

The Natural History Society of Barrington

FOUNDED IN 1945

BARRINGTON, ILLINOIS

MARCH 1987

Any good poet, in our age at least, must begin with the scientific view of the world; and any scientist worth listening to must be something of a poet, must possess the ability to communicate to the rest of us his sense of love and wonder at what his work discovers.
--Edward Abbey

THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 8:00PM, Cathy Hein of the Chicago Academy of Sciences will present a program on the medicinal uses of many of our local plants. Besides editing many of the Academy's publications, Cathy is one of the driving forces behind Ecofair and Listening for Birds, a unique birding program aimed at the visually handicapped. Cathy's good nature and enthusiasm are contagious so don't miss her talk. The meeting will be held in the basement of the Methodist Church across from Hough School.

SPECIAL THANKS to Wayne Schennun, Wendy Paulson, Net Mullen, Bill Moreland, Shirley Peterson, Wendy Nicholson, Ruth Kittredge, Hugh Kirk, and Dorcas Thompson who brought slides to last month's meeting. My apologies for missing this successful member's night.

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has designated 1987 as the "Year of Leopold" in honor of the 100th anniversary of the birth of Aldo Leopold. We owe much to this great conservationist. Recently, as I learned that another Barrington farm was soon to be sold and subdivided, a Leopold quote came to mind. "We abuse the land because we regard it as a commodity belonging to us. When we see land as a commodity to which we belong we may begin to use it with love and respect."

Speaking of the Wisconsin DNR, they are planning a three pronged peregrine falcon release. One site to be located in Milwaukee, another in Devil's Lake, and a third release site will be located on the bluffs along the Mississippi. These falcons, like Chicago's, are being provided by the Raptor Research and Rehabilitation Program at the University of Minnesota.

BIRD WALK at Beese Park and Baker's Lake on April 1 at 3:15. Bird walks at Crabtree will begin Wednesday, April 8 and continue through the month. Meet in the parking lot at 3:30. Dress for the weather and bring binoculars.

Also in April, the Barrington Natural History Society, will present special programs about Baker's Lake, our own Illinois Nature Preserve. Check this newsletter and, with some luck, the Barrington papers for details.

CHAOS has extended its run at the Academy of Sciences through March. In his review of Jan. 29, Tom Valeo, theatre critic for the Daily Herald, wrote, "...the preposterous serves as a powerful catalyst that energizes all the elements, making the humor bubble and boil all over the place." The show starts promptly at 8:07PM. Call 549-0606 to make reservations.

March 12, 1987

The March meeting of the Natural History Society of Barrington was called to order by president Sue Allman. Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Sue announced that the library would like to have some of the Natural History bookmarks. She will take them to the library and also to Crabtree Nature Center.

A good history of the Natural History Society appeared in the Citizens for Conservation newsletter.

Wendy will conduct bird walks again in April. The first one will be at Baker's Lake on April 1 at 3:15.

Crabtree now has a full time naturalist.

Mark announced that the April meeting will be on the history of Baker's Lake. One of the early surveyors for Baker Lake, Joel Drenberg, will be our speaker. In late April or early May there will be a ceremony at Baker Lake when the sign is erected. There is a plan to restore Baker Lake to its original savanna state. The Citizens for Conservation plan to maintain this savanna - Sue Allman and Shirley Peterson are on this committee.

Frank Spreyer told us a bit about the Stillman property which consists of 100 acres of land belonging to the Audubon Society, and the need to find a home for the house on the property. A work day is set there for Saturday, April 11.

Mark told about the proposal for a model farm on 300 acres of the Cook County Forest Preserve in Barrington Hills. There was some talk about the management of forest preserves and the advisability of this kind of venture.

Shirley announced she had a letter about the Natural Conservancy trying to save land in Hawaii. After some discussion, George Luehring made a motion to donate \$500 to the Natural Conservancy for use in Hawaii. Ruth Kittredge seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Mark introduced our speaker Cathy Klein of the Chicago Academy of Sciences who gave a very interesting program on the history and use of medicinal plants.

The meeting was adjourned about 10 P.M.

Ruth Kittredge
Sec. pro tem