



# PRAIRIE SMOKE

## Nachusa Grasslands Newsletter

Issue 19

December 1, 1993

### From the Preserve Manager...*Bill Kleiman*



I am pleased to let you know that I have been hired as Nachusa Grasslands first full-time and permanent preserve manager. I am an Illinois native who has been an educator, farmer and restorationist. The last two years I have been studying as a graduate student in conservation biology and working for the Nature Conservancy in Colorado and Wyoming.

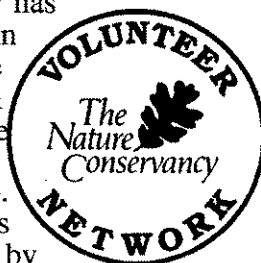
The last several weeks have been filled with meeting good people, organizing priorities, sorting through equipment and stewardship notes, fixing and cleaning, touring other preserves, and wandering about lost in this fantastic place. Truly this preserve could be seen as a jewel of the prairie state, a wilderness returning, where being lost is a measure of its grandeur and rarity.

One idea for getting more people involved with this project is to have groups or individuals adopt a feature of the preserve. Volunteers return to work at that particular place, right where they left off from their previous visit.

One of the success stories in adopting features here has been the West Chicago Prairie's work on Kittentail Knob. This group of volunteers has been coming out from the western suburbs twice a year for several years and has been rescuing Kittentail Knob from a strangle-hold of brush. They have cut, stacked, and spot herbicided. They have broadcast seed, noted various plants and eaten their lunches in the clearings they created. On Kittentail Knob this season, native plants blossomed in the sun, free from a thicket that was slowly shading them to oblivion. This group has gained a sense of ownership, accomplishment and connection to the Grasslands.

Nachusa Grasslands needs several more folks to adopt other places here. In the last few weeks we have had four new adoptions. Kevin Kaltenbach will be leading a group to care for a fen on the western edge of the property. Matt Sawyer has adopted Shafer's Knob and Susan Hiebert has adopted the roadside along Lowden Road. The women of the North Branch Prairie

Project have adopted Dot's Knob. They will be working towards connecting it to Doug's Knob by



restoring between them an area that was in a crop planting for the last time this year. If you would like to start an adoption or join another adoption crew just give Bill Kleiman a call at the Yellow House at 456-2340. This is a unique opportunity to be involved in a large project in a focused and meaningful way.

### Dear Friends,

It was with great delight that I received the thank you card from the Nachusa Grasslands volunteers shortly after the steering committee meeting. It meant a great deal to me to be recognized by such a splendid group of people for the contributions I have been fortunate enough to be part of over the past one and a half years.

Together we have accomplished a great deal over the past 18 months. This includes the demise of Trash Knob, the completion of the Meiner's wetland excavation, (Yes, the dirt will be gone someday, but at least the wetland itself is done.), the destruction of the Prairie Potholes tile system and the development of a hunting policy for the site.

In addition, we have a fire fighting vehicle, a tractor and mower, our own Indian pumps (and other equipment), a telephone, and a management plan that can grow and reflect accomplishments and needs at Nachusa. We have set the stage for multiple interns each summer, contracted with a reliable and knowledgeable nursery (Yea, Dennis and Kathy) for yearly harvest of seed and best of all hired a full time manager for the site.

Bill and Susan have transformed the yellow house in the short time they have been at Nachusa and I am confident that other transformations of the landscape at the grasslands are sure to follow. As Bill finishes up projects that are nearing completion and moves on to new tasks with the help of the dedicated Nachusa volunteer group, I can only see a bright future ahead for the natural heritage we all hold so dear.

It has been a great pleasure coming to know everyone involved in this worthwhile endeavor over the past year or so. I thank each and every person involved at Nachusa Grasslands for the support and genuine friendship shown to me during the time I have spent as "long distance" manager.

Good luck to you all!



Ed Collins

## Autumn-On-The-Prairie, 1993

By Gene St. Louis

Despite a damp, chilly day with the perpetual threat of rain, an estimated 600 to 700 visitors turned out for the fourth annual Autumn-on-the-Prairie at Nachusa.

The Nature Conservancy's Illinois Chapter held its annual meeting during the morning. Several items on their agenda were related to Nachusa Grasslands.

