



Northwest Illinois Audubon Society

June - July 2016

www.nwilaudubon.org

NIAS MONTHLY MEETINGS

Join us the first Tuesday of every month, September through May. All of our meetings are open to the public.

Most meetings are held at the St John United Church of Christ, 1010 Park Blvd., in Freeport.

Most meetings begin at 7PM with announcements, followed by the program at 7:30 and then refreshments.

Check the current newsletter or our website (nwilaudubon.org) for specific monthly details, special events or any changes to the usual time and place.

Please join us!

INSIDE THIS NEWSLETTER:

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5. Joanne Tarbox Styles Tribute, Jim Akins & Keith Blackmore Memorial
6. Summer Stewardship Activities
7. Thank You!

Barred Owl *Strix varia*

Barred Owls are large, stocky owls with rounded heads, no ear tufts, and medium length, rounded tails. Appearing mottled brown and white overall, Barred Owls have dark brown, almost black, eyes. The underparts are mostly marked with vertical brown bars on a white background, while the upper breast is crossed with horizontal brown bars. The wings and tail are barred brown and white.

Barred Owls roost quietly in forest trees during the day, though they can occasionally be heard calling in daylight hours. At night they hunt small animals, especially rodents, and give an instantly recognizable "Who cooks for you?" call.



ELKHORN CREEK BUTTERFLY FESTIVAL

Saturday, July 30, 1-5 p.m.

Join us for a fun, informative family friendly afternoon as we explore the Elkhorn Creek Biodiversity Preserve for the many butterflies that are found there. From 1-5 p.m. participants may join guided butterfly tours or look on their own for those winged beauties. Tours will begin at 1:00, 2:00, 3:00 and 4:00 p.m. "Illinois Butterflies and Moths" pocket guides will be distributed at no charge while supplies last. We'll have a shady rest area with chairs, as well as a restroom, cold beverages and snacks. If the weather is questionable, call Mary Blackmore at 815-938-3204 before 10 a.m. on July 30. Explorers at previous Butterfly Festivals have found 29 species of butterflies and skippers, among them Tiger Swallowtail, Meadow Fritillary, Buckeye, Comma, Peck's Skipper, Silver Spotted Skipper and Milbert's Tortoiseshell.

The preserve is located about 3 miles southwest of Forreston in the southeast corner of West Grove and Freeport Roads. The parking lot is off of West Grove Rd. We hope to see you there!

Join us for a fun, informative family friendly afternoon as we explore the Elkhorn Creek Biodiversity Preserve for the many



MANY CRANES IN STEPHENSON COUNTY

This year's crane count results in Stephenson County continued the trend of significant Sandhill Crane numbers. Twelve sites were monitored by 22 volunteers who recorded 41 cranes, including 10 pairs. One monitoring group was lucky enough to witness a crane mate exchange on a nest! Our count is part of the multi-state Annual Midwest Crane Count sponsored by the International Crane Foundation.

Without the help of our many volunteer counters, the Crane Count would not be possible. Deep thanks go to Mark Keister, Phil Swalve, Glenn Hagemann, Chris Fye, Richard Benning, Paul Hasenour, Judy Corrie, Bonnie Bade, Teresa Smith, Gay Broocks, Bernard Lischwe, Rex Sides, Gary Gordon, Anne Straight, Juliet D'Souza, Melody Farringer, Sherrie Shoemaker, Colleen Wilson, Jeremy Dixon, Mary Blackmore, Rebecca Shriver-Rice, and Dave DeSwarte. Additional thanks go to Lynn Feaver for entering our results online and to Mary Blackmore for coordinating our count.

CALENDAR CONSIDERATIONS

May 25 - First campfire of the year at the Silver Creek Biodiversity Preserve. At 7 p.m. we'll take a leisurely stroll to observe blooming plants and nesting birds. The campfire will start at 8 p.m. S'mores and water will be provided. Bring a lawn chair and flashlight. Carpool from the Staples east lot in Freeport at 6:15. The preserve is located about 3 miles southwest of Forreton in the southeast corner of West Grove and Freeport Rds. The parking lot is off of West Grove Rd. *If weather is questionable call Mary at 815-938-3204.*

