



CFC NEWS

Saving Living Space for Living Things

Vol. 23, No. 4, Fall 2004

Intern program completes its 10th year

by Ken Cowan

This program was started in 1995 to attract eager, young lovers of the outdoors who could be counted on by our restoration committee to do extensive work during the summer. Since then 25 college-age young adults have participated in this endeavor, with as few as two and as many as five individuals each year. Their major tasks have been weeding and herbiciding (42%) and seeding and planting plugs (30%), but they also help with the Summer Nature Camp, participate in the Fourth of July Parade preparations, "Sidewalk Days," and Grigsby and Flint Creek Anniversary celebrations. They have mapped the Flint Creek Greenway and developed a class instruction manual for The Native Illinois Prairie.

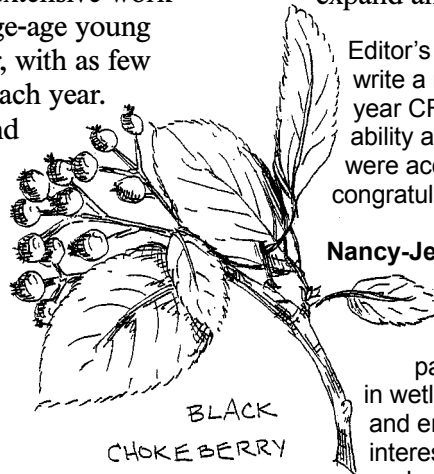
The interns program has been well supported by specific contributions from Waid Vanderpoel, the Four Seasons Garden Club of Barrington and the Oberweiler Foundation. CFC is very grateful for this support which helps us continue the program on a paid basis.

Education has also been an important part of the interns' activity. They assisted our education committee in several of its classes, in both a classroom environment and in the field. Education is a two-way event since most of the learning involves hands-on activities by senior CFC Board members. The success of this part of the program is underscored by the college major requirements that interns earned while

working with CFC.

CFC feels that the intern program has been very successful, and with your support we will continue to expand and improve it.

Editor's note: Each year the interns are asked to write a reflection on their summer experience. This year CFC had five interns and because of their ability and dedication a lot of restoration projects were accomplished. Enjoy reading their reports and congratulate them on a job well done.



Nancy-Jeanne Bachmann: I want to thank CFC. My work was sporadic this year as I traveled and went for job interviews. A total of 9 1/2 days of work, fully supported by CFC was a real privilege! The past 3 summers have nurtured my career goals in wetland restoration. Looking at graduate school and entering the job market, I have been focusing this interest. I desire the technical education in wetland ecology, hydrology, modeling, and engineering in order to design the projects that make use of the nutrient uptake and water purification functions of wetlands in agricultural,

(continued on next page)

Inside this issue...

Intern reflections continued	2
Nature walk/Holiday nature-inspired gifts	4
From the Staff Director/Write A Will Month	5
Reflections on a Canada goose	6
For the bird(er)s/Bird monitoring	7
Mini book review: <i>Keepers of the Land</i>	8
Fourth of July Parade	9
Committee reports/Can you help?	10
A special thanks	11
Upcoming events	12

Intern's reflections *(continued from page 1)*

suburban, and even urban settings.

As has been the case every summer with CFC, communication with fellow interns in the field has been an outlet for thinking through these career goals, making friends with brand new individuals, learning how to spark another's interests, striving for a consistent work ethic, and learning the reasons for each job assignment. More thoroughly taking into consideration this last point has been especially meaningful to me this summer. There is no lab manual for restoration but only the intuitive thought, trial and error practices, and passion of the ecologists. This leaves a wide range of interpretation of the natural events occurring on any particular site and the measures taken on that site. What a wide world we live in with a diversity of organisms interacting in often unpredictable ways. What a joy it is to recognize my potential role in the analysis, decision making, and application!

Greg LeFevre: "It's clearly a budget. It has a lot of numbers in it," proclaimed George W. Bush in his 2000 campaign. In as much as a digital representation of the "Ode to Joy" is not merely a series of ones and zeros (nor a budget, in fact), nature is much more than sets of plants and animals in aligning juxtaposition on which tidy Latin names can be placed. An integral component of the native Illinois ecosystem is the interaction of humans with the plants and other animals. Realization of one's place in the natural system, like that of self and society, is ongoing and important for the successful advancement of all the fore mentioned together.