Jack White, who gave four tours of Nachusa during the day, was presented with the Cyrus Mark Conservation Award for his many years of service to the conservation effort. In his acceptance speech, he commented that it is easy to work as a full-time conservationist when you love nature as much as he does, but that he especially admires people who work 40 hours a week at other jobs and then spend their weekends as volunteers at places like Nachusa. Our own Max and Sally Baumgardner were presented with the Volunteer Appreciation Award for their efforts in recruiting volunteers and coordinating their efforts in such restoration activities as seed gathering and controlled burns. The Baumgardners have been active at Nachusa for over five years now.

Finally, the Franklin Grove Chapter of the Future Farmers of America was presented with a plaque from the Conservancy for their restoration efforts at Nachusa, primarily for their assistance with the Trash Knob cleanup. Richard Pettit, the chapter's advisor, and several members were present to receive the award.

Visitors parked at the base of the hill on which AOTP was held, and for a good distance along Lowden Road. Many visitors were helped up the hill by Eugene Rod, who brought out several golf carts from his business, Rod's Golf Carts of Mendota. Upon ascending the hill, visitors arrived at the Welcome Tent, where they could receive information on the events of the day, and Nachusa Grasslands and the Nature Conservancy in general. The Welcome Tent also served as the site for tee-shirt sales and a raffle which helped finance the event. It was crewed throughout the day by Bob and Dorothy LeVin, Eric Hart, Hazel Reuter, Larry Hill, Carol Merbach, Tom and Marilyn Moltz-Hohmann, Kevin Kaltenbach, and Andy Jackson.

Spreading out from the Welcome Tent were numerous display tents with many educational displays. Bob Parenteau had a large map of the preserve which he used to explain the geography and geology of the region. The Natural Area Guardians of Lee

County, lead by Cassandra Rogers, had a large display explaining their efforts to preserve our natural heritage. Alyssa Rod, daughter of Eugene Rod, and Shane Coers both had displays of native plants. Tom Grimes brought out a huge collection of Native American flint artifacts, such as arrow heads and spear points. The same display tent also featured flint knapper Floyd Sellers, who demonstrated how such items were made. One of the most popular displays was John Younger's collection of mammal skins from the collections at Northern Illinois University. John and several companions also demonstrated how animals, IL road-kills, are skinned and preserved. Sharing the tent with John was Mike Adolf's display on the butterflies of the Midwest, and Ann Haverstock's display on the birds of Nachusa. The final tent housed Dot Wade's Winddrift Bookstore, which featured a wide variety of nature books for sale to the public. All the profits from these sales were donated to support AOTP, making Dot the largest single supporter of this event. Dot's tent-mates were John and Sheila Holbo, who displayed their nature paintings and photographs.

The Wapiti Trading Company set up a pioneer encampment to the west of the display tents. This group was a major attraction for visitors. Ed Collins was accompanied by his wife Denise, and their son and daughter Eddie and Aimee, along with Darrell and Sally Seliga and their son and daughter Mike and Brigitt. They set up a tent, started a camp fire, and proceeded to roast a large ham on a spit. Dressed in authentic costumes, they explained how the earliest explorers survived on the prairie, demonstrated early American wood working techniques, and gave several demonstrations of loading and firing flint-lock rifles.

The main attraction of the day was our guest speaker, Jim Gillihan. He brought Sitting Bull's pipe along with several other ceremonial objects which had belonged to the great Lakota leader. He began his talk by describing the debt our modern society owes to the aboriginal peoples inhabiting the western hemisphere when Europeans first arrived. Most of the fruits and vegetables we enjoy today were first cultivated in the new world, such as corn, beans, potatoes, and many varieties of squash. Europeans subsisted primarily on cereal grains such as wheat. Native Americans practiced many forms of healing which were superior to the medical arts then available in Europe. And our own form of government has its roots in the indig-



enous model of the Iroquois League. He then elaborated on the host of ills afflicting our planet Earth, from the pollution of our land and water to the depletion of the ozone. He also pointed out that society at large seems unwilling to make the sacrifices necessary to halt and reverse the damage we continue to heap on the environment. As he put it, "We are living on the Titanic, and everyone is scrambling for the best state room". After the presentation, visitors were invited to look over the articles Jim had brought with him.