May 26 - Our monthly Conservation Conversation. Join us at Amigo's in downtown Freeport for supper and a casual conversation about current environmental issues. *Open agenda! Order from the menu at 5:30. Please join us.*

May 27 - An Evening of Birding at Lost Mound Field Trip, 5:30 p.m. *See "Field Trips" on page 3 for more information.*

May 31 - Elkhorn Creek parsnip and mustard stewardship, 8-10 a.m. Carpool from the Staples east lot in Freeport at 7:30 a.m. The preserve is located about 3 miles southwest of Forreton in the southeast corner of West Grove and Freeport Rds. The parking lot is off of West Grove Rd. *If weather is questionable call Mary at 815-938-3204.*

June 1 - Audubon in the Library "Most Extreme Animals" 10:30 - 11:00 a.m. *See page 4 for more details.*

June 2 - Prairie Stewardship, Elkhorn Creek, 7-9 a.m. *See page 6 for more details.*

June 3 - Prairie Stewardship, Elkhorn Creek, 7-9 a.m. *See page 6 for more details.*

June 6 - Prairie Stewardship, Elkhorn Creek, 7-9 a.m. *See page 6 for more details.*

June 7 - Field Trip: Wildflower Walkabout, 6:15-9 p.m. *See page 6 for more details.*

June 9 - Prairie Stewardship, Elkhorn Creek, 7-9 a.m. *See page 6 for more details.*

June 11 - Audubon Council of Illinois (ACI) summer meeting hosted by our chapter at Mary Blackmore's home. Includes tour of our Elkhorn Creek Biodiversity Preserve. 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. *Call Mary at 815- 938-3204 for further information.*

June 14 - Prairie Stewardship, Silver Creek, 8-10 a.m. *See page 6 for more details.*

June 16 - Prairie Stewardship, Freeport Prairie, 7-9 a.m. *See page 6 for more details.*

June 17 - "Talking About the Issues" monthly discussion session, 7-9 p.m. at the home of Harlan and Judy Corrie in rural Cedarville, 815-563-4932. For a copy of the first hour topic article contact facilitator Carol Redmore at 815-721-3375. The second hour will be a discussion of whatever issues are brought forth.

Everyone is welcome. Carpool from the Freeport Staples lot at 6:30 p.m. Call Judy and Harlan if directions are needed.

June 20 - Prairie Stewardship, Elkhorn Creek, 7-9 a.m. *See page 6 for more details.*

June 22 - Prairie Stewardship, Elkhorn Creek, 7-9 a.m. *See page 6 for more details.*

June 27 - Prairie Stewardship, Elkhorn Creek, 7- 9 a.m. *See page 6 for more details.*

June 29 - Field Trip: Local and Sustainable Near You, 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. *See page Field Trips, page 3, for details.*

June 30 - Audubon Thursday "Best of the Beasts" 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. *See page 4 for more details.*

June 30 - Firefly Campfire at the Elkhorn Creek Biodiversity Preserve. At 7:30 p.m. we'll take a stroll to observe nesting birds and blooming plants, with the campfire beginning at 8:30.

S'mores and water provided. Bring a lawn chair and a flashlight. Carpool from the Freeport Staples lot at 7:00 p.m. The preserve is located about 3 miles southwest of Forreton in the southeast corner of West Grove and Freeport Roads. The parking lot is off of West Grove Road. If weather is questionable call Mary at 815-938-3204.

July 6 - Prairie Stewardship, Elkhorn Creek, 8-10 a.m. *See page 6 for more details.*

July 8 - Field Trip: A Tale of Two Prairies, 8:30- 11:30 a.m. *See page 6 for more details.*

July 9 - Prairie Stewardship, Elkhorn Creek, 7-9 a.m. *See page 6 for more details.*

July 11 - Prairie Stewardship, Elkhorn Creek, 7-9 a.m. *See page 6 for more details.*

July 13 - Prairie Stewardship, Elkhorn Creek, 7-9 a.m. *See page 6 for more details.*

July 14 - Screech Owl campfire at Elkhorn Creek Biodiversity Preserve. This should be a great opportunity to hear the unique call of this small owl. Stroll at 7 p.m.; campfire at 8 p.m.

Carpool at 6:30 p.m. The preserve is located about 3 miles southwest of Forreton in the southeast corner of West Grove and Freeport Roads. The parking lot is off of West Grove Road. If weather is questionable call Mary at 815-938-3204.

