



"Promoting appreciation and the understanding of nature and supporting the conservation of natural resources."

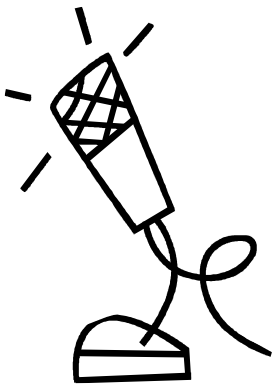
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JULY/AUG 2009

Emiquon Audubon Society

A Chapter of the Illinois Audubon Society
A Friends Group with the National Wildlife Refuge Association

NEXT EAS MEETING — September 4 Annual Mic & Pie Night 7PM Havana Public Library



An annual event for EAS. Bring your nature-related (or close to nature) pictures and a pie to share. Past year's have provided great entertainment followed by a delicious dessert. No need to notify EAS ahead of time but it would help. **Please e-mail Nancy at nglick@havana.lib.il.us and let her know if you are either bringing photos and/or a pie.**



It was an exciting field trip on June 1 when EAS traveled to the Emiquon Preserve to explore Bluebirds & Botany — see back page.

Thompson Lake Festival August 29, 2009 8:00 AM - Noon

THOMPSON LAKE FESTIVAL PLANNED NEAR DICKSON MOUNDS MUSEUM

The public is invited to attend a Lake Festival at Thompson Lake, Lewistown, IL on Saturday, August 29, 2009 from 8:00 a.m. to Noon. The festival will be at the Nature Conservancy Emiquon Preserve located off Routes 78/97 about 1/2 mile north of Dickson Mounds Road.

A wide variety of activities are planned at The Nature Conservancy Emiquon Preserve – Thompson Lake. Visitors will have the opportunity to learn about water quality, macro invertebrates, bird identification, invasive species and Emiquon through displays and hands-on activities. During the morning The Nature Conservancy will allow a one-day only bank fishing for students 16 years old and younger who are accompanied by an adult.

In addition to the displays visitors will have the opportunity to experience the lake from a Voyageur Canoe. The short tour will include stops on the lake to view two different science demonstrations.

Satellite activities include facility tours and science demonstrations at the UIS Emiquon Field Station, bird identification at the USFWS Emiquon NWR South Globe Levee and an exhibit at Dickson Mounds Museum on bird migration.

This event is free to the public. Visitors may want to take their own kayaks, canoes or small boats out on the lake. Use permits will be available.

Partners for this event include: Dickson Mounds Museum, Emiquon Audubon Society, Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Illinois Natural History Survey, The Nature Conservancy, US Fish and Wildlife Service, the University of Illinois, and the University of Illinois –Emiquon Field Station.

Please direct any questions to Jason Beverlin, The Nature Conservancy at 309-547-2730 or Kim Dunnigan, Dickson Mounds at 309-547-3721.

***The Nature Conservancy Emiquon Preserve is located east of State Routes
78/97 one-half mile north of Dickson Mounds Museum Road***

Letter from the President

Nancy I. Glick



I've had a love affair with trees seemingly all of my life. The fascination began I think with a gigantic aged sweeping weeping willow in Washington, DC when I was 4 or 5. Low enough for me to climb myself to a contemplative height to sit on a horizontal skeletal limb & view the Washington Monument and the White House lawn after the annual Easter egg hunt. I still climb trees—it gives me a secure haven to view the world, even if just inside my mind.

I've been looking at Facebook a fair amount recently, originally to familiarize myself with how it works to be able to evaluate the way we could use the library's Facebook entry for more than a commercial: "become a fan of the Havana Public Library District." In the process I've found a friend long "lost" that I went to school with from second grade through freshman year & several friends from my Brussels American school days. . .the amazing thing to me has been the immediacy of the reconnection. How is it that we still can almost pick up exactly where we left off—time & circumstance change, but that connection is there and reestablished.

Technology has changed the way we access information and the immediacy of connection has become an innate expectation. My late husband John always talked about the click, that spark of change from the grow, grow, growing of summer—how everything was on this fast paced continuum to produce the seeds, the fruit, the harvest. And the click is when that all changes from growing green, ripe, & the unlimited possibilities involved—changes in that instant to the greenish yellows & drying browns, slowing down to slide into fall!

We slow down to connect with the beauty of the natural world I think. Can we reconnect ourselves with something? An old haunt, a missing friend, a book or article read long ago, or sit in a tree & watch, observe, & take in the vastness of the world out here in rural Illinois before the click happens again. . .

Maybe to the birds it's not the most exciting feeder in the yard, but the cats still find the view intriguing. . .

Nancy I.