Despite the constant threat of rain and occasional sprinkles, several demonstrations were given on the kinds of work required in prairie restoration. Ed Pleskovitch gave a lecture on brush control and tree removal, and demonstrated the use of a brush-whacker to remove unwanted woody growth. Sally Baumgardner lead a special seed-collecting tour to give visitors an opportunity to contribute to next year's restoration planting by gathering this year's seed. Due to the wet conditions, a controlled burn was not possible. However, Steve Packard, The Nature Conservancy's scientific advisor, gave a talk on the importance of fire in maintaining a healthy prairie ecology, and Eric Hart, who was one of this year's interns at Nachusa, displayed the equipment used to start and control a prairie fire.

An impressive number of tours were conducted throughout the day. Our most prolific guide was Jack White, who lead four tours each lasting over an hour. Mike Adolf, Gary Tollaksen, and Gill Moreland all lead tours via automobile out to Doug and Dot's Knobs. Sally Baumgardner lead a special children's tour which turned out to be a prairie scavenger hunt during which children got to search for plants of specific colors or textures. Other tours were given by Ed Collins, Ann Haverstock, Al Roloff, Steve Packard, and Ellen Baker.

Finally, a big thank you must go out to several individuals and groups who helped set up for the event. Rich Pettit and a crew of Franklin Grove FFA students brought out tables and chairs from Franklin Grove High School. Snow White Bakery and Deli of Dixon again provided an excellent selection of edibles to satisfy our hungry guests. Andy Jackson worked diligently to get out publicity for the event. Max Baumgardner, Earl Thomas, Carl Merbach, and Peter Benedict also assisted in getting things in shape for the day's events. Many of the individuals who helped out during the day also put in many hours in the weeks and months prior to Autumn-on-the-Prairie to make it another success for Nachusa Grasslands. A sincere thank-you goes out to everyone involved with this event.

Needed: Volunteers willing to take on specific tasks in coordinating the next celebration of Autumn on the Prairie. Large celebrations like these require a good amount of planning and enthusiasm. We would like to see a core group of five people plan the next Autumn on the Prairie. Call Gene St. Louis at (815) 756-8747 for more details.

## Nachusa Grasslands 1993 Monthly Tour Highlights

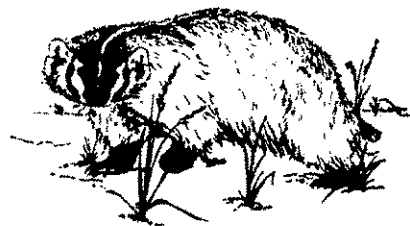
by Ellen Baker

April thru October scheduled monthly tours closed October 16th. Another damp, misty, cloudy day, but Eric Hill ventured out to get better acquainted with the grassland. His initial visit was with Tim Keller. Tim was our guide to see the springtime marsh marigolds and skunk cabbage blossoms. Sonja Vogel and Dot Wade shared their identification skills for a real treat in May. Names of common and rare plants were learned. Lots of smiles for a "#10" plant! Nature allows different species a dominant show each year. Just like the whip-poor-will calls at dusk. Ann Halverstock's bird song identification and location of the birds is welcomed on her tours.

The yearly schedule may seem repetitious. But the same place and time always give a new experience to life on the grasslands. I've had the pleasure to share this contrast with visitors. 1993 saw green growth.

Hazel Reuter did the set-up for the 500 tour schedules circulated in the area. Thanks to the Conservancy for the printing cost. One hopes for higher attendance but, rain threatened many events this year.

Let me know if you would like tours scheduled in 1994. Again, leave a note in the mailbox when you visit. A few comments recorded "wondered what it must have been like — a prairie ocean as far as one could see..." and "grateful for the serenity of the prairie..."



What's a nice girl doing in a place like this?.....  
Burning grass out of pile of wire junk!  
Meet Susan Hiebert

## Allow me to introduce myself.

I am Andy Jackson, new Regional Publicist for the Nachusa Grasslands. I've been on the job for a little while and was in charge of getting the publicity for Autumn on the Prairie. I work at a local radio station, WLLT 107.7 FM with studios located outside of Dixon. I volunteered to be publicist because I wanted to contribute something to the local community but was uninterested in any of the conventional clubs like the Lions, Jaycees, etc. They are all very worthy organizations, but my tastes center more around the outdoors and nature.

Maybe my reasons for doing this volunteer work can inspire one other person to join in at Nachusa Grasslands so allow me to say a little about myself. I have always loved being in the outdoors. I used to love just being in the woods around wherever I was living. My father and grandfathers were hunters, maybe they instilled it in me. But without a trip to a national park I may have turned out differently.