July 16 - Field Trip: Olbrich Outdoors, 7:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. *See page Field Trips, page 3, for details.*

July 18 - Prairie Stewardship, Elkhorn Creek, 7-9 a.m. *See page 6 for more details.*

July 19 - "Talking About the Issues" discussion session, 7:00-9:00 p.m. at the home of Chris Kruger; 201 West Zimmerman Street in Dakota, 815-238-9259. The first hour will focus on the status of the Gray Wolf in Wisconsin. Information can be found on the Wisconsin DNR website where you can enter the word "wolf" in the search or keywords box.

The second hour will be the customary discussion of whatever issues are brought forth by participants.

All are welcome to attend this issues discussion. Carpool from the Staples parking lot in Freeport at 6:30 PM or call Chris for directions.

July 20 - Audubon in the Library "The 'Hottest' Animals" 10:30 - 11:00 a.m. *See page 4 for more details.*

July 21 - Prairie Stewardship, Elkhorn Creek, 7-9 a.m. *See page 6 for more details.*

July 21 - Audubon Thursday "Beat the Heat" (about heat adaptations) 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. *See page 4 for more details.*

July 25 - Prairie Stewardship, Elkhorn Creek, 7-9 a.m. *See page 6 for more details.*

July 28 - Prairie Stewardship, Elkhorn Creek, 7-9 a.m. *See page 6 for more details.*

July 30 - Annual NIAS Butterfly Festival at Elkhorn Creek, 1-5 p.m. Join us for this great family activity! *See cover page for more details.*

August 3 - Audubon in the Library "Nature's Slowpokes" 10:30 - 11:00 a.m. *See page 4 for more details.*

August 6 - Field Trip: Necedah Wildlife Refuge to see Whooping Cranes and Karner Blue Butterflies. *Mark your calendar now - details in the next newsletter!*

The Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation (JD CF) is sponsoring a free potluck and program

featuring award-winning entomologists, explorers, and photojournalists Michael Jeffords and Susan Post.

They will present on Wednesday, June 1, at the Barrel Room at Galena Cellars Vineyard, 4746 N. Ford Road, Galena. Their talk, "Photojournaling with Insects" will feature stunning close-up photographs of insects in the beauty of their natural surroundings. It will also include photos and information on natural areas in northern Illinois that are well worth a day trip or a weekend to explore, and suggest techniques for making the most of your visit.

If attending the potluck at 5:30, please bring a dish to pass and your own table service. The presentation will begin at 7:00 pm for those wishing to attend just the talk. There is no cost for the event.



Birding during the Horicon Marsh field trip April 23rd. (photo by Chris Kruger)



FIELD TRIPS JUNE - JULY

WILDFLOWER WALKABOUT

Hartley Memorial Forest Preserve

Tuesday, June 7, 6:15-9:00 p.m.

Leader: Mark Keister, 815-218-3679

Carpool from Staples in Freeport at 6:15 p.m.

We'll join this Wildflower Walkabout led by NIAS board member Mark Keister through this 40-acre upland mature forest, dominated by basswood and white oak, one of the real gems of the Winnebago County Forest Preserve District. A dense layer of spring and summer flowering herbaceous species includes Wild Geranium, Sweet Cicely and Blue Cohosh. Easy walking!

For information on the series of Wildflower Walkabouts sponsored by the Natural Land Institute and Severson Dells Nature Center call 815-335-2915.

LOCAL AND SUSTAINABLE

NEAR YOU

Stone House Herb Company
and the Freeport High School
Student Farm and Orchard

Wednesday, June 29, 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Leader: Laura Dufford, 815-947-2720 (home)
or 815-541-8958 (cell)

Carpool from Staples in Freeport at 8:30 a.m.

Our first stop will be Stone House Herb Company near Bolton in Stephenson county. Holistically and spiritually grown medicinal, ceremonial, TCM and culinary herbs and herbal products are owner Beth Nagel's specialties. There will be products for sale. We'll return to Freeport for lunch followed by a 1:00 tour of the Freeport High School Student Farm and Orchard located on the high school grounds. This student-run farm offers vegetables, cut flowers, honey and fruit at a weekly on-farm market stand and CSA. If quantities are sufficient, some produce will be for sale.



