

## PRAIRIE SMOKE

Nachusa Grasslands Newsletter

Issue 28

December 1996

# **Breeding Birds of Nachusa Grasslands**

Taken from the Avian Breeding Census Report by Ann B. Haverstock

In 1989 the Nature Conservancy (TNC) expressed a need to census the breeding birds at Nachusa Grasslands in Lee County, Illinois. They had begun to manage portions of this prairie as early as 1986 with enclosures, prescribed burning and removal of non-native and intrusive shrubs and trees. The native plants responded beautifully, and soon TNC seeded adjoining crop fields with these prairie seeds. The need to continue these practices and use other management techniques - like chemical control of weedy plants, removal of field tiles and the possible introduction of grazers - pressed the Nature Conservancy to seek more information on the birds of Nachusa. This census is an attempt to be watchful while the varying management techniques are established on the site. With the grassland bird species declining at alarming rates in Illinois (Droege 1991), it is my hope that this information will be a good base for further studies.

When the site was surveyed for the first time, I found that grasshopper sparrows were the most abundant prairie species at Nachusa just as they were in the region in the 1870's (Nelson 1876). Their numbers are still strong and seem to be slightly increasing (see graphs).

There have been noticeable changes with the recent transition from crop fields to restored prairie. True prairie species are encouraged by these unbroken expanses. Sedge wrens, which were not commonly seen at Nachusa until the very wet summer of 1993, now nest in restored fields. In 1993, a pair of northern harriers (Illinois endangered) began using the grasslands as a hunting territory. The property just east of Nachusa is their likely nesting grounds, for this is where they have been seen car-

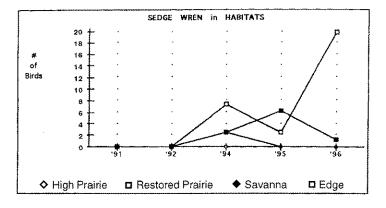
rying prey.

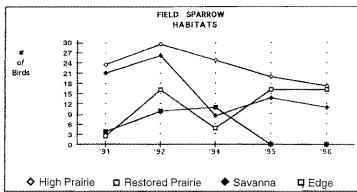
As the vegetative structure of edges and fence rows have changed, so has its bird diversity. The indigo bunting, brown thrasher, gray catbird and eastern kingbird have moved from these environs, but remain at home in the savanna components of the site. Some rather conservative species, like Bell's vireo and willow flycatchers, can still be found in the shrubby saddles and willow breaks. To date the survey and census has found 104 bird species are using Nachusa during their breeding season.

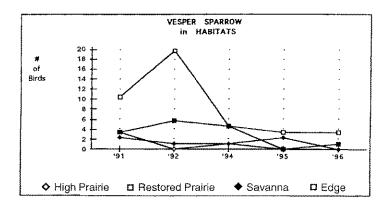
There have been a few disappointments over the years. A female long-eared owl with a brood patch, an Illinois endangered species (Herkert 1995), was found dead. Although sad, it was well documented and gave us the first indication that this species was breeding in the area. In 1990 during the initial survey a pair of loggerhead shrikes were seen feeding a lone fledgling, but no further activity has been noted from this Illinois endangered species. Although the upland sandpiper still whistles and putters from the swells and knobs, it has not shown an increase in numbers.

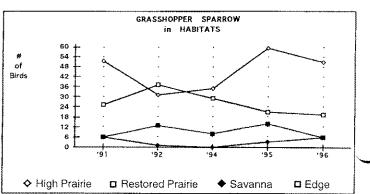
As a TNC volunteer I knew it would be difficult to commit to this research. Tracking populations is time consuming, but the time spent with the plants, insects, and birds has been an exciting peek into pre-settlement Illinois. It is the entire prairie system whose health we volunteers strive to enhance. To neglect to survey the birds of Nachusa Grasslands would have been an opportunity lost.