One year, I was about nine, my family travelled to California to see some friends in Fresno. They took us to Yosemite National Park. I've never forgotten some of my experiences there. I think that is there that I formed by ideas about nature and conservation.

Much later at college I was inspired by photos of some guy named Ansel Adams. I'd never heard of him before and had no idea how important he was to organizations like the Sierra Club and to nature lovers in general. Anyway, his photos struck another cord.

The point is that I have always connected a certain spirituality with things in nature. I always have thought conservation to be a very important thing. I have always thought that human beings need things that are natural to counter what happens to us in the so-called concrete jungle. Human beings are a part of nature and once they deny that, I think, things start to go wrong. So conservation has always been important and Nachusa Grasslands is no different. It's part of the set of beliefs I hold. And of course I believe in the saying, "If you're not part of the solution, you're part of the problem." That's why I want to be involved.

What I would like to accomplish at Nachusa is whatever the most important members/people want. I am a small part of a very large team of caring dedicated people. And of course I don't hold all the answers.

I think there could be a lot more people coming to the Grasslands to lend their talents like I have. That's why I mentioned some of things above. Maybe it will give you the idea to get involved too, if you haven't been. Maybe you'll tell a friend to join in. Hopefully I can be one link in chain that accomplishes that goal.

The fact is that a lot of people don't realize what they have sitting right under their noses. Pardon the pun, "They can't see the prairie for the grasses." We all talk about how unfortunate it is we are losing the rain forests. I'm no biologist but I think I can say that a prairie ecosystems are just as unique and a lot more endangered than any single rain forest. And we have

one of the largest prairie restorations anywhere in the world right here in our own backyards! It's worth saving and it needs your help.

I always like to see the irony in things. It's ironic that Nachusa Grasslands is only miles from the site where John Deere invented the plow that broke the prairie and virtually defeated it. But not quite. A full three-quarters of the state used to be covered in the various types of prairie. Now less than one-tenth of one-percent is left. I want to be a part of the efforts to bring that number higher. I think it is an important part of our state and local heritage to have a thriving example of what Illinois looked like a couple of hundred years ago. It's just as important, if not more important, to save the prairie as it is to save a historic building, or any item with historical value.

You can help. One way is to give me ideas. I don't have all the answers. I would particularly like to hear from those who are in other organizations like the Lions, or Jaycees. Maybe you can tell me if sending them our news releases will allow someone in the organization to devote any available volunteer hours to Nachusa Grasslands. Maybe one organization would adopt the Grasslands and provide a little help every once in a while. I would also welcome any other ideas you may have. Please just drop me a line and include your address and phone number. My address is 4407 West Lincolnway #B Sterling, IL 61081. I look forward to hearing from you. And I hope we all can work together to keep the efforts going strong at Nachusa Grasslands.

## October Seed Collecting

by Sally Baumgardner

On warm weekends in October, the volunteers of Nachusa Grasslands gather to collect seeds of native grasses and forbs. These will go into gunnysacks, and will be hand scattered by the public in the spring.



*Sally Baumgardner with Scout Seed Pickers*

Thanks to Bob Parenteau, Judy Dixon, Kevin Kaltenbach, Kate Disselhorst, Wib and Carol Boynton and Hazel Reuter, all veterans of collecting tours. Welcome, thanks, and do-come-back to Tom DeBates, Nathan and his Dad from Rockford, the North Branch Prairie Project, fifth graders from Lincoln School in Sterling, and Bill and Nancy Igoe's Boy Scouts from Downers Grove.

We'll continue to collect seeds for as long as we can without freezing our fingers. Contact me at 456-2083 or Bill Kleiman at 456-2340 for further details.

## Harriers

by Sally Baumgardner

In late October, it's wonderful to witness the return of the Northern Harriers. These are medium-sized hawks with distinctive white rumps, who glide and tilt buoyantly low over the ground. Watch for the wing position—often held slightly above horizontal. The harriers float over the prairie as they have done for thousands of years, before the impact of white man's plow and suppression of fire. Why do we only see them in the "off season"? Why don't they nest here?

So far, we don't have any simple answers to those questions. As in many cases of declining populations, habitat loss is a major factor. Also, the diet of our former "Marsh Hawk" consists in large part of meadow voles, snakes, frogs, and insects, especially grasshoppers. These menu items are more abundant in treeless, sunny areas. Also, since harriers are ground nesters, their flimsy nests are found on slightly elevated ground or thick vegetation and not in or near trees at all!