Carol Redmore poses with Large-Flowered Trillium, Red Trillium, Virginia Bluebells and Woodland Phlox.
(photo by Chris Kruger)

A TALE OF TWO PRAIRIES

Freeport Prairie Nature Preserve
Hansen-Blackmore Prairie at HCC

Friday, July 8, 8:30-11:30 a.m.

Leader: Mary Blackmore, 815-938-3204

Carpool from Staples in Freeport at 8:30 a.m. We'll first drive to the nearby Freeport Prairie Nature Preserve, a native remnant of the original upland prairie known as Shannon Prairie. Summer forbs should be in abundance including Pale Purple Coneflower, Lead Plant, Stiff Coreopsis and much more. From there we will drive to Highland Community College and visit the Hansen-Blackmore Prairie, a diverse planting from the early 70s, established by Leland Hansen and Keith Blackmore and their students. Seed was collected only from a 50-mile radius of the site in an effort to preserve local ecotypes. Optional lunch after in Freeport.

OLBRICH OUTDOORS

Olbrich Botanical Gardens, Madison, WI

Saturday, July 16, 7:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Leader: Mary Blackmore, 815-938-3204
Carpool from Staples in Freeport at 7:30 a.m.

Participants on our winter Olbrich trip expressed a desire to return in the summer to see the outdoor gardens. There is no fee for the outdoor gardens. For those who wish to visit the indoor Bolz Conservatory there is a \$2 admission fee. The seasonal exhibit there will be "Bloom-ing Butterflies," where different species of butterflies are in various stages of development, with free-flying adult butterflies in the conservatory. We'll have lunch on the way home at the local foods cafe in the nearby village of Paoli. Call Mary to confirm your attendance.



The group poses during the Wildflowers and Birds of the Palisades field trip.
(photo by Chris Kruger)

2016 Local Foods Brochure Available

Each year the Northwest Illinois Audubon Society in partnership with the University of Illinois Extension Stephenson County produces a Local Foods Brochure. It is a resource to connect local food buyers with local food growers.

The 2016 brochure lists 42 growers in Northwest Illinois that offer local produce, maple syrup, cheese, honey, eggs, poultry and meat. Buying food locally has many advantages; limiting the amount of fuel used to transport food across the country, an opportunity to get to know the farmer that produced the food that you consume, and keeping dollars locally to promote a healthy community.

If you are interested in a free copy of the 2016 Local Foods Brochure you can pick one up at the University of Illinois Extension Stephenson/Winnebago/Jo Daviess County, University of Illinois Extension Ogle County, University of Illinois Extension Lee/Whiteside County, or the Farm Bureau of Stephenson County.

The brochure is also available at www.nwilaudbon.org or by calling 815-835-5109

NEWS FLASH!



HARLAN'S HAREM RETAKES TROPHY!!

The Cardinal-on-a-Stick Birdathon trophy is returning to Harlan's Harem

The coveted Cardinal-on-a-Stick Birdathon trophy is returning to Harlan's Harem. In the

"Friendly Team Competition Division," Harlan's Harem edged out The Guys by finding 101 species of birds on the May 1 Birdathon, in spite of a windy morning and rainy late afternoon and evening.

Harem team members Juliet D'Souza, Harlan and Judy Corrie, Anne Straight, Teresa Smith, Laura Dufford and Melody Farringer are reportedly ecstatic though still a bit damp and wind-burned.

Our chapter very much appreciates the efforts of all Birdathoners, many who birded from 5 a.m. to 9 p.m., to make this fundraising effort a success. Thanks also to the many individuals who made pledges. Total funds raised will be reported in a future newsletter after all pledged amounts are collected.

North American Prairie Conference

July 17-20 at Illinois State University in Normal, Illinois
For more information visit: nap2016.illinoisstate.edu

Featured speakers include Michael Jeffords co-author of Butterflies of Illinois, Jeff Walk co-author of Illinois Birds a Century of Change, Chris Helzer author of The Ecology and Management of Prairies in the Central United States, Rich Henderson recipient of the John T. Curtis Award for Career Excellence in Ecological Restoration, and Sara Baer, whose research combines ecological theory with restoration ecology.