I guess the thing that I learned most this summer has been the imperative value of education on the future of our environment: to understand, to learn, to become aware, to appreciate; to love and protect this Earth that we all inhabit. This education is not just about young children, although planting the seed young is vital. It is about adults, the general public, research, high school involvement, and communication between similar organizations. When people understand and value their surroundings then, and only then, can such changes be made to rejoice in restoration and make for a stronger future.

I, and my fellow interns, learned many things this summer, which were certainly not limited to the area of restoration ecology. The politics and structure of an organization can surely be an 'interesting' lesson.

I certainly enjoyed many portions of my experience. The other interns were enjoyable people with whom to spend my time. I love talking and learning from the volunteers, and am still amazed how dedicated many of the board members are

to achieving their respective visions. And as always I enjoy being in the field, doing work and teaching and learning from others; connecting with all that surrounds us.

One of the most enjoyable experiences came after the internship while visiting the International Crane Foundation. Seeing the sandhills and learning the great things that organization has done made me feel the greater sphere of good that my work has done. I hope I can continue to feel this way as I further a career in working with the environment. Without the tiles, there can be no mosaic.

Jeff Lin: This internship was my first job. I thought I knew what it would take to survive outdoors when I volunteered last year, but I was sorely mistaken. The first day I remember mowing the trail at Flint Creek Savanna. Now one would think mowing isn't too bad, but the mosquitoes were so thick that even drenching ourselves in bug spray we still had them flying all over our bodies! Did I mention the humidity was above 90 percent and the temperature was already above 90? Now I understood what sweating bullets meant! It was definitely a rude awakening to what to expect in my next 2 months. I began to have doubts about whether I could survive this torture.

Now I realize everything we did had a point. The work we did had a purpose in the whole scheme of things. We had great satisfaction to see our accomplishments with our own eyes. I remember last year planting the tussocks. I could not imagine the plugs I pushed into that gooey mud in those hollow pots would blossom into such magnificent specimens. I came back this year and they were almost twice as tall and I could actually see the dead plants of last year forming the protective mound at the bottom of the growing plants that Tom was telling me about. To see what all that effort was for is truly a satisfying feeling. All right, enough of the yang. I also gained great satisfaction from herbiciding all the invasive plants, especially the thistles. That was the yin part, and so I achieved a perfect balance with yin and yang, taking away life and giving life.

That was a inside joke among us interns, which brings me to the next point. People make this job enjoyable! I couldn't have asked for a better group of people: Greg with your wader straps, Carl with your bad jokes, and Joe with your California barking spiders, and even Nancy Jean with her surprise visits. Everyone made working interesting. I learned a lot from you all especially about politics and many of the world issues. I gained a wealth of knowledge and it expanded my way of thinking and gave me a greater perspective of the world.

The most important thing for me is the appreciation I've gained about nature through interning here. Seeing all the abundant wildlife and diverse ecosystems made me realize how important these places are. Not just for the stabilization of Earth but just the beauty of our world and how we must conserve these places so future people can experience what I experienced watching the graceful cranes and even staring at a puddle of water that's teeming with life. We must never lose that childlike wonderment of everything around us. Life is a precious thing to waste and what better way to live it than by saving living space for living things.



Carl Mehta: As I begin to reflect on my summer experience at CFC, I can't help but think about the conversations that I've had with my fellow interns. Of course, some of the talks addressed the methods of our restoration efforts, but the majority of them centered on anything and everything. We often (maybe even too often) talked about current politics with regards to the upcoming presidential election. We also talked about things like music, sports or anything else that would help pass the time. It didn't take me too long to realize that I should jump into any conversation that I could, regardless of my knowledge on the subject, because after pulling yellow sweet clover for 4 hours a day, any talk is better than no talk. These conversations did much more than just help pass time, though. It really helped establish friendships between the five interns, which made it fun to work with the same people every day.

As important as the conversations were to my experience, they weren't everything. I also learned a lot of important skills like time efficiency and teamwork. Using my time efficiently was not a skill that I had mastered, even after a year away at college. In school, I had learned how to get my work done in the allotted time, but I always had trouble with filling a void of a few minutes between jobs. At CFC, we might finish one job and have 15 minutes before a meeting or a lunch break, and before this internship, I might have proposed taking it easy for that bit of time. After ten weeks of CFC work, however, I have learned that important work can be done in a short amount of time. Whether it be pulling weeds or organizing work materials in the barn, there is always something that can be done. This leads to another thing that I learned here, which is that everything we do is geared towards a bigger picture. No matter how many weeds we pull in a day, we won't get all of them in that area, but we are making progress towards an eventual goal. That idea is important to keep in mind when filling little time voids because while we won't actually be finishing something, we are still going forward with our efforts of prairie restoration.