Share your photographs with the EAS membership. If you have photographs of local wildlife or recent nature hikes, please submit them to the EAS Newsletter. Send them to joskog@gmail.com



Bullfrog submitted by Rhonda Ferree. Picture taken while kayaking on Thompson Lake — "there were so many of them we called the spot bullfrog island," said Mark (Ferree)

Emiquon Audubon Society
PO Box 502, Havana, IL 62644
<http://sciencespot.net/eas/>

Nancy Glick, President
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 Sara Mathis, Vice President
 Ken Kedzior, Treasurer
 Rebecca Janus, Secretary
 Cindy McGrew, Education/Programming
 Jo Skoglund, Membership & Newsletter
 Jo Skoglund, IAS Representative
 Tracy Trimpe, Website Coordinator
 Dawn Kedzior, Hospitality Chair

Members at Large: Bill Branson, Jayne Miller,
 Jim Miller

The **EAS Newsletter** is published six times a year. Comments, suggestions and articles for submission may be sent to jskoglund@illinoisaudubon.org. The EAS executive board reserves the right to submit or reject information submitted based on content and timeliness.

Thompson Lake Festival

August 29, 2009
8:00 AM - Noon

Experience the Shore

History of Emiquon
Water Quality Demonstration
Invasive Species & Long-Term Natural Resource Monitoring Programs
Macroinvertebrates Presentation
Bird Observation and Identification
Migratory Waterfowl Facts
Native American Crafts
Special One-Day Bank Fishing
(from designated areas & must be 16 or younger)

Experience the Lake

Voyager Canoeing Tours and
Science Demonstrations

Satellite Activities

Dickson Mounds Museum

Skydance Exhibit

Emiquon Field Station (UIS)

Facility Tours and Science Demonstrations

US Fish & Wildlife Service South Globe Levee

Bird Watching

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED !

Be a part of the Lake Festival at Thompson Lake. Volunteers are needed to help make the day a success — if you are interested in taking on any of the following positions please e-mail joskog@gmail.com or call Jo at 309-33-0070 5 to 6 people assisting with the voyager canoes

- 5 to 6 people to help youth during the special bank fishing
- 4 people (2 at Thompson Lake 2 at South Globe) for bird ID
- 4 people to help with parking



Grey Tree Frog
drawing by Cindy McGrew

HELP WANTED **Emiquon Audubon Chapter Representative**

As a chapter of the Illinois Audubon Society, EAS is eligible to seat a chapter representative on the Board of Directors. In the past, this job has been covered by Jim Miller and most recently by Jo Skoglund. As of July 29, Jo has gone back to work for IAS as the Adams Wildlife Sanctuary Director and can no longer continue as a member of the board.

Therefore, the seat needs to be filled so that EAS can maintain its representation on the board. The job consists of attending four Board of Directors meetings a year. Three of the four meetings will be held in Springfield and the fourth is held as part of the annual members meeting during the Fall Gathering. Since this event moves around the state, the meeting location will change.

We are also allowed to name a chapter representative alternate in order to make it easier for EAS to have a representative at each meeting. The meetings are very informative and you get to network with other IAS chapters around the state and hear what's going on in your Illinois Audubon Society. If anyone is interested please contact Jo at joskog@gmail.com or 309.338.0070 for more information.

Bird Lake County and the Lakefront

2009 IAS Fall Gathering and Annual Members Meeting

September 11 to 13, hosted by the Lake/Cook Chapter

Information at: www.lakecookaudubon.org/IAS_2009_Fall_Gathering.html



More nature scenes taken by Rhonda Ferree at Thompson Lake and some Southern Illinois fungi.



bluebirds & botany

June 1 Field Trip Report by Cindy McGrew

Several brave souls ventured into the great outdoors on Monday, June 1, 2009 to learn more about the bluebirds and botany of Emiquon Preserve from trip leaders Rhonda Ferree and Cindy McGrew. They were treated to a weather and archaeology field trip as an added bonus.

As lightning flashed in the distance, the group enjoyed a delicious picnic meal from Jimmy Johns and discussed their plans for the summer months. With the threat of inclement weather looming McGrew led the group of explorers down the trail near a prairie plot to look at a box of bluebird nestlings. By the time they reached the nest box, a steady rain was falling. Undaunted by the precipitation, the participants asked questions and lingered at the nest box for one more look at the bluebirds before heading back to their vehicles for the second portion of the hike.

On the south end of the ridge, the group hiked around a mowed path. Along the way they observed and discussed the diverse plants growing along the trail while keeping wary eyes on the horizon for deadly cloud to ground lightening. In addition to learning about the plants from Ferree, Mike Wiant, who was on hand for the event, answered various questions about the archaeology of the site.

As the storm passed into the distance, the group lingered and shared their impressions of the evening's events. Everyone agreed that the impromptu weather conditions and discussion threads led to a very enjoyable experience for all.

SEPTEMBER EAS MEETING ◆ Annual Mic & Pie Night
7pm ◆ Havana Public Library