There will be more than 70 oral papers on many aspects of prairie ecology, restoration, management and some innovative ideas on working lands.

KIDS & FAMILIES

AUDUBON IN THE LIBRARY

WILDLIFE WEDNESDAY

*Appropriate audience is two- to seven-year olds
10:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.*

An Audubon member hosts a monthly series called Wildlife Wednesdays at the Freeport Public Library. During the program, there is first a special story time followed by an activity related to the theme.

June 1: Most Extreme Animals

July 20: The "Hottest" Animals

August 3: Nature's Slowpokes

AUDUBON THURSDAY

*Appropriate audience is six- to 12-year olds
1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.*

This is a special addition to the regular "Wildlife Wednesday" program, but for older kids. The summer library theme is "Read for the Win," so an Audubon member will have a special program about winning and successful animal adaptations.

June 30: "Best of the Beasts" (*about most extreme animals*)

July 21: "Beat the Heat" (*about heat adaptations*)

*Visit our Kids and Families section on our webpage at:
nwilaudubon.org/kids-families.asp*

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Martha Furst – *Freeport*

Francis Bral – *Leaf River*

Ardell and Urai Watry – *Shannon*

Nora Feeney – *Savanna*

Gwendolyn Carter – *Freeport*

Connie Talbert – *Freeport*

Kathleen Williams – *Mount Carroll*

Sharon Kaspar – *Mount Carroll*

Maryane Otto – *Pearl City*

Jen Rieffer – *Ridott*

Peggy Daesher – *Rock City*

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE UPDATE

by Conservation Chair, Candy Colby

Those of you who attended the Audubon banquet in April may have noticed the "bird friendly" coffee samples at each table and perhaps got the chance to take one home. These samples were provided by a company out of Massachusetts called Birds and Beans. Native coffee shrubs grow in the shade and it was only in the 1970s that hybrid "sun" coffee varieties were developed, allowing growers to harvest much higher yields. Unfortunately, this came at the price of clear-cutting the forest, applying high levels of fertilizer and pesticides, increasing soil erosion and great loss of biodiversity in terms of bird and mammal species. Shade coffee farms are basically small ecosystems perhaps second only to tropical rainforests in providing habitat for 150 species of migratory birds as well as resident birds (including orioles, thrushes, warblers, tanagers, parrots and toucans).

Birds and Beans contracts with traditional family farmers in Honduras, Peru, El Salvador and Guatemala and are currently expanding their connections with farmers in Nicaragua. By paying a fair price they encourage farmers to keep shade grown coffee in production. They also work with the farmers to attain certification. According to Birds and Beans, they are the only company that roasts solely bird friendly Smithsonian Certified organic beans. There are numerous other companies that offer shade grown coffee as well.

Because North Americans drink 1/3 of the world's coffee, we CAN make a difference. By purchasing shade grown coffee we can encourage farmers and companies to keep expanding the land devoted to shade coffee farms and help provide habitat and protection for the birds we love.

Earth Friendly Recipe: Quick Asparagus Pasta

From VegNews August 13, 2012 | Serves 4

What You Need:

4 quarts water
8 ounces farfalle (bowtie) pasta
1 bunch asparagus, sliced into 1/4-inch pieces
2 tablespoons olive oil
1 tablespoon non-hydrogenated margarine
1 tablespoon garlic, minced
1/4 teaspoon nutmeg
1/2 cup pine nuts, toasted
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon black pepper, freshly ground

What You Do:

In a large pot, bring water to a boil. Add farfalle and cook until just underdone, about 5 minutes. Place a steamer basket over boiling farfalle, and steam asparagus for 2 minutes. Remove steamer basket and run asparagus under cold water to stop cooking. Drain farfalle and set aside.

In a large saucepan, heat oil and non-hydrogenated margarine over medium heat. Add garlic and nutmeg, and cook until garlic is fragrant, about two minutes. Add farfalle, asparagus, and pine nuts and stir. Add salt and pepper, tossing to combine. Remove from heat and serve.

JOANNE TARBOX STYLES

She Made Us Better People

by Mary Blackmore

Members of our chapter were saddened to hear of the March 5 death of Joanne Tarbox Styles at age 98. Joanne brought a lot of light into the lives of those of us who were lucky enough to get to know her. Generosity, graciousness and happiness were only a few of her many admirable traits.