In order to make a large effort successful, however, teamwork is a critical skill. Each of the interns could perform different jobs all day and in the end five things will have been done on a small scale. Greg could herbicide reed canary, Nancy-Jeanne could pull yellow sweet clover, Joe could plant sedges, Jeff could do office work and I could wick

cattails, but none of us would make a very significant impact. Together, though, the five of us could clear an entire patch of yellow sweet clover within a matter of days. Because we all got along so well, I think we accomplished so much over our two and a half months here.

In the end, I've had a great time as an intern at CFC. I have learned so much just by being here, from the names of different plants and animals to time management skills that I can carry over into other parts of my life. I am currently enrolled at the University of Wyoming, majoring in Wildlife and Fisheries Biology and Management, and even though the main focus of this internship was on the habitat, I think that I have learned a lot that can help me in a future career. One of the most rewarding things that I have experienced here is knowing that I have been part of an ongoing effort to help restore a prairie and that my work has made a real difference.

Joe Simonis: So, I sit here, typing away after just finishing my last day of work. It was a Saturday work day, filled with seed picking and interesting conversations. No topic goes unmentioned when you're out in the field picking seeds. But, the great conversations were just a small part of what made this summer enjoyable.



Since this was my first year with CFC, I wasn't quite sure what was involved. The experience has most certainly changed me, I've learned quite a lot, and had a good time doing it. I didn't expect to be doing quite so much killing. Call it what you will: Ghostbusting, spreading the "blue touch of death," nuking, orange machining, whatever, we killed lots of stuff but eradicating has to be done before anything good can be planted.

But, it's not as if all we did was killing, because then we'd just have a barren field (for two seconds before the thistles and cattails grew back). The planting and seed collecting were great, too. I had loads of fun punching holes in the ground with an ice auger and plopping baby sedges in them.

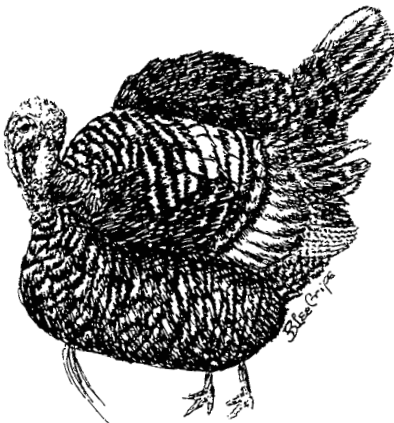
There were other great adventures too, like the two rather cool days spent collecting water lilies and spatterdocks from Honey Lake and putting them in the ponds at Flint Creek. How could I forget those days, I'll have scars on my foot and my finger (and in my heart...) to always remember them by.

I can't believe this summer went so fast. By the time you all read this, I'll already be into my first semester at U of I, getting accustomed to college life in the Midwest (which I'm imagining is similar but yet different from that in Southern California). It's great to be home, and this internship really helped to make it worthwhile. Thanks everyone for being so nice and putting all the time and effort into this great organization to make it what it is. And thanks for giving me the opportunity to work with you.

Nature walk and fundraiser

What better way is there to spend a sunny holiday morning than with a group of people who share a genuine interest in and love for the natural environment. We had a good turn out for the CFC Nature Walk/ Fundraiser sponsored by the **Riding Club of Barrington Hills** on September 5, especially considering that the first date was rained out and that it was held on a holiday weekend. Dave Johnson from the Wild Bird Center led a group on horseback through the Cook County Forest Preserve in search of birds; unfortunately, we found few. Luckily Dave is also very familiar with butterflies, so we all learned something new on the ride. While the riders were on hoof, the walkers were truly hoofing it on a long walk during a hot day led by Steven Packard and Rebecca Blazer from the Chicago Region Audubon. They identified and discussed local flora and fauna as well as the history and future of the local landscape. We finished with lunch at the Bateman Riding Center, relaxed and shared what we all had learned. This small group raised a total of \$360, and we have the Riding Club of Barrington Hills to thank for sponsoring the event. I look forward to continuing to work with both CFC and the RCBH in the future. The two organizations can strengthen their base of community support by working together. I anticipate an early spring walk next year in hopes of seeing a better selection of species, both plant and animal. We are all fortunate to have the dedication of people like Dave, Steve and Rebecca who donate their time and share their knowledge. We sincerely appreciate them. Thanks to all!