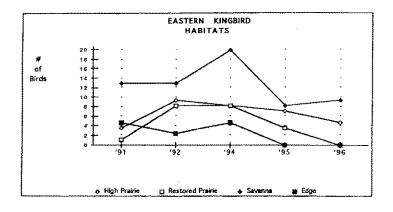
The following graphs show the relationship of birds to habitats over time. The short span of five years is starting to reveal some trends. You will note that birds using edge habitat decreases over time, likely due to the removal of fence rows over the last several years.

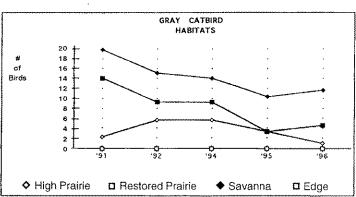


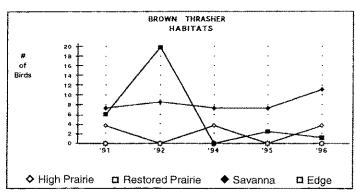












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### A Portrait of Gene St. Louis

#### By Mike Adolph

When you go to Nachusa, you're quite apt to see Gene St. Louis. Though he was not particularly into nature before experiencing the Grasslands, Gene was a long-time member of The Nature Conservancy. When he received the first Prairie Smoke in 1989 and noticed a call for volunteers for seed picking, he took a fateful step. "I had a lot of 35mm film cans, which I thought would be good for the seeds, so I took them with me. After I parked, I met Chris Bronny, and he went to his trunk and started pulling out gunny sacks, and I thought: 'What kind of seeds are we picking?' " (They picked lots of pale purple coneflower on Coneflower knob.)

Since 1989, Gene and the Grasslands have come a long way together. To become a more knowledgeable steward, he's taking classes at Morton Arboretum in the Naturalist Certificate Program, and he has taken advanced training for prescribed burn management, which has resulted in a federal certificate of completion. He will be a part of the Nachusa burn crew - the eight to twelve people who will be thoroughly familiar with all the pumper equipment as well as proper techniques.

Any group going on a hike might include Gene - and his camera. Gene has certainly taken more pictures of the grasslands than anyone, and has put them to excellent use. Gene works in DeKalb for a company which utilizes his talents with computers, which have also been put to use for Nachusa.

He has done more for Autumn-on-the-Prairie than anyone, having been Chairman twice, Tours Chairman twice, and Displays Chairman once. He has made three permanent message boards - they really are finely crafted - for use at the festival. Starting with computer and camera, he has provided signs, tags, and buttons as well. Another real jewel of his efforts has been the posters - dozens of posters for Autumn-on-the-Prairie, each with a photo showing our place at its best. This has taken lots of time, effort, and money.

Generosity may well be his middle name, since he has donated a 10" table saw, a vice, an arc welder, a table grinder,

several large water coolers, and books donated for AOTP raffles.

The human side of the equation also very much concerns Gene. Recently, he has taken over the production of Steward's Notes, which is the occ a s i o n a l communication piece



Gene St. Louis

updating people on stewards' progress. His goal is to create more activity, more energy, and more camaraderie among the volunteers.

Gene has been steward of Dot and Doug unit since we inaugurated the management unit system. As any steward should, Gene feels an attachment to the area where he has invested so much care and effort. When told that Schafer's knob's floristic quality index was a bit higher than Doug's knob, Gene joked that he would throw some seeds of high quality plants on Doug's knob. West of that knob and east of the Northwest savanna is a grove of black oaks where Gene can be seen in most seasons, but which is brutal work for him on hot, humid summer days. He intends to see the beginnings of savanna there.

In the long term, he hopes to see a functioning prairie, savanna, and woodland ecosystem at Nachusa, with plenty of birds, insects, and other critters "back". "There's not much prairie left; we should save this for the world." This is one reason Gene has been so faithful a steward; beyound the workaday life, he wants to be an integral part of the world. And restoring prairie is one of the most important movements going - anywhere.

