:00 a.m.) and location of the meeting. Any CMD--UUWF member wishing to attend board meetings is entitled to do so. Call or write any board member for information late in November.

HURRAH FOR MARION BAKER!!! See p. 3

GOOD NEWS FOR ALL COOKS, GOURMETS, COOK-BOOK COLLECTORS, ETC. See story on p. 2

CENTRAL MIDWEST DISTRICT
UNITARIAN-UNIVERSALIST WOMEN'S
FEDERATION

September, 1976

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THANKS TO THE KINGS AND BETSY

For years Betty and Don King and Betsy Davis were responsible for seeing that the CMD-UUWF NEWSLETTER was edited, typed, and mailed. Last year I did the editing and typing while the Kings took care of the printing and mailing. I know I speak for all of us when I thank them for this long-time contribution to the work of this organization. And thanks to them from me for sharing the responsibility while I got used to the routine involved.

I apologize for the fact that this is a less professional looking publication than you are used to. I have never used a stylus and am too chicken, too pressed for time, and too parsimonious (stencils cost money!) to experiment.

Copy, changes of address, etc. should be sent to me---address above. I am on the mailing list for several church newsletters now and I would appreciate it if more of you would see that I receive such information.

The next copy of the Newsletter will probably come out in January. I say probably since this letter was predicted to be published in July and here it is September. Any summer excuse you consider most valid will apply---guests, trips, gardens, etc. MR

!!COOKBOOKS!!

Cookbook anyone? It is a good one as those of us who bought our copies at Allerton can testify. Phyllis Brening, Maves Bell and the Rockford unit are to be congratulated.

300 copies of the cookbook were printed and are priced at \$3.25 each. This will net us \$621.70. As you will see from the treasurer's report, our expenses were greater than our income this year which means that our

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ALLERTON 1976 (Continued)

As announced in earlier newsletters, this year's participants were asked to stay with one study group for all four sessions so that they could become well acquainted with one another, their leaders, and the material to be covered. UUWF publications, available from our national office at 25 Beacon Street, were the basis of most discussion groups. Leadership material was gleaned chiefly from these kits which were prepared by area UU women and emphasized the possible rippling effect of the discussion groups if members took the topics back to their home churches. Some topics really need weeks of close association in a church or fellowship for fuller development; some should be revised to fit the needs of particular groups. Leaders "did their homework" and presented materials which are available to all of us. The planning committee hopes the "ripple" from Allerton will affect many more Unitarian-Universalists. YOU may be the leader needed to get something started in your own church. Only Assertion Training is not available through Beacon Street.

In addition to worship services and study groups, this year's memories include Margaret Morgan with her dulcimer and her haunting voice which called us and quieted us. There were also the costume parade (who came as a teabag?), skits, auction, gaming tables, handicrafts, and, of course, conversation and people, people, people.

"The Bloomington Committee enjoyed not only one another, but the excellent response of others in working on Allerton 1976."

CMD BOARD REPRESENTATION

In her President's report at Allerton, Doris Jones told the membership, "The CMD board finally took action on our request to have our president made a voting member of the CMD board. After referring it to committee, they decided that our president should have the same status as the RE chairperson and the LRY representative. Our president is welcome to participate fully in any discussions, even given time on the agenda if requested. However, neither the RE chairperson, the LRY representative, nor the UUWF president shall have voting privileges.

COOKBOOKS (Continued)

small reserve is being further depleted. (~~Board~~ meetings are more expensive now because of our new policy of having a geographically balanced board with a consequent increase in travel costs.) It is, therefore, incumbent upon each of us to see that the Cookbook project is a financial success.

All of the Societies represented at Allerton took extra copies home to sell. They, and all other societies in the District, are urged to order as many copies as possible. Now is the time to do it-- Christmas***is in the offing. Write either Maves Bell, 5017 Charles St., Rockford, IL 61108; or Phyllis Brening, 4961 Welsh Rd., Rockford 61107.

Maves Bell has shared the following letter from Barbara Marshall, Executive Director of UUWF: "How very thoughtful of you to send me a copy of the 'Best in the Central Midwest'! It is like seeing old friends to thumb through it and recognize under the recipes the names of so many women who I recall fondly from last year's Allerton Institute. I will treasure the cookbook, and will enjoy both the food which comes from my using the recipes and the memories of a most pleasant visit to the Midwest..... Congratulations on the successful completion of your two-year project. Once again the women of your District proved their money-rising abilities."

(Let's prove her right with 100% sales)

!!!!!!

CLARA BARTON

Because enough interest has been shown in last year's Clara Barton Resolution, it was voted to reinstate it for another year.

"In view of the fact that the members of the UUWF of all districts share in the ownership and operation of the Clara Barton Camp in which we have a Half Million Dollar investment:

Also, in view of the fact that no camp or any other program can be operated at a deficit:

We, therefore, recommend that the board of the Central Midwest District be directed to take the following action:

1. Send publicity making direct appeals to member Units for financial aid to the Clara Barton Camp and to the Continental UUWF to help defray the existing deficit. (Send checks directly to 25 Beacon St.)
2. Encourage the Continental Board to adopt a policy on rental of the Conference Center which will make it self sustaining, advertising its availability on a wider basis;
3. Encourage the units to inform themselves more fully on the camping and other programs and needs of the Continental UUWF."

AN ALLERTON BONUS

In writing to the editor, Doris Jones expressed the pleasure we all felt in having "two outstanding ministers from the District with us, Gertrude Lindener and Ellen Dohner. They are a delight to meet and work with, both professionally and personally."

ALLERTON INSTITUTE 1977

We are pleased to announce that Marion Baker of the Oak Park church has agreed to coordinate the 1977 Allerton Institute on the condition that everyone she asks to do something will say "yes".

So, if you are called, please say YES (with enthusiasm!) so we can keep our coordinator. Better yet, call her and volunteer your talents, services and ideas.