---Jessica Underwood



Holiday gifts for children which help instill the love of nature

by Tamara Oberholtzer

I am always on the lookout for great books or magazines for the children in my family. I was thrilled to find the following picks that meet my requirement for a great read but also either donate part of their proceeds to a worthy cause or convey a message that I find worthwhile. It's a nice feeling to use your consumer dollars to aid causes you believe in and to convey that to your children, nieces and nephews at an early age.

A Mother Too - My son is a little over a year old and has loved this book for several months. Parents might recognize the familiar artistry of Eric Carle, the author of the popular *Brown Bear* book. This book sweetly and simply shows the youngest reader that the animals in the world around him have mothers who care for them and love them too! (\$7.99)

Jane Goodall - A long-time warrior in her decades-long battle to protect the primates of Africa, Goodall has a whole collection of books that cater to children. My five-year-old niece tested ***The Jane Goodall Chimpanzee Family Book*** last Christmas and absolutely adored it. The book has beautiful photographs of real chimps and gives children a peek at their daily lives. (\$8.95, ages 4-8, janegoodall.org)

Ranger Rick - A great way to treat children like adults is by giving them a subscription to this wonderful magazine produced by National Wildlife Federation. Kids enjoy getting their very own periodical (they might even learn that word!) and the photographs, games and information are well worth the price. Depending upon the age of the child, NWF offers three magazines catering to the one year old to seven years old and up.

Animal Baby - 12 months to 4 years, \$19.95
Your Big Backyard - 3 -7 years, \$15.00
Ranger Rick (nwf.org) - 7 years and up, \$17.00

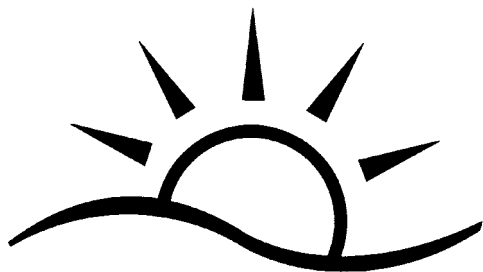
A gift membership to CFC in your child's name is also a great way to stress the importance of support to a local organization that directly impacts you and your family. Try involving your kids in your philanthropic discussions and decisions and remember, today's children are tomorrow's Citizens for Conservation members.

From the Staff Director

Citizens for Conservation has been a member of Leave A Legacy Barrington Area, since its beginnings in the Barrington locale just a few years ago, first as a member of the steering committee and now of the board. LALBA promotes awareness of charitable giving through estate planning. It is a collaboration of non-profits and professional financial advisors who came together because they recognized the importance of planned giving to the life of our community.

During October, which LALBA has designated Write A Will Month in our community, board members will be making presentations to many organizations. Harris Bank will contribute a full Community Matters page in the Barrington Courier Review early in the month. This will list all of the non-profits and professional financial advisors who are members of LALBA.

---Sam Oliver



Write a Will Month

Sponsored by Leave A Legacy® Barrington Area

Only about one-quarter of all Americans have wills. Perhaps the most difficult part of writing a will is taking the first step. This year, that first step may be a little easier thanks to **Write a Will Month** sponsored by Leave A Legacy® Barrington Area.

A will is one of the most important documents you will prepare during your lifetime. It enables you to decide where your belongings and assets will go rather than allowing the courts or a third party to make the decision. It can make the legal process much easier for your children, spouse, dependents and heirs.

During the month of October, all interested residents are urged to write, review, or update their wills or estate plans. That could mean simply dusting off an existing will or trust and making sure all the information is still up to date, or it could mean starting from scratch and deciding that it's finally time to write your will. In addition, your will can be a great help in planning your estate, in reducing taxes and in leaving a legacy to your community through a bequest to the charity or charities of your choice.

For starters, consider asking your professional advisor for help. If you do not have an attorney or would like free information on preparing a will, you may contact any of the Leave A Legacy® Barrington Area partner attorneys.

This October all Leave A Legacy® Barrington Area partner attorneys have agreed to offer a free 30-minute consultation to help get you started. Please feel free to contact any of the attorneys listed below:

Arnstein and Lehr

847-843-2900

• Bill Braithwaite • Larry Grelle • Nancy Harbottle

Kelleher and Buckley, LLC.

847-382-9130

• David Buckley, Jr. • Andrew Kelleher, Jr.

Law Offices of Irene Clarke David, Ltd.