## Nachusa Happenings

- Main effort spent in harvesting lots of seeds in all sorts of places. The seeds collected in June and July were generally planted the same day. From August to early November, we have been filling up barrels with hand collected seeds. The grass harvest was brought in by combine again this year.
- Released nine of the uncommon prairie ground squirrel, Franklin's ground squirrel, back near the Fen in silt loam soils. These squirrels are known for spending a long time under ground, and they like tall grasses, so they are hard to spot. Some stewards say they saw one scurry across a path about two months after the release.
- McHenry County Conservation District did a fish survey with the following species noted in Franklin Creek by the Naylor Road bridge: common stoneroller, hornhead chub, common shiner, rosyface shiner, sand shiner, bluntnose minnow, flathead minnow, blacknose dace, creek chub, quillback, white sucker, green sunfish, bluegill, smallmouth

- bass, largemouth bass. The stream rated a "B" on the indicator of biological integrity (IBI) which was considered good for a day after a rain event when the stream was running high and silty.
- Summer also means weed management, and this years work focused on bird's foot trefoil, reed canary grass, spotted knapweed, sweet clover, and multiflora rose.
- Mel Hoff and the West Chicago Prairie Stewards worked at Kitten Tail Unit clearing a bunch of brush from the prairie remnant where the rare kitten tails grow. Cut stumps were treated with a small amount of herbicide to keep them from resprouting. Burning should keep the area open for the sun loving plants growing there.
- Gene St. Louis harvested three barrels full of seed for his unit and worked on Canada thistle by spot-spraying the plants.

## Clarence Heinkel By Thelma Dahlberg

Sometimes those who support Nachusa Grasslands with monetary contributions are so modest and retiring, we are obliged to pursue them, just to become acquainted. Such was the case with Mr. Clarence Heinkel. As a memorial to his mother Anna and an honorarium to his wife Edith, Mr. Heinkel made possible the addition of 180 acres to Nachusa Grasslands. At that time, no one in the organization knew him.

It was a pleasure to talk with Mr. Heinkel. In his forthright manner he told us he had always liked "nature". When he was a boy, living in the north side of Chicago, he looked forward to spending summers on a relative's farm in Iowa. Later, he became a farmer in both Iowa and Illinois. The Iowa experience was on a turkey farm, a large and prosperous enterprise until a disastrous fire destroyed buildings and livestock.

We asked Mr. Heinkel how he became interested in Nachusa Grasslands and he replied through his brother, but did not expand on the subject. We believe his tie to



Mr. Clarence Heinkel and Mr. Ralph Burnett (holding hat)

the Grasslands lies in a statement that he repeated more than once, "I like nature and I like classical music. I don't know much about either one, but I like them both."

Mr. Heinkel believes that Nachusa Grasslands has a good future; it is close to Chicago and is accessible to many city folk. "They can come out for the day and see a lot," commented Mr. Heinkel. We are grateful to Mr. Heinkel who has helped to make it possible for city folk, and country folk, to enjoy the Grasslands.

# Prairie Poets

Poems, writings, or artwork submissions are always welcome for this section.

The following is excerpted from writings at Nachusa Grasslands in September by a student, Bethany Hamilton, in Mr. Ellis' 6th grade at May School, Rochelle:

"... a gigantic garden of prairie flowers ...."

"Small streaks of white in the pale blue sky appeared to be ghosts haunting the earth in broad daylight . . . When the breeze blew, it was as if the ghosts . . . were finding a path through the endless blanket of grasses."

## Cold Weather Recipe from Sally MFR (Multi-Flora Rose) by CAR

#### Phase I

- Warm vehicle while loading it with bucket lids, loppers, and bricks or old silo tiles.
- Drive vehicle along acceptable roadway to get as close as possible to offensive MFR.
- Cut stumps flush with ground.
- Cover with lid from 5-gallon bucket.
- · Secure with heavy brick or tile.
- Go indoors and warm chilled fingers.

#### Phase II

- Return to area after spring burns. If there are no resprouts, leave lids & bricks and re-check in 2 to 3 weeks.
- If there are resprouts at any return visit, deal with them as per your own recipe of herbicides or re-cutting and re-covering and monitoring.

#### Phase III

When MFRs are truly dead, remove covers and bricks and save for next winter's cold weather jobs.

