

The Natural History Society of Barrington

FOUNDED IN 1945

BARRINGTON, ILLINOIS

May

1987

Male mourning doves love corn and female mourning doves.
Female mourning doves love corn and (frequently) to be left alone
by male mourning doves. That is what all the mourning is about.

from Eagles Have Bad Breath by Jack Aulis

* SUNDAY, MAY 10 at 2:00pm. BAKER'S LAKE SIGN DEDICATION & SPRING WALKS *
Join us as we dedicate a sign depicting the birds of Baker's Lake. After
the dedication there will be walks to investigate the wildflowers and birds
of Baker's Lake. See you there!

THURSDAY, MAY 14, at 8:00pm. We will take a look at the pre-settlement
vegetation of this region through the eyes of the early land surveyors.
The program, given by Rob Nurre, will focus on the Madison area and on
Baker's Lake. Rob currently works on land records for the State of Wisconsin.
In 1984 and 1985, Rob worked as the instructor on animal life at the Audubon
Camp in Wisconsin and as the environmental educator for the Madison Audubon
Society. I guarantee his presentation will be unlike any others you have
seen so don't miss it! We meet in the basement of the United Methodist
Church, 311 S. Hough St.

May is full of birding opportunities at the Ryerson Conservation Area. On
Mother's Day, May 10, Dr. Scott Hickman will present a workshop on Warbler
Identification. On Sunday, May 17, Dr. Dave Willard from the Field Museum
will conduct a program on Advanced Bird Song Identification. Both classes
begin at 10:00am. At 1:00pm on Saturday, May 23, Mark Spreyer (that's me)
will offer a bird banding demonstration. For all three offerings, Call 948-
7750 to make reservations.

It was bad enough having humans play "wildlife roulette" by introducing
species from one continent to another but recent government decisions have
made matters much worse. It is now possible to patent new forms of animal
life created through genetic engineering. Ever heard of a "geep"? At the
University of California at Davis, researchers fused a goat and a sheep
embryo and now we have geeps. That kind of research is more funny than
scary. On the other hand, the Patent Office has issued approximately 200
patents for genetically manipulated microbes, mostly varieties of bacteria.
Now that's scary. Perhaps by the year 2000, there will be a Barrington
Unnatural History Society.

The Peregrine Falcon is so named because of wide ranging habits, peregrine
meaning to wander. I was recently reminded of this when reading of a
peregrine that was banded as a nestling near Aniak, Alaska this past July.
This falcon died on Nov. 18 at San Jose, Calif. after colliding with a
commercial aircraft. Other peregrines banded in Alaska were discovered in
such diverse locations as Argentina, Brazil, Ecuador, El Salvador, North
Carolina, Texas, and Washington. These returns are of particular interest
since DDT, outlawed in this country since 1972, is manufactured in the U.S.
and sold for use in some of the South and Central American countries mentioned
above. Earlier use of DDT in this country led to the near extinction of
the Peregrine Falcon. I wonder how those Alaskan birds fare in South
America?

MAY 14, 1987

PRESIDENT SUE ALLMAN CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 8:07 PM. THE SECRETARY'S REPORT WAS READ AND ACCEPTED. THE TREASURER REPORTED A BALANCE OF \$631.59, SHE SUGGESTED THAT \$300 OF THE MONEY BE PUT INTO THE BANK.

IN MARK SPREYER'S ABSENCE, SUE ANNOUNCED HIS CONCERN FOR MONEY FOR THE CHICAGO PEREGRINE RELEASE FUND, GEORGE LUEHRING MADE A MOTION THAT \$300 BE SENT TO THE PEREGRINE FUND.

NET MULLEN SUGGESTED SENDING SOME MONEY TO THE NATURE CONSERVANCY EAR MARKED FOR THE NACHUSA GRASSLANDS.

WENDY MADE A MOTION THAT \$250 BE SENT TO THE PEREGRINE FUND AND \$60 BE SENT TO THE NATURE CONSERVANCY. THE MOTION PASSED.

OUR CONTRIBUTION TO THE PEREGRINE FUND GIVES THE SOCIETY AN OPTION TO HELP NAME THE NEW ARRIVALS. NET SUGGESTED "PERRY GREEN". MEMBERS AKE TO VOZE ON A LIST OF NAMES AFTER THE MEETING.

SUE THANKED WENDY PAULSON FOR HER ROLE IN ORGANIZING AND OVERSEEING THE

DESIGN, FABRICATION, ERECTION AND DEDICATION OF THE SIGN FOR BAKER'S LAKE WHICH TOOK PLACE 10 MAY AT 2⁰⁰ PM.

WENDY ASKED THE SOCIETY TO PROTEST MOWING OF THE CAMPGROUND.

GRIGSBY PRAIRIE DEDICATION IS SCHEDULED FOR 6 JUNE AT 1⁰⁰ PM, THE PRAIRIE IS LOCATED AT OAKKNOLL AND BUCKLEY STREETS IN THE BARRINGTON HILLS SECTION. CITIZENS FOR CONSERVATION ARE SPONSERS.

LOU MARCHI ENLIGHTENED US WITH A WORD DESCRIBING A PATTERN WITH WHICH WE ARE FAMILIAR: BOUSTROPHEDONICAL. THIS IS THE PATTERN A FARMER USES TO PLOW THE LAND; IT IS ALSO THE SEQUENCE USED BY SURVEYORS TO MEASURE AND LOCATE SPECIFIC PLOTS OF LAND.

SUE INTRODUCED OUR SPEAKER ROB NURRE WHO ENTERTAINED AND INFORMED US OF THE RANGE AND SECTION SYSTEM USED BY THE EARLY SURVEYORS. IN THEIR USE OF SPECIFIC TREES TO LOCATE AND IDENTIFY SECTION CORNERS THEY PROVIDED A CLUE TO THE ORIGINAL TOPOGRAPHY.

THE MEETING ADJOURNED FOR REFRESHMENTS.
RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED
ELIZABETH NYSTROM



Barrington birds

Chet Ryndak, a local artist, explains to a group of bird watchers what birds they can expect to see at Bakers Lake in Barrington. Ryndak and fellow artist Nancy Halliday created the sign depicting the birds seen on nature trails.

Daily Herald Photo/Mark Welsh