847-382-6620

• Irene Clarke David

Robert C. Peithman, Attorney at Law

847-852-5010

• Robert C. Peithman

For further information on Leave A Legacy® Barrington Area visit www.lalba.org or call 847-381-9194.

Reflections on the Canada Goose

by Meredith Tucker

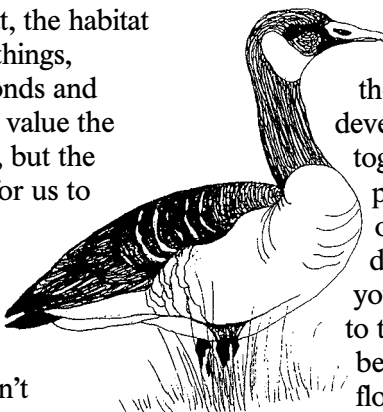
I like Canada geese! It's not a popular viewpoint, but it's all mine. There are a number of reasons for my goose fondness, the most important of which is that I grew up in a gooseless environment. In Chicago, Evanston, and Itasca where I spent my first thirty years, I never saw a goose. Neither did I see them at Morton Arboretum or at any forest preserve or park. The reason, of course, is that the Canada Goose had nearly been extirpated from the area by excessive hunting. As a result, I think we are fortunate to have these big birds back in their former habitat, the habitat we have claimed as our own. As in most things, scarcity bestows value. We treasure diamonds and platinum because they are rare; so too we value the spotted owl and the prairie fringed orchid, but the Canada goose has become too common for us to cherish.

I understand that many people find geese to be a nuisance in part because of their droppings. However, since I have neither small children nor dogs, I don't mind them, preferring to consider them a source of free, organic, entirely vegetarian fertilizer. Geese are interesting to watch as their interactions change with the seasons. They form essentially friendly, placid flocks during the winter, looking for an occasional bite to eat, a safe place to pass the time, and companionship. In the spring they become more aggressive with each other as males drive interlopers away from their mates. During the summer I rarely see the flock that frequents my yard in winter except for an occasional unattached individual or some bachelors. During late summer a few pairs return bringing their newly grown families with mom in the lead and dad bringing up the rear.

I heard an interesting (possibly apocryphal) explanation from a very reliable source concerning the return of Canada geese to our area. Apparently when the birds were almost eliminated due to over-hunting, state employees decided to restock the population and used the eggs that were easiest to procure, those of a non-migratory population. Since these birds had never migrated, they still don't migrate. It's not in their genes. Depend upon humankind to mess things up and then blame the wildlife! If this is accurate

information, it illustrates once again that we should be very careful before we interfere with the workings of the natural world.

Whether the above account is true or not, there is no question that human beings are responsible for the apparent over-abundance of geese. We have changed and expanded their habitat, making our homes and parks extremely appealing to them. People love lawns. So do geese. They thrive on the close-cropped turf that allows them to survey the landscape for predators. In addition, they are attracted to the retention ponds developers have created to hold rainwater. Put together the lawns and the water, and we have produced ideal goose habitat! For those of you who don't favor geese as much as I do, you can discourage their attentions to your yard by making the terrain unattractive to them. If you have water on your property, be sure to plant medium to tall grasses and flowering plants down to the edge of the water. Geese distrust tall plants. Decrease the amount of lawn you maintain. Break up its expanse with trees and shrubs or with plantings of native prairie and savanna plants. Even though I do not mind the geese, as I have decreased my lawn area and increased my native plantings of taller vegetation, fewer geese frequent my yard, and they spend less time there.



Finally, the ability to identify individuals goes a long way toward giving them access to the human heart. I know one of my geese. He is a male with a band of white feathers just above his nostrils. This aberration allows me to identify him. He has been using my yard for at least ten years. He has a mate who is smaller than he is and whom I cannot identify except that they are always together; he is alone only during nesting season when he comes for a quick snack and then hustles off. He protects his mate from the attentions of other geese and watches over her as she eats cracked corn. Perhaps because of his size, age, and disposition, he is high on the pecking order. On several occasions this pair has brought its current brood to my property. At the end of summer they will march across the yard,

(Continued on next page)

Mom in the lead, Dad taking up the rear with five or six youngsters between them. The offspring are as big as their parents, but they remain in the family circle. Last year “my goose” brought a child with him who had two large white spots above his nostrils, clearly an inheritance from his father, but not quite as pronounced. Now I can definitely identify two geese.