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plants.

- Mike Adolph, Bob Schone, Barb Reagen, Laura Busch and others have made a huge decrease in the multiflora rose growth on the Main Unit. What we were calling multiflora rose lane now has few rose left and instead is showing more and more prairie and sedge meadow plants. Mike also ran his butterfly route this year.
- Mike Crowe, Ray Derksen and others harvested seeds for East Heinkel unit and planted a bunch of neat woodland flowers that Mike harvested from nearby his home in Lindenwood.
- Mary Blackmore, Terri Clark and our friends of the Prairie Preservation Society of Ogle County were removing huge multiflora rose thickets from the Clear Creek unit. They are experimenting with cutting the stems and then using kerosene and wood shavings on the crown to burn it and kill the roots. They have also been surveying the plants and birds. Bobolinks seem to like the shorter pasture grasses there.
- Sally Baumgardner and friends harvested numerous kinds and amounts of seed for Rolling Thunder Unit. Sally also led her usual large amount of tours and did public relations work this summer and kept after a host of weeds.
- Finished wetland field tile removal for 1996. Pulled about a mile of tile from Bluestem Bottoms. Area is wetter already. Planting various wetland species in the old tile lines. The tile removal work we did last year in the Prairie Potholes unit looks very nice. The results will be a wet prairie and sedge meadow with some small pools of water here and there.
- Jeff Meiners and a bunch of Boy Scouts removed cedar trees that were under the power lines on Naylor Road at Jay Meiners Wetlands. The cedars were a fire hazard to the expensive cables above and needed to come down.
- Lots of purple prairie clover was collected from Coneflower unit which unfortunately has lost its volunteer steward, Mary Ann Hoeffliger. Mary Ann has moved back to central Illinois to be on her farm and work in the Embarrass watershed.
- By mid-October the newly-formed Nachusa Burn Crew was practicing running the new fire pump that was made for the Gator all-terrain vehicle. Also, a 400 gallon "Water Buffalo" was donated by IDNR for filling up tanks in the field. The purpose of the burn crew is to have a small group of well trained volunteers to help lead burns at the preserve. As in the past, all are welcome to help on our burns, the burn crew members who show up will be there to help lead the burn. Also, the burn crew will have ongoing training and anyone interested can join. For those looking to fund prescribed burning here, we are also looking to buy a second fire pump and need \$3000.
- Schafer knob is looking very nice after David Edelbach and Gerald McDermott and friends removed encroaching brush and sweetclover from this grade A prairie. They also sprayed many multiflora rose plants that were top killed with fire this spring. By spraying the resprouts, they only need to use a small spray of herbicide on each plant. Lots of seed was collected for the Schafer unit this summer too.
- West Heinkel unit has a new volunteer steward, Jay

Stacy, who has been signing up everyone he comes near to help him care for this area which has oak/hickory/walnut woodlands, former savanna, dry prairie and wetlands. Lately, Jay has been removing Euopean honeysuckle shrubs from one area in the woodland and planting and harvesting seeds. He is planting bur oak acorns near the west boundary to recreate what we think was a savanna.

• Sally Baumgardner again organized a volunteer event for "Make A Difference Day" (Saturday, October 26th) at Nachusa. A total of thirteen people showed up, with Sally, Kevin Kaltenbach, and Joann Keyes helping to show members of the Palmyra Patriots and Pixies 4-H Club and their leader, Cheri Stewart, how to go about some of the tasks of prairie restoration. The group collected the seeds of fourteen plant species, and when they were finished had filled more than twenty shopping bags!

