

The Natural History Society of Barrington

FOUNDED IN 1945

BARRINGTON, ILLINOIS

APRIL



1987



Death may come by tooth or claw,
Come by thirst or by starvation,
Come by wind or rain or snow,
By disease, or conflagration__
Risks enough, by Nature's law,
Worse, by man's manipulation. ___Joel Peters



THURSDAY, APRIL 9, 8:00PM, JOEL GREENBURG will present a program on the history and ecological significance of Baker's Lake. Joel works for the Illinois Nature Preserve Commission, an agency responsible for the protection of natural areas such as Baker's Lake. His intense interest in birding is reflected by his work with the Evanston North Shore Bird Club, the Illinois Breeding Atlas, and the Illinois Ornithological Records Committee. As always, we'll meet in the basement of the United Methodist Church across from the Hough Street School.

On March 19, Wendy Paulson reported that 19 Great Blue Herons, one Great Horned Owl, plus numerous mergansers, Redheads, Ring-necked, and ruddy ducks were to be seen on Baker's Lake.

Like Wendy, John Wood has long been and continues to be a strong voice for conservation and the environment in the Barrington community. John is up for re-election and deserves our support.

Pork barrel project defeated to save herons. No, this is not a gateway related headline. It seems that the Indiana Dept. of Corrections had plans to build a 5,000 head swine operation upstream and upwind from the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore's heron rookery. Public opposition has caused the plan to be scrapped.

Other development plans, however, continue to threaten the Dunes. Specifically, Michigan City and four other local communities are hoping to build marinas. The Save the Dunes Council comments, "All marina plans bear close scrutiny because of possible attendant problems of dune destruction or erosion, traffic pressure, water pollution, wildlife disturbance, water safety, and parking areas." The Council's address is P.O. Box 114, Beverly Shores, Indiana 46301.

We are all familiar with radiotracking of animals using transmitters attached to the animals themselves. New technology has allowed for smaller and smaller transmitters. How small? Well, listen to this. The Illinois Dept. of Transportation put a .7 gram transmitter on a juvenile female Indiana bat (a federally endangered species) and followed it as it foraged over corn and soybean fields at night and roosted in a bottomland cottonwood during the day.

In Michigan, six Kirtland's warblers (another federally endangered species) were fitted with transmitters. Radiotracking showed that the adult birds stayed close to home while the young moved a mile or more from the nest area.

BAKER'S LAKE SIGN DEDICATION AND "OPEN HOUSE" will be held on SUNDAY, MAY 10, beginning at 2:00 PM. More information in next newsletter.

9 APRIL 1987

PRESIDENT SUE ALLMAN CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER. THE SECRETARY'S REPORT WAS ACCEPTED WITH CORRECTIONS - THIS MONTH'S SPEAKER WAS NOT AN EARLY SURVEYOR OF BAKER'S LAKE.

TREASURER NET MULLEN REPORTED A BALANCE OF \$650.99. THE EAGLE FOUNDATION IS PLANNING AN INTERNATIONAL BALD EAGLE DAYS AT DUBUQUE, IOWA ON FRIDAY, SATURDAY & SUNDAY, MAY 22 TO 24.

THERE WILL BE A WORK DAY AT SYLLMAN NATURE CENTER ON 11 APRIL.

SHIRLEY IS COLLECTING FOREIGN AND COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS FOR AUDUBON SANCTUARIES. FIELD TRIPS ARE TO BE COMBINED WITH THOSE OF CFC. IF THERE IS A SPECIAL PLACE ANY ONE WANTS TO VISIT, LET SHIRLEY KNOW.

THE MAY MEETING IS THE LAST ^{ONE} FOR THIS SEASON. "PRESETTLEMENT VEGETATION" IS THE TOPIC; WE'LL BE INFORMED OF WHAT THE BAKER'S LAKE AREA MAY HAVE INCLUDED IN ITS TOPOGRAPHY.

THE SIGN FOR BAKER'S LAKE IS TO BE DEDICATED ON 10 MAY AT 1⁰⁰PM AT AN OPEN HOUSE. DETAILS WILL BE INCLUDED IN OUR NEXT NEWSLETTER.

THERE WAS A DISCUSSION OF THE PROPOSED CAGES FOR CRABTREE AND THE SHORTENED HOURS. MEMBERS ARE URGED TO WRITE TO THE FOREST

PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY,

WENDY IS LEADING BIRD WALKS AT CRABTREE ON WEDNESDAYS AT 3:30PM. DURING APRIL, THE WALKS IN MAY ARE TO BE AT 8:30AM ON FRIDAYS. WE MEET IN THE PARKING LOT.

SUE TURNED THE MEETING OVER TO MARK WHO INTRODUCED JOEL GREENBERG, OUR SPEAKER FOR THE EVENING. PRIOR TO JOEL'S PROGRAM, WENDY DAULSON SHARED A SLIDE SHOW ON BAKER'S LAKE THAT SHE USES IN HER WORK WITH SCHOOL CHILDREN. THE PRESENTATION WAS INFORMATIVE.

JOEL GAVE US AN INSIGHT ON THE HAPPENINGS INVOLVING BAKER'S LAKE FROM A POLITICAL VIEWPOINT. THERE ARE THREE GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES WHICH HAVE AN INTEREST IN AND CONTROL OVER WHAT HAPPENS TO OUR FAVORITE LAKE.

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 9:35 PM FOR A SOCIAL HOUR.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
Elizabeth Wytrowski
SECRETARY