As luck would have it, a few years ago white nose was injured. It looked as though he had broken or dislocated a leg. He was crippled and no longer the top-dog he had previously been. I suffered more than he did. He allowed me to come close and provide him with the corn that he couldn't procure for himself when other geese were nearby. Although he could fly competently, taking off was a major problem as he couldn't run across the lawn to propel himself into the air. He had to manage it from a standstill. He accomplished landing on a foot and a beak! Over the course of several months, his condition improved, and he is once again two-legged and normal. He is no longer tame, a very good thing since I don't encourage any wildlife to become domesticated.

That is my final thought on geese, but it can be extended to any animal (or person). Recognizing an individual rather than seeing a non-identifiable multitude allows us to form a personal connection that supercedes any logical detachment. If we extrapolate this attachment to the flock, we may see the species itself from a different perspective. We may learn a little respect and tolerance.

For the bird(er)s

This summer 35 adult and young bobolinks were sighted at Grigsby Prairie. This is excellent for a 37-acre preserve!

We have some exciting news to report! Tom and Jim Vanderpoel recently spotted a rare bird during one of their recent excursions at Flint Creek Savanna: a Nelson's sharp-tailed sparrow. This sparrow is easily identifiable by its distinctive markings. It was only 6-8 feet away from them.

David Johnson of the Wild Bird Center of Cary Grove is a friend of conservation. He gives 1% of his sales to nature organizations, including CFC. In addition, he

donates 5% of all optics sales to these groups. If you would like 5% of your next optics purchase donated to CFC, please let David know at the time of your purchase. We thank Dave for this and for his further contributions as a tour leader in CFC preserves.

Bird monitoring

As many of you have noticed, we have bluebird and wood duck houses on our CFC properties, and we have a small group of people who maintain and monitor these houses. CFC is also responsible for the bluebird and wood duck houses in nearby forest preserves and Langendorf Park. The tasks involve yearly maintenance and cleaning out old nests, then periodically checking the bird houses during the breeding season. Generally we do this weekly, and it can be quite thrilling to open a bird house and see bluebird hatchlings inside.

Bluebird parents are surprisingly tolerant of human activity; however, tree swallows that might be nesting in the house can be rather aggressive as they swoop at the intruder. We need to check the contents of each box regularly to monitor the activity, to see if there are predation problems. If birds show no interest in a box, perhaps it should be moved to a better location. Also, we need to control the nemesis of the bluebird, the European house sparrow. Basically this means tossing out their nests (and eggs, if present). With luck they will abandon the site and allow bluebirds to enter. If one puts up bluebird houses and doesn't monitor them, this essentially creates houses for the more aggressive sparrows, so monitoring is essential.

Not all numbers are in yet this year, but so far we have reports of 31 bluebirds fledged at Grigsby Prairie, five fledged at Flint Creek/Grassy Lake Forest Preserve, at least four at Flint Creek Savanna (incomplete reports at press time, also for Spring Creek Forest Preserve), and five at Cuba Marsh Forest Preserve. We did not monitor all nests at Cuba Marsh, but many of the houses are not bluebird-friendly and could be improved. Also, we observed 28 wood duck eggs at Flint Creek Savanna. We definitely need more birdhouse monitors. Volunteers receive training at the beginning of the year, thanks to Tom Mohorek, and work on their own schedule. Check out <http://www.savelivingspace.org/monitors.html> for more information; I'd love to hear from you!

--Rob Neff

Mini book review

Keepers of The Land:

The Garden Club of Barrington

by Penny Horne and Mary McCarthy, editors

The Garden Club of Barrington was organized in 1925 to stimulate knowledge and the love of gardening among amateurs, to aid in the protection of native plants and birds, and to encourage civic planting.

Beginning in the 1930's, in an effort to satisfy these important goals, The Garden Club of Barrington published a booklet for new area residents about numerous gardening topics, local area wildlife, and our regional native plants. Back then our garden club members who came from all parts of the Barrington area would act as welcome ambassadors and personally call on their new neighbors with the booklet, which was generally accompanied by a plant, flowers, vegetables, or fruits collected from the members' own gardens.