## Nachusa Grasslands Support

- June Keibler and Jim Hironimous for assistance with Orchid seed recovery
- Norm Gittelson backhoe work for the new entrance
- Cathy Clarke and the Franklin Grove Nursing Center
   newsletter mailing work
- NIU's Committee for the Preservation of Wildlife and Paul Sorensen - over 400 seedlings of native forbs
- Dave Derwent collected a great deal of seed from the Pecatonica Prairie Path to help our mesic prairie restorations, in the memory of Mr. Lee Hansen, conservationist
- Earl Thomas He is retiring as publisher of Prairie Smoke for the last three years.
- Mike Adolph list of plants needed for restorations
- Genesis nursery donated hundreds of seedlings.
- Mike Nolan Use of his computer to produce this newsletter
- Ann Haverstock updated plant inventory
- Mike Adolph continued his butterfly monitoring
- Susan Cook and the Franklin Grove FFA picnic bench

#### **Donation Thanks:**

- John Santucci a generous start-up donation for infrastructure improvements
- Hook Larson
- Glenbard West High School Environmental Concerns Organization
- In Honor of Jim Hotchkiss anonymous
- In memory of Arnold Sabin: Terry and Linda Ator, Neil and Marianne Swanson
- Dillon Foundation
- Abbott Middle School of Elgin
- Nancy Winter donation for a new mechanical seed harvester

#### Wish List:

- 4-wheel drive truck
- New harvester, \$5,000
- A second fire pump would be helpful, about \$3,000
- Cash donations always appreciated
- Use of a travel trailer for 1997 to house bird survey intern

## A Special Note of Thanks to AOTP Volunteers

Autumn On The Prairie, our group's premier public event, is a goodsized undertaking, requiring the effort of many people.

The managers of each of the branches of the enterprise deserve much credit; Gerald McDermott - Welcome Tent; Susan Kleiman - Children's tent; Greg Wermers - publicity; Gene St. Louis - tours; Mike Adolph - Demonstrations & Displays; Gene Miller - donations; Bill Kleiman - site manager.

Thanks to those who gave tours: Sally Baumgardner, Todd Bittner, Boh Dziadyk (2), David Edelbach, Howard Fox, Mel Hoff, Kevin Kaltenbach, Bill Kleiman, Dennis Lubbs, Cathy Motto, Al Roloph, Bob Schone, Jay Stacy, Gary Tollaksen, and Dean Weidman (2).

Thanks to those who worked the welcome tent: Tonya Bittner, Jay Stacy, Hazel Reuter, Dave Breen, Beth Wiltshire, Laura Busch, Shane & Sue Coors, Ellen Baker, Sally Baumgardner, Jim & Lela Long.

Thanks to those who donated for raffle or sale.

Thanks to Kelly Webster, who worked the children's tent.

Thanks to those who helped or provided displays: Bob Parenteau, Tom Cartwright, Tom Grimes, Floyd Sellers, Pat Russ, Alyssa Rod, Ann Haverstock, Cassandra Rodgers, Mike Adolph

Also providing much additional help were Ray Derksen, Gary Tollaksen, Todd Bittner, Ron Ingram, Tonya Bittner, Mike Raridan, Joann Keyes, and Jenna Sanders.

Thanks to <u>Heritage Strings</u>, and to Shelia & John Holbo, and to Fran Swarbrick.

Thanks to Vivian and Robert



Dot Wade selling books



Clare Nelson enjoying Indian grass



Brandon Meiners showing a fox snake

Maxson, and to Ellen and Larry Sheaffer, who helped Dot Wade at her Windrift Book Store tent. Dot donates her profits to AOTP.

Some special "thank-yous" are in order, even though this risks leaving out someone:

<u>Enders Nursery</u> - Fran Lohman has provided large donations of prairie plants from this nursery for several years.

The Rod Family - Gene, Diana, and Alyssa have been using their golf carts to bring people to and fro at AOTP for several years. It is a service which is much appreciated by those who receive it, and by all of us.

<u>Howard Fox</u> created a work of art which sold for a sizeable sum.

Deb Carey headed the newspaper insert project. Eleven-thousand inserts appeared in the Dixon Telegraph and 3,000 copies were sent to TNC members in Northern Illinois. Certainly this had a lot to do with attracting the appoximately 700 people who attended.

<u>Brandon Meiners</u> was a lively, helpful assistant in the children's tent, someone who helped other youngsters get into the spirit of the day.

Thelma Dahlberg also added to the fun in the children's tent by helping youngsters learn to grind corn with Indian implements, and by sharing her knowledge of Indian lore.