The Natural Heritage Division of the Department of Conservation has published a guide titled, "Habitat Establishment, Enhancement and Management for Forest and Grasslands Birds in Illinois". The breeding bird survey of 1966-91 shows the decline of the grassland nesting Bobolink at -92.6%. Meadowlarks and Grasshopper Sparrows also showed drastic losses in numbers (61% and 85.4% respectively). Among the other birds listed in a high sensitivity category are the Upland Sandpiper, Prairie Chicken, and Northern Harrier, and all are on the state endangered species list. Are all these birds losing habitat while we Volunteer Stewards feel we are protecting it for them?

The Nature Conservancy's plan at Nachusa, as well as the interpretation of the Vision Committee, is to restore and reconstruct prairie, not forest. DOC's guide: "The most important part of developing a management plan is to evaluate the potential of different management alternatives. For example, if you are working with a 20 acre tract that is surrounded by a 160 acre forest, attempting to manage for grassland birds would be counterproductive. Your greatest chance of success ... would be to manage for forest habitat. On the other hand if you are starting from scratch with a 40 acre tract completely surrounded by row-crop agriculture, your greatest chance of success (with the greatest potential for benefiting rare or declining species) would be an attempt to attract grassland bird species."

Not many people think the planting of a tree could consist of habitat loss, but for a ground nesting bird whose predators can find and destroy the contents from above, it does. Maybe we need to learn to look at habitat through the eyes of the harrier.



## Nachusa goes to West Chicago Prairie

By Gene St. Louis

On October 16, four volunteers from Nachusa Grasslands went to West Chicago Prairie to assist them with their restoration efforts. Mel Hoff has been bringing the West Chicago Prairie Stewardship Group volunteers to work days at Nachusa Grasslands for several years. He has also been joined by volunteers from the DuPage Volunteer Stewardship Group, the Palos Heights Volunteers, and the Kane County Natural Areas Volunteers. On Saturday, Susan Hiebert, Kevin Kaltenbach, Bill Kleiman, and Gene St. Louis from Nachusa were joined by Bob Flesvig, Scott Hensey, Herm Jensen, JoAnn Monge, Margo Owano, Shamili and Glenn Sandiford, and Tom Smith from West Chicago. They spent the morning collecting Big Bluestem seed from a railroad right-of-way near the prairie. The day was very foggy, and the crew collected the wettest bunch of seed Mel Hoff had ever dealt with. However, Mel wanted to get this seed before it blew off the stems and was lost. At last report, it was drying very nicely with the aid of a fan.

After lunch, Mel took the group on an extensive three and a half hour tour through the preserve. Since he was dealing with a group of prairie restorationists, Mel shared their current restoration problems with the group, as well as pointing out the many successes they have achieved. He also led the group through a wet prairie area that most public visitors would not be inclined to wade through. This area was of particular interest to the Nachusa group as it showed what the restored wetlands at the west end of the main complex at Nachusa will look like in the future. After the tour, Bill Kleiman presented Mel with a Nature Conservancy Nachusa Tee-shirt in appreciation of his restoration efforts at Nachusa. Nachusa is most fortunate to have friends such as Mel Hoff and his volunteers.



## Herbicide Workshops and Testing Dates

If you would like to attend a workshop on how to safely handle herbicides and /or earn an applicators license (a cool thing to do) call Bill Kleiman at 456-2340 for more details.

## THANK YOU

Over 500 people showed up for the 1993 Autumn on the Prairie. Gene St. Louis made the year-long commitment to coordinate the event and his efforts were responsible for another successful celebration of Nachusa Grasslands. Gene has also submitted numerous articles to this newsletter, taken rolls of quality photos, and organized workdays. Gene is presently working on producing a killer slide show for Nachusa Grasslands. Thanks for your hard work Gene.



A big thanks to Ed Collins who has been the part time restoration specialist commuting from McKenry County. Ed has a reputation as an excellent land manager and his efforts produced several key products, among them: a three year management plan, a prescribed burn plan, tile removal in an 80-acre area, management of three interns this summer. Ed has been very helpful to the new preserve manager who has been calling him often. Ed Collins has offered to be an advisor to the project. Thanks Ed.