Times have changed. In 2002, The Garden Club of Barrington decided to revise and expand the booklet to 22 chapters. Its range of conservation-based information was re-researched and updated. What was once 16 pages grew to 130 pages with a wealth of local information for all Barrington area residents. Subjects range from the new American lawn which requires less fertilizer and pesticides, to managing wetlands on your property, to planting native trees, to identifying and eliminating non-native plants. The book also provides guidelines for plantings to attract birds and butterflies and for planning and managing a vegetable garden. It considers the impact of landscape lighting and has a chapter about "wild creatures" in your backyard. It explains the history of the Barrington area and the Barrington Hills riding trail system and provides a helpful listing of Barrington area conservation resources, natural areas, and recycling programs.

The title *Keepers of The Land* came from a speech made by GCB member Bunny Horne when Citizens for Conservation presented her with their William H. Miller Award. "We have to be careful what we do to the land. The fact is, we don't really own the land. We're only here as keepers of it. Our use of the land is

but for a moment in time. Yet the alterations we make may affect everything permanently."

In 2004, *Keepers of The Land* is in its third printing (1500 copies) and has a Library of Congress Copyright designation. The Garden Clubs of Illinois presented it their 2004 Publications Award and the National Garden Clubs have given it an award as well. What has been surprising is that through their national affiliation with The Garden Club of America, other member clubs from California to Maine have requested the book to adapt for distribution in their own communities.

As with the original booklet, *Keepers* is available free of charge to new area residents at their village halls and through area realtors. For current residents, the book may be purchased at the Barrington Historical Society (212 W. Main Street) and at the office of Citizens For Conservation (459 W. Highway #22) for \$7, or by contacting The Garden Club of Barrington – Attention: Keepers, P.O. Box 1108, Barrington, IL 60011. You may also check out copies at the Barrington Area Library.



Dear Friend of Openlands Project:

Good news!

Our voices have been heard, and full funding has been restored to both OSLAD and NAAF; Illinois' two premier statewide open space

conservation programs! Many of you have joined us in the campaign to restore funding for these programs that are so critical to land preservation in Illinois. Thank you for your continued support of Illinois open space. As this recent victory demonstrates, the power of a simple phone call or letter should not be underestimated. Together we are truly making a difference.

---L. Blake Lynch

Fourth of July parade has patriotic theme

Thanks to ALL who participated with CFC in Barrington's Independence Day parade. Thanks especially to Gail "The Eagle" Vanderpoel who put it all together. Thanks to Scott Vanderpoel who was a great Uncle Sam and to all of you who came on your own or brought family, friends, and/or dogs. Everyone brought enthusiasm. We were a lively group. As you know from the size of the crowd, this is an excellent way to gain exposure to a VERY large number of people. As always, thanks to Scott and Jo Seagren for the wonderful green vintage pickup that forms the base for our entry. Congratulations to Jo Seagren and to Joyce Allen who not only ran in the Run for the Arts early that morning, but who were medal winners! The theme of the parade was, "A Salute to our Men and Women in Uniform." Donna Bolzman helped think through how CFC could carry out the theme with "CFC Members Serve Country and Community." A special thanks to Bill Lee, CFC member who was Our Man in Uniform and was just the person we needed to really help us carry out the parade theme!



Gail "The Eagle" Vanderpoel hitching a ride on the float.



Scott Seagren and daughter, Josie-Dee pose in front of their decorated truck/CFC float.

(photos by Dorothy Sigel)

Committee reports:

Restoration:

- ❖ New water lilies have been placed in the ponds, including spatterdock which is new to the ponds. Bobolinks have successfully fledged at Grigsby Prairie.
- ❖ The weed season has mostly ended with success. The weeds were bad this year, but with solid volunteer turnout and intern participation we stopped most dangerous weeds from reproducing at Grigsby, Flint Creek, Baker's Lake and Spring Creek Prairie.
- ❖ Seed collection season has started, and we began our 3-a-week work days at the beginning of September.
- ❖ We did reinstall the barley rolls at FCS this summer to slow algae growth, but it is hard to tell if they are effective. The ecosystems continued their progress with excellent comments from knowledgeable restorationists.

Thanks to the interns and many dedicated volunteers such as Wes Wolf, Carol Hogan and John Wagner, we again collected rare seed which is important to our restoration efforts.

Real Estate: John Wagner showed to the Board the updated map that the interns worked on including Flint Creek including Flint Creek Savanna and Grigsby Prairie. An estimated 40 to 60 hours were spent on this map. It will be a good tool for identifying target areas along the Flint Creek corridor and for educational purposes.

Grounds: Thanks to Dorothy Sigel and Melissa Washow for installing curtains on the downstairs windows and for making the CFC headquarters a wonderful place to work and visit.

In memory

CFC thanks **Meredith Tucker** for her donation in memory of William Whitney.