<u>Laura Busch</u> designed the snazzy new Nachusa t-shirts, which sold very well. She carried the project from start to finish, which was quite a task.

To all: Thank you! Thank you!

- Mike Adolph, 1996 AOTP Chairman

#### NACHUSA GRASSLANDS STEWARDSHIP CALENDAR FOR 1997

January 1997 Prairie Smoke editors meet first week

- Sun: Fen unit with Kevin Kaltenbach Sat: 9:30 Volunteer Potluck Gathering at Baumgardners.
- Sun: Doug & Dot unit with Gene St. Louis
- 18 19 Sat: Doug & Dot unit with Gene St. Louis

Sun: Schafer unit David Edelbach

- 25 Sat: Travel workday to Doug Wade Nature Preserve near
- 26 Sun: Doug & Dot unit with Gene St. Louis

**February** 

Sat: Kittentail unit with West Chicago Prairie Stewards, all welcome.

2 5-7 Sun:

Biodiversity educators' conference in Chicago

8 Sat: Fen unit with Kevin Kaltenbach & at 2:00 Burn Crew

- 15 Sat: Schafer unit with David Edelbach
- Sun: Doug & Dot with Gene St. Louis
- Sat:
- 16 22 23 Sun:

March

Sat: Clear Creek unit and Big Wood unit, all welcome. Annual VSN conference in Des Plaines.

8 Sat: Volunteer potluck gathering, also at 9:30, 1:00pm afternoon stewardship day at Pine Rock Nature Preserve near Oregon.

Sun: Schäfer unit with David Edelbach

- Sat: Rolling thunder unit with Sally and Max 15 Baumgardner
- Sun: Nachusa prescribed burn workshop with Bill Kleiman, RSVP

Sat: Fen unit with Kevin Kaltenbach

- Sun: Nachusa Burn Crew training.
- Sat: Main unit with Mike Adolph and East Heinkel unit with Mike Crowe
- Sun: Doug & Dot unit with Gene St. Louis

April
Prairie Smoke mailed first week

Sat: Tim Keller's annual skunk cabbage tour. Or West Heinkel unit with Jay Stacy

- Sat: Schafer unit with David Edelbach Sun: Doug & Dot unit with Gene St. Louis
- Sat: Fen unit with Kevin Kaltenbach

20

- Sat: Earth Day seed planting with Sally Baumgardner
- Sun:

<u>May</u>

Prairie Smoke editors meet first week.

- Sat: East Heinkel with Mike Crowe
- Sun: Fen unit with Kevin Kaltenbach
- Sat: Volunteer Potluck Gathering followed by stewardship at West Heinkel unit. 10

Sun:

- Sat: Rolling thunder unit with Sally Baumgardner 17
- Sun: Schafer unit with David Edelbach
- Sat: Main Unit with Mike Adolph
- Sun: Doug & Dot unit with Gene St. Louis
- 31 Sat:

<u>June</u>

- Sat: East Heinkel unit Mike Crowe
- Sat: West Heinkel with Jay Stacy
- Sun: Doug & Dot unit with Gene St. Louis Sat: Schafer unit with David Edelbach
- Sun: Fen unit with Kevin Kaltenbach

- Sat: Plant identification tour with Dennis Lubbs and Clear 28 Creek Unit with PPSOC
- 29 Sun:

July

Sat: East Heinkel unit with Mike Crowe

6

- Sat: Volunteer potluck gathering and Ice Cream Social, 12 9:30 at Kleiman's.
- Sun: Schafer unit with David Edelbach
- Sat: Prairie tour with Sally Baumgardner

20

- 26 Sat: Doug & Dot unit with Gene St, Louis
- Sun:

<u>August</u>

- Fri: Prairie Smoke mailed.
- Sat: Doug & Dot unit with Gene St. Louis

Sat: West Heinkel unit with Jay Stacy

10

- 16
- Sat: Schafer unit with David Edelbach
  Sun: Second plant identification tour with Dennis Lubbs
- Sat: Rolling thunder unit, seed collecting with Sally Baumgardner
- 24 Sun:
- 30 Sat:
- 31 Sun:

<u>September</u> Prairie Smoke editors meet this week.