Our members met Joanne in the process of the donation of her beloved farm to NIAS. She was looking for an organization that would protect her property and make it a sanctuary for wildlife. "I love this place with all my heart," she declared to us. With the help of the Natural Land Institute, Joanne was put in touch with our chapter, and her

donation to us was made. We, in turn, put a conservation easement on the property to ensure protection in perpetuity. The property became our Silver Creek Biodiversity Preserve.

In September, 2011, a group of NIAS leaders, including then-president Teresa Smith, Kara Gallup, Keith Blackmore and Sharon Shaw, traveled to Whitewater, Wisconsin where Joanne was residing. The purpose of the visit was to better understand Joanne's wishes for the property as well as determine the next steps in the donation. During that visit, Joanne impressed upon the group her decades-long love of and connection to that land. She told everyone when it all began.

The night before she married Hascy Tarbox, a party was given in their honor at her parent's farm. It was then that Joanne and Hascy were inspired to someday get a farm of their own. They "saved and saved and saved" and finally the timing, finances and location all came to gether.

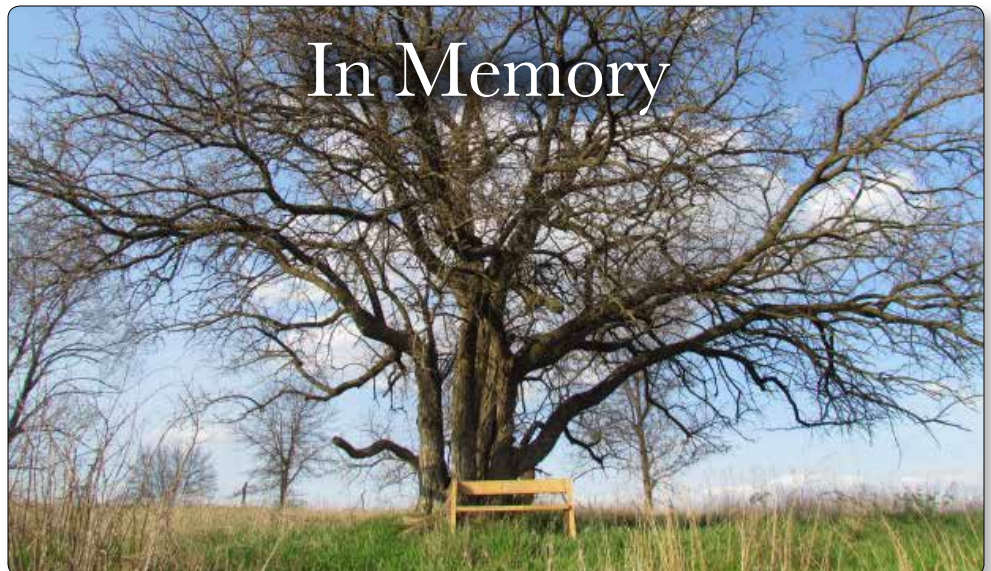
She laughed about how long it took. "We were 44 years old and got the farm and our first grandchild in the same year!" She still remembered her first bird sighting at the farm, an Eastern Bluebird. She also told of

the enjoyment in taking her Leaf River first grade students to the farm every year on the last day of school. Among other things the students would have boat races on Silver Creek.

When speaking about our chapter accepting her land gift Joanne declared, "I can't tell you how happy this is making me!" She was not only pleased with the wildlife protection that would result, but also the fact that the public - including her family and former students - would be able to visit the area and walk the trails.

Joanne continued to visit the preserve as her life led her back to reside in nearby Mt. Morris. She sowed Pasture Rose seeds during our pollinator strip planting in 2013, and joined us with her daughter Melinda at Silver Creek's Bird Festival two years ago. Her deep gratitude for our chapter's work there never waned.

Knowing how much the land meant to Joanne inspires us to continue our work with the joy she always showed. A part of her always will be at Silver Creek and in those whose lives she touched. She made us better people.



In Memory

A bench has been installed under the Osage orange on "Jims Hill" at Elkhorn Creek Biodiversity Preserve and is dedicated in memory of Jim Akins and Keith Blackmore. This vantage overlooks the area which both Jim and Keith were stewards and was a favorite spot of Keith to sit.