Can you help?

Teachers and/or presenters needed

Would you like to help CFC by teaching either children's nature classes or adult education classes? We provide all training and materials (or you can bring your own). Even if you only teach once a year, we would love your help and ideas! Leave a message in the CFC voice mail box if you are interested in more information: 847-382-SAVE.

A special thanks

...to **Lillian Block**, owner of **Barrington Executive Secretarial Services** who will be donating her services to CFC. This is a much appreciated contribution.

...to **Jo Seagren** for the *RARE Guide to Trail Development* to use as a CFC resource.

...to **Beth Cripe**, **Margaret Hudson**, **Carl Mehta**, **Dorothy Sigel** and **Erin Vukovich** for the illustrations and photographs in this issue of CFC News.

...to **Elaine Parnell** for contributing a laser jet printer for the office.

... to CFC neighbor **Michael Neeman** for his contribution of a set of outdoor furniture including a table, end tables, chairs and benches.

...to the **Social Action Committee of Countryside Church** for donating the proceeds of a special offering collected on June 20, 2004.

...to the **Field and Flower Garden Club** and **The Barrington Natural History Society** for their generous donations.

...to **Diane Greening** for several pieces of furniture for CFC's headquarters and to **Dorothy Sigel** and **Melissa Washow** for their invaluable help with pick up and delivery.

...to CFC members **John and Angie Battin** and **Bill and Karen Hunter** for water lilies and spatterdock for the pond at Flint Creek Savanna.

...to *The Chicago Tribune* for an excellent extensive article about CFC's Grigsby Prairie, and its other preserves in a special Community Focus edition.



Congratulations

Luke Thominet has received a four-year, \$3,000 per year scholarship to the University of Southern California to study architecture from the Barrington Woman's Club. He was an Eagle Scout who did volunteer work with Citizens for Conservation.

With much appreciation

CFC wishes to extend a very special thank you to
**Mr. and Mrs. Robert Dhaens and
the Benson Foundation**
for their generous donation of \$10,000.

Make a Difference Day, everyday!

Thanks to all of you because you are members of CFC. This is an organization that is making a difference in the Barrington Area by "saving living space for living things." If you would like to help in any area of conservation work, we would love to include you. There is always more to be done including restoration, education, and public relations. CFC has on-going and new projects planned that might interest you. So if you would like to be more involved, just give us a call at 847-382-SAVE and leave a message. We will get back to you.

Upcoming events:

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday
November 2, 3 & 4
Seed Cleaning Marathon
CFC headquarters, 7-9 p.m.

- ☛ Dress in “grubby” clothes and help prepare seed for sowing in late winter/early spring.

Saturday, November 6
Volunteer Bonfire
CFC headquarters, 6 p.m. →

- ☛ Bring your own meat to grill, salad or dessert to share, beverage and lawnchairs. CFC will provide grills, paper goods, and, of course, the bonfire. Dress for cool weather. This is great fun. Hope to see you there!!!

Saturday, December 4
Holiday Nature Crafts,
CFC office, 2-4 p.m.

- ☛ Children can make gifts from nature’s harvest. Projects including grapevine wreaths, bird ornaments, candle making, soap making and leaf-printed stationery will be available at several craft stations. (Adult volunteers are needed to join in with the elves crafting.)

Monday, January 17, 2005
(Martin Luther King Day)
Learning from Owl Pellets
CFC office, 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.

- ☛ Learn more about owls and their habitat by dissecting owl pellets. (Don’t worry. Owl pellets are fumigated and aren’t what you think they are!) Ages 7 and up; younger children welcome with parents.



OFFICERS

Karen Hunter, *President*
John Schweizer, *Vice President*
Melissa Washow, *Secretary*
David Kullander, *Treasurer*

STAFF DIRECTOR

Sam Oliver

MANAGING EDITOR/LAYOUT

Catherine LeFevre

COPY EDITOR/STAFF WRITER

Meredith Tucker

PROOF READERS

Meredith Tucker
Sam Oliver

WRITER

Tamara Oberholtzer

RECYCLED PAPER

CITIZENS FOR CONSERVATION
459 West Hwy. 22
Barrington, Illinois 60010

Saving Living Space for Living Things

For membership information, visit us or call at:
Office: 459 W. Hwy. 22 Phone: 847-382-SAVE
www.savelivingspace.org

Nonprofit Org
U.S. Postage
PAID
Barrington, IL
60011
Permit No. 80