## More Thanks

Dave Derwent for donating seed and clearing brush from a former fence line. For advice from Tim Keller, Ed Collins, Dot Wade, and Pauline Drobney,



Steve Pauline Kathy Bill Susan

Gene Kromary, Tom Vanderpool, Kevin Kaltenbach and others. Bernie Sexton for working away at a multiflora study, Ellen Baker, Hazel Reuter, Deb Carey and Sally Baumgardner for leading field trips, Gene St. Louis for photographing anything that moves, or could move, Kathy Motto and Bill and Dennis Lubbs for combining all that seed and making it so painless, Mel Hoff for the detailed tour of West Chicago Prairie. Sally Baumgardner for leading seed collecting forays. Steve Packard for five trips all the way from Shy town. Ed Pleskovitch, Carol Merbach, and Gene St. Louis for attending the Volunteer Stewardship Network Regional Leader's Conference.



George Perkins for helping make the Yellow House a home for the new preserve manager.

Special thanks to Mark Forrester who was hired to remove numerous tons of junk from the yard of the yellow house and removing the cement silo and old barn foundation. Mark went beyond the

call of duty in helping with pulling a combine out of a mud hole. Mark also helped unload the new Woods mower and was a pleasant guy to have moving big equipment around the property.

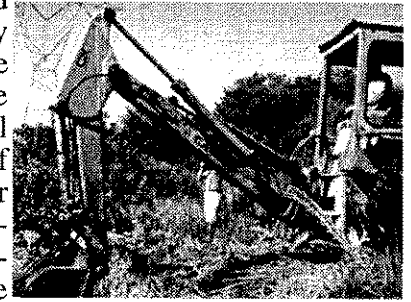
There are two new bulletin boards built by Bill Mays and the Lutheran Brotherhood at the Lowden entrance sign and the Jay Meiners Wetland. The Brotherhood also donated some left over funds from the project towards the purchase of seed.



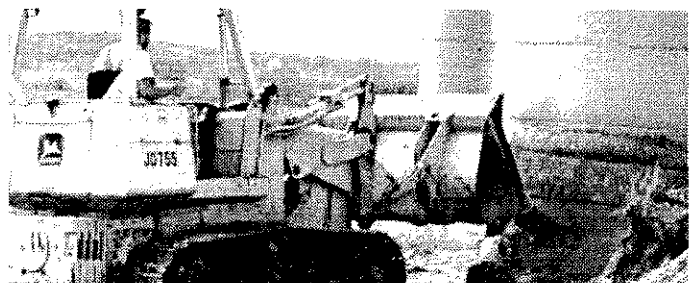
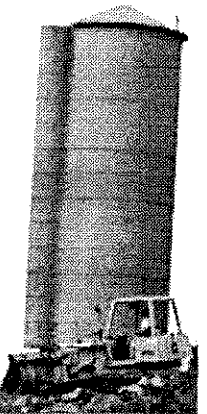
Matt Sawyer & Saw!

## DeConstruction Log

Ed Collins and crew dug up some clay tiles near the Prairie Potholes to restore some of the original hydrology. Several of the tiles gushed water when they were broken. This area is noticeably wetter since the tiles were removed. More tile digging is needed to recreate this wetland.



The silo and foundation and junk heap were removed from nearby the yellow house. The fence that was installed around Shafer's Knob by Dot and Doug Wade and the Prairie Society has been removed on the west and north side. Shafer's Knob now abuts soybean fields which will be planted with native seed in the Spring. This fence kept out cows and machinery since the mid 1970's. Dot recalled that "They thought we were crazy for wanting to put a fence around it. We never dreamed it would be surrounded by a preserve."



# Calendar

## NOVEMBER

- 21 Sunday, 10:30 a.m.: Shop & equipment rehab.
- 28 Sunday, 10:30 a.m.: Brush clearing/Fence removal

## DECEMBER

- 4 Saturday, 9:30 a.m.: Seed blending and Stone Soup Party
- 11 Saturday, 9:30 a.m.: Brush clearing

## JANUARY

- 9 Sunday, 10:30 a.m.: Brush clearing/Fence removal
- 15 Saturday, 9:30 a.m.: Brush clearing
- 29 Saturday, 9:30 a.m.: Brush clearing/Fence removal

## FEBRUARY

- 1 Prairie Smoke Submission Deadline
- 5 Saturday, 9:30 a.m.: Brush clearing
- 13 Sunday, 10:30 a.m.: Brush clearing
- 15 Prairie Smoke Published
- 20 Sunday, 10:30 a.m.: Brush clearing

**Burns**-Prescribed burns will occur throughout the winter as weather permits. Call Bill Kleiman, 456-2340, to be on the phone tree or for more information. Dress for the weather. Leather work gloves recommended. Meet at the barn West of the Yellow House at 2055 Lowden Road.