Left: Lynn Feaver reads from the writings of a pioneer woman, Eliza Steele in 1840 -- "Summer Journey in the West" about the Illinois tall grass prairies during the NIAS Banquet in April. (photos by Juliet D'Souza and Anne Straight)



Photo: Baptisia bracteata (Cream Wild Indigo) flowering at E.C.B.P. (D. Barron)

Please join us for one or more of the following stewardship sessions scheduled below for either the Elkhorn Creek or Silver Creek Biodiversity Preserves or the Freeport Prairie Nature Preserve. Depending upon the site or week, we will be doing a variety of tasks such as removing sweet clover, burdock and wild parsnip, cutting brush, girdling saplings or otherwise reducing the competition in our native prairie, woodland and wetland remnants.

Times: Times vary so check the schedule below. Following most sessions those interested will gather at a local restaurant for breakfast.

You Supply: Wear long pants, long sleeves, socks long enough to tuck your pant legs into (for tick avoidance), a hat and footwear that can get wet (earlier is dewier!). Take along insect repellent and sunscreen.
We Supply : Tools, gloves, water and directions about our work always will be provided.

Carpooling: The carpool site to Elkhorn Creek and Silver Creek is the east portion of the Staples parking lot in Freeport along HWY 26 on the south edge of town. Departure times vary so check the schedule below.

Questions? If the weather is questionable or you need more information, contact the listed leader(s).

Site Directions: **Elkhorn Creek Biodiversity Preserve** is about 3 miles southwest of Forreston in the southeast corner of West Grove and Freeport Rds. Parking is off of West Grove Rd.

The Freeport Prairie is just south of the intersection of Meadows Dr. and Walnut Rd. on the south side of Freeport. Parking is off of Walnut Rd.

Silver Creek Biodiversity Preserve is about 2 miles south of Leaf River in the southwest corner of the intersection of Leaf River Rd. and West Grove Rd. Parking is off of Leaf River Rd. (*S. Main St. crossing Hwy 72 in Leaf River becomes Leaf River Rd.*)

June 2 - Elkhorn Creek, Fruit Bowl, 7-9 a.m., carpool 6:30. *Leader: Kara, 815-871-8014.*

June 3 - Elkhorn Creek, Black Oak Savanna, 7-9 a.m., carpool 6:30. *Leader: Alan 815-541-0789.*

June 6 - Elkhorn Creek, Spiderwort Vista, 7-9 a.m., carpool 6:30. *Leader: Anne 815-938-3263.*

June 9 - Elkhorn Creek, Old Joe Seep, 7-9 a.m., carpool 6:30. *Leaders: Randy & Nancy 815-440-5768.*

June 14 - Silver Creek, 8-10 a.m., carpool 7:15. *Leader: Mary, 815- 938-3204.*

June 16 - Freeport Prairie, 7-9 a.m. *Leader: Mary, 815-938-3204.*

June 20 - Elkhorn Creek, Bluestem View, 7-9 a.m., carpool 6:30. *Leader: Kara, 815-871-8014.*

June 22 - Elkhorn Creek, Spiderwort Vista and Swamp Sparrow Wetland, 7-9 a.m., carpool 6:30. *Leaders: Juliet and Anne, 815-938-3263.*

June 27 - Elkhorn Creek, Fruit Bowl and Old Joe Seep, 7-9 a.m., carpool 6:30. *Leaders: Randy, Nancy, Mary and Kara, 815-871-8014.*

July 6 - Elkhorn Creek, Elkhorn Riparian Strip, 8-10 a.m., carpool 7:30. *Leader: Jeremy 815-821-3921.*

July 9 - Elkhorn Creek, Blazing Star Saddles, 7-9 a.m., carpool 6:30. *Leaders: Bernard and Chris, 815-238-9259.*

July 11 - Elkhorn Creek, Sandy Slope, 7-9 a.m., carpool 6:30. *Leaders: John and Anita, 815-443-2401.*

July 13 - Elkhorn Creek, Swamp Sparrow Wetland, 7-9 a.m., carpool 6:30. *Leader: Juliet 201-233-0946.*

July 18 - Elkhorn Creek, Goats 'n Roses, 7-9 a.m., carpool 6:30. *Leader: Mary , 815-938-3204.*

July 21 - Elkhorn Creek, Jim's Hill, 7-9 a.m., carpool 6:30. *Leader: Lynn, 815-235-9530.*

July 25 - Elkhorn Creek, Upper Planting, 7-9 a .m., carpool 6:30. *Leader: Mary, 815-938-3204.*

July 28 - Elkhorn Creek, NW Planting, 7-9 a.m., carpool 6:30. *Leader: Mary, 815-938-3204.*

Would you like to join Audubon as a NEW Member or give a GIFT membership?