- Sat: West Heinkel unit with Jay Stacy.
- Sun: Shafer unit with David Edelbach Sat: 9:30 Volunteer potluck gathering and AOTP last 13 minute work
- Sun:
- Sat: AUTUMN ON THE PRAIRIE 20
- 21 27 Sat: Main unit with Mike Adolph
- $\tilde{28}$ Sun: Doug & Dot unit with Gene St. Louis

<u>October</u>

- Sat: West Heinkel unit with Jay Stacy
- Sun:
- Sat: Shafer unit with David Edelbach
- Sun:
- 18 Sat: Main unit with Mike Adolph and East Heinkel unit with Mike Crowe
- 19 Sun: Doug & Dot unit with Gene St. Louis
- Sat: Rolling thunder unit, seed collecting on Make A Difference Day with Sally Baumgardner. Or Kittentail 25 unit with West Chicago Prairie Stewards, all welcome.
- 26 Sun: 11:00 - Prescribed Burning workshop with Bill Kleiman

#### **November**

- Sat: 9:30 Volunteer potluck gathering Sun: Shafer unit with David Edelbach
- 15 Sat: Doug & Dot unit with Gene St. Louis
- 16
- 22 23 Sat: Stone Soup seed processing party. All are welcome.
- Sun:
- 29: Sat:
- 30 Sun:

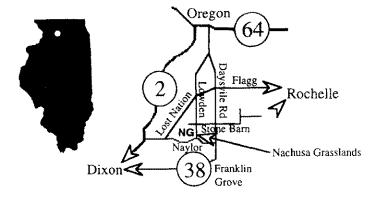
<u>December</u>

Prairie Smoke mailed this week.

- Sat: Doug & Dot unit with Gene St. Louis
- 13 Sat: Schafer unit with David Edelbach
- 14 Sun:
- Sat:
- 20 21 27 Sun:
- Sat: Sun:

We have an ongoing volunteer crew on Monday and Wednesday mornings. Call Bill Kleiman for details.

Editor-Publisher	Laura Busch
Associate Editor	Dot Wade
Associate Editor	Bill Kleiman
Associate Editor	Thelma Dahlberg
Manager of Mailing	Ellen Baker



#### From the Editor(s):

If you know something about Nachusa Grasslands, but no one else knows because you didn't share the information, then you are GUILTY of keeping secrets! Send or email us articles, photos, drawings, poems, cartoons, calendar dates (items of interest to the friends of Nachusa Grasslands). Information sent on computer disk in .txt format is also encouraged!

#### NACHUSA GRASSLANDS UNIT STEWARDS

## STEWARDS COSTEWARDS

Jay Meiners Wetland Unit

Jeff Meiners Steve Meiners

Fen Unit

Kevin Kaltenbach Todd Bittner

Big Woods Unit

Earl Thomas Jim Lahman

Dot & Doug Unit Gene St. Louis

Rolling Thunder Unit

Sally Baumgardner Max Baumgardner

**Coneflower Unit** 

Hazel Reuter

Main Unit
Mike Adolph

Mike Adolph Bob Schone

East Heinkel Unit Mike Crowe

West Heinkel Unit

Jay Stacey Gene Miller Ron Ingram

Clearcreek Unit

Prairie Preservation Society Mary Blackmore of Ogle County Terri Clark

of Ogle County

Kittentail Unit

West Chicago Mel Hoff

Prairie Stewards

Schafer Unit

David Edelbach Gerald McDermott

Science Stewards:
Butterfly Monitoring
Project Ecologist

Mike Adolph Dennis Lubbs



Nachusa Grasslands is owned and operated by The Nature Conservancy, a private non-profit group whose mission is to protect plants and animals by protecting the land and water they need to survive.

The Nature Conservancy Nachusa Grasslands 2055 Lowden Road Franklin Grove, IL 61031 815-456-2340

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