

THE PAINTBRUSH PRAIRIE NEWSLETTER

FALL 1990

A Chronicle Of The Indian Boundary Prairies Of Markham, Illinois

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GENSBURG • PAINTBRUSH • SUNDROP • DROPSEED

ILLINOIS PRAIRIE WEEK SEPT. 16-22, 1990

What better place to celebrate Prairie Week in the Prairie State than on one of the Indian Boundary Prairies of Markham, Illinois!

The Friends are planning a variety of activities for September. We will have displays and hold Prairie Awareness Presentations at the libraries in Markham and Midlothian. Prairie Awareness Presentations will also be held for schoolchildren at St. Stanislaus School in Posen and at Markham Park School in Markham.

For anyone interested in a close-up, hands-on look at prairie restoration, our September workdays will be held on three consecutive Saturdays: September 1, 8, and 15.

We plan to finish out Illinois Prairie Week with a tour of beautiful Paintbrush Prairie which will be displaying its lovely fall colors.

Check our fall calendar in this issue for the dates, times, and locations of all our activities. Celebrate the natural heritage of Illinois during Prairie Week 1990. The Indian Boundary Prairies are waiting for YOU!

Earth Day 1990 brought a wave of renewed interest in the environment. Progress is being made, but the Earth is not the happy, healthy planet we'd all like it to be. Conservation starts with each one of us, every day.

With this in mind, The Friends of the Indian Boundary Prairies are pleased to announce that, beginning with this issue, our newsletters will be printed on recycled paper.



100% RECYCLED PAPER

It is pleasing to know that the shop where our newsletter is printed has had more people asking about using recycled paper. However, the demand is not that great as to make recycling economically worthwhile for many paper companies. Some organizations will find that the size or color of paper they desire is not available in recycled material. In other cases, recycling plants have more paper turned in than they have the time or machinery to process.

At least we're moving in the right direction. Let's hope more recycling plants are built and that more people search out goods made with recycled fibers. To all of you who recycle your cans, papers, and glass; who use energy efficiently and use less plastic and styrofoam products: **KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!** Together we will make a difference.

Theresa Stepenski

MARKHAM CITY COUNCIL GIVES FINAL BLESSING

On August 6, 1985, the Board of Directors of the Nature Conservancy voted in favor of a proposal to purchase tax delinquent prairie lands by way of a tax scavenger sale. Cal Barber, founder of The Friends, then convinced the Markham City Council to go along with the idea.

When Cal Barber became interested in the prairies of the Markham area, he envisioned that Paintbrush, Sundrop, Dropseed, and Gensburg would one day form the best prairie archipelago system in the Midwest.

Cal passed away before he could see his dream come to fruition. Then Sandy Mishur became President of The Friends of the Indian Boundary Prairies and she carried on the crusade.

Now, five years later, the Markham City Council has approved the sale of the tax delinquent land to the Nature Conservancy. On behalf of the The Friends of the Indian Boundary Prairies, I, President George Derkovitz, would like to thank all the people who have put in a great deal of time and effort to make Cal's dream a reality.

COME AND SEE OUR PRAIRIES.

George Derkovitz, Jr.
President