Two types of membership are available:

1. Northwest Illinois Audubon Society and National Membership

includes this local newsletter, local mailings and the national "Audubon" magazine.

_____ National Membership \$20

All renewals for national memberships need to use the national membership form.

2. Northwest Illinois Audubon Society Local only Membership

includes this newsletter and other mailings from our local chapter. _____ Local Only \$15

Name of new member or gift recipient _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

If this is a gift membership, please indicate the name of the person providing the gift membership:

Name _____

Make check payable to **NORTHWEST ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY** and mail to:
Treasurer, Northwest Illinois Audubon Society, P.O. Box 771, Freeport, IL 61032

BOARD MEMBERS

President | Rex Sides, 408.390.3970

Vice President | Chris Kruger

Secretary | Nancy Ocken

Treasurer | Tim Smith

President Emeritus | Lynn Feaver

At-large | Hannah Badgett, Gay Broocks,

Fred Redmore, Kayse Rushford,

Henry Simpson, Steve Simpson

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Conservation | Candy Colby

Programs | Mark Keister

Education | Juliet D'Souza

Publicity | Teresa Smith

Membership | Bernard Lischwe

Field Trips | Mary Blackmore

Sustainable Agriculture

Richard Benning, Mary Blackmore,

Laura Dufford and Heidi Thorp

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We would like to thank Lynn Feaver for his hard work and leadership as the president of the Northwest Illinois Audubon Society. Over his two-year term Lynn has overseen some exciting changes to the NIAS organization and preserves, while guiding our group through some difficult times as well. Thank you Lynn!

Lynn Feaver | 3003 Forest Rd | Freeport, IL 61032

THANK YOU!



• Thank you to all who donated and bid on items for the silent auction at our recent banquet. More than \$1500 was raised for our chapter. Auction items donated by: Betty Mickel, Diane Phillips, Dave & Virginia DeSwarte, Charles Moen, Dave Derwent, Juliet D'Souza, Alice Akins, Kris Mulder, John & Kay Day, National Wildlife Federation, Kenneth Van Horn, Joe Ginger - Friends of the Pec, Caroline Harmison, Rex Sides, Mary Blackmore, Debbie Barron, Bob Remer, NIAS, Doug & Laura Dufford, Candy & Jack Colby, Melissa Entzminger, Dan Barron, Terri Clark, Oakdale, Peggy Badgett, Hannah Badgett, Tim & Teresa Smith, Randy & Nancy Ocken, Merry Blake, Anita Nienhuis, Sharon Shaw, Lady Gaga, Alice Swan-Johnson, Mary Kisamore, Grace Storch, Anne Straight, Gary Gordon, Charles Johannsen, Carol Litus, Chris Kruger, and Jan & Rick Hribal.

• To all who donated desserts for our annual banquet: Mary Blackmore, Laura Dufford, Anita Nienhuis, Anne Straight, Judy Corrie, Betty Mickel, Hannah Badgett, Juliet D'Souza, Kay Day, Debbie Barron, Merry Blake, Richard Benning, Teresa Smith, Alice Akins, Sandy Feaver.

• Stewardship volunteers at Silver Creek on April 29: Lynn Feaver, Carol and Fred Redmore, Mary Blackmore and Rex Sides.

• Terri Clark for volunteering to monitor bluebird nest boxes at Elkhorn Creek.

• Recent field trip leaders: Anne Straight, Juliet D'Souza, Mary Blackmore, Richard Benning and Chris Kruger.

• Volunteers at our March 11 Elkhorn Creek burn: Richard Benning, Laura Dufford, John Day, Bernard Lischwe, Mary Blackmore, David DeSwarte, Anne Straight and Randy Ocken.

**Northwest Illinois
Audubon Society**

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