

THE PAINTBRUSH PRAIRIE

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 1 NUMBER 1

"A CHRONICLE OF THE INDIAN BOUNDARY PRAIRIES"

APRIL 23, 1985

LAST MEETING, APRIL 3

CONSIDERING IT WAS THE DAY AFTER ELECTION, THE WEEK BEFORE EASTER, AND RAINING LIKE CRAZY, WE HAD A GOOD TURNOUT FOR OUR OPENING MEETING. PRESENT WERE MIKE KIRK, HELEN MITCHELL, STEVE PACKARD, JILL RYDELL, DR. BETZ, RON "CLOCKWORK" PANZER, AND CAL BARBER.

STEVE PACKARD, WHO HAS HAD CONSIDERABLE EXPERIENCE WITH GROUPS SUCH AS OURS, PROVIDED SOME VALUABLE PROJECTS WHICH HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL FOR OTHERS. THESE WERE "T" SHIRTS WITH COMMITTEE LOGOS, AND TERRATURE WHICH IS USED TO GENERATE INTEREST AND CO-OPERATION FROM THE COMMUNITIES INVOLVED.

MIKE KIRK BROUGHT A SELECTION OF THE MANY MATERIALS WHICH ARE MADE AVAILABLE TO YOU THROUGH AGENCIES SUCH AS THE ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION, ET AL.

DR. BETZ PROVIDED US WITH AN HISTORICAL ACCOUNT OF THE AREA WHICH WAS HELPFUL IN DECIDING ON A NAME FOR THE OVERALL PROJECT. BECAUSE ALL OF THE PRAIRIES ARE IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO I-57, AND BECAUSE IT IS LOCATED ON THE SITE OF AN OLD INDIAN BOUNDARY LINE, WE DECIDED ON "THE INDIAN BOUNDARY PRAIRIES."

EACH OF THE PRAIRIES; GENSBERG-MARCHAM, SUNDROP, DROPSEED, AND PAINTBRUSH HAVE THEIR OWN CHARACTER AND THEIR INDIVIDUAL NAMES REMAIN THE SAME.

WE THANK THE LIBRARY FOR THE USE OF THEIR FACILITIES AND LOOK FORWARD TO FUTURE ACTIVITIES.

"RING OF FIRE"

OUR THANKS TO REPORTERS STEVE AND PHIL, AND TO DARING PHOTOGRAPHER KETH SWINDEN FOR THEIR SUBURBAN SUN-TIMES SPREAD WHICH RAN ON THE 12TH. OUR COMMITTEE WAS CITED FOR ASSISTING IN THE MARCH BURN AT THE GENSBERG PRESERVE. IT WAS A LOT OF WORK BUT IT WENT EXTREMELY WELL, AND A FINE "SUNBURN" WAS HAD BY ALL.

PRAIRIE NOTES:

THE GENSBERG PRESERVE IS STILL "DRYING OUT" FROM A BROKEN WATER MAIN THIS PAST WEEKEND. THROUGH THE WELL APPRECIATED CO-OPERATION OF THE CITY DEPARTMENTS WE'LL BE ABLE TO RESOLVE THIS WITH THE LEAST AMOUNT OF DISTURBANCE.

WE HAD A LITTLE PROBLEM WITH PLOWING OUT AT THE PAINTBRUSH WITH ABOUT ONE QUARTER ACRE BEING TURNED. FORTUNATELY, DUE TO THE VIGILANCE OF NEIGHBORS AND THE TIMELY (AND DIPLOMATIC) INTERVENTION OF RON PANZER, THE DAMAGE WAS KEPT TO A MINIMUM AND ALL INVOLVED REACHED AN EQUITABLE AGREEMENT.

MIKE KIRK CUT DOWN A TREE OUT ON THE SUNDROP PRAIRIE AND WE'RE ALL QUITE PROUD OF HIM. GOOD WORK MIKE!

ALL OF THE SITES EXPERIENCED GOOD BURNS THIS PAST FALL AND SPRING AND THE DISPLAYS SHOULD BE QUITE REMARKABLE BECAUSE OF IT. OUR THANKS TO THOSE "GREMLINS" WHO MADE SOME OF THEM POSSIBLE.