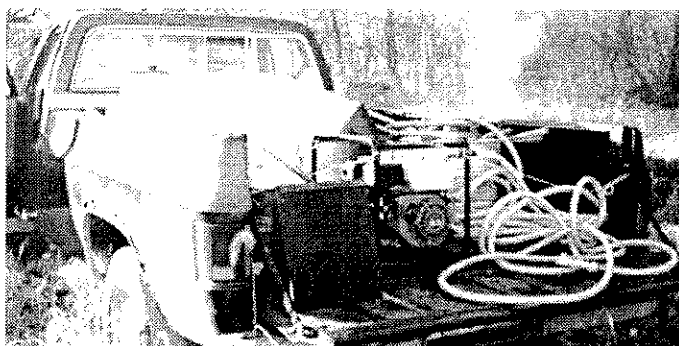
**Brush Cutting Crews**-Please meet at the Yellow House on Lowden Road at 9:30 a.m. Bring along a pair of heavy gloves to protect your hands.

**Please register** whenever visiting Nachusa Grasslands. Leave a note or use book at box at entrance. Your findings, information, and number in your group keeps us informed. If your tour group is visiting the Grasslands, please contact Ellen Baker, 1742 Reynolds Road, Franklin Grove, IL 61031 (815)4546-2283, with an estimate of the number of people in your group so we may know how many visitors we have in a year. Thank you!

Franklin Creek State Park picnic area (shelter, water & restrooms) is three miles south. Bring lunch to enjoy at the park or the Grasslands if desired. The nearest restaurant is in Franklin Grove (approx. 6 miles).

## Wish list for Nachusa Grasslands

- four wheel drive mini pickup
- √ half-ton four wheel drive pickup - *Thanks Jeff Meiners*
- old kitchen cabinets and a counter for the shop
- above ground fuel tank
- √ desk and chair - *Thanks Georgette Rocheleau and AG Communications*
- √ filing cabinets - *Thanks Georgette Rocheleau and AG Communications*
- √ book shelves - *Thanks Georgette Rocheleau and AG Communications*
- √ computer table - *Thanks Georgette Rocheleau and AG Communications*
- √ shovels, rakes, etc. - *Thanks Ron Flemal*
- seed drill
- √ tractor with 3 point hitch - *Thanks Matt Sawyer*
- √ 6 foot mower - *Thanks Matt Sawyer*
- lawn and leaf mulcher
- utility trailer
- air compressor
- √ copy machine - *Thanks Central Illinois Field Office*
- wheel barrow
- √ water pumping unit - *Thanks Matt Sawyer*
- slide projector
- √ slide screen - *Thanks Ron Flemal*
- scrap lumber
- seed separating machine
- fabric seed bags
- leaf blower (tail gate size)



## Work projects that need you:

- build a 18' x 6' seed dryer (need moderate carpentry skills)
- build or retrofit a bluegrass seed stripper to use in harvesting native seeds (need moderate metal working skills)
- repair a skid mover (moderate mechanical skills needed)

Nachusa Grasslands has a site manager and his name is Bill Kleiman. I've worked with Bill on several projects and he's a good man. I hope everyone will take the time to introduce themselves and commit to helping Bill make this investment by TNC a wise one. He may be paid and he may be full time, but his success as a manager will require the cooperation of everyone at every level. This marks the beginning of a new chapter in the Grasslands history and we should all want to help Bill write it. Thanks to TNC and all of you who support it with time, money, and materials for caring about Nachusa Grasslands.

*The Editor-Earl Thomas*

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### From the Editor:

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 me articles, photos, drawings, poems, cartoons, calendar dates (items of interest to the friends of Nachusa Grasslands) to the return address below.



brings you **Prairie Smoke**, the Nachusa Grasslands Newsletter.  
Illinois Field Office, 79 West Monroe,  
Chicago, IL 60603 -- Phone 312/346-8166

TNC  
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Franklin Grove, IL 61031

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