

.....Late summer scenes on PPRI preserves and restoration sites.....



PRAIRIE PLAINS LINK

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF

PRAIRIE PLAINS

RESOURCE INSTITUTE

August, 2006

Fall is in the air (along with a high pollen count), and the cooler mornings are renewing our energy (Amy sneezes and sniffs in the background as I write). August at Prairie Plains is a time of closure - wrapping up details following the intense July calendar - and new beginnings, with the seed harvest going into full swing and exciting autumn events to plan.

This year two events in particular are on our minds. We are eagerly anticipating the upcoming groundbreaking on Griffith Prairie for the Prairie Plains Education Center, and the moving of the Sands Family barn roof structure this winter. The Center will usher in a new era for PPRI and its quest to create opportunities for education, research, recreation, restoration - and for celebrating the land and its people.

We will email the membership list as soon as we know the dates for these long-awaited, momentous events!



Newsletter Feedback

Obviously another item that occupied a few August days was the creation of this new publication. Again, our thanks to Dave and Don Vetter and everyone at The Grain Place for making that first trial run possible. The response has been wonderful . . . members seem to like the new format, especially the color photos! We invite further comment and suggestions.

IT IS our plan to create an online newsletter some time in the next few months - along with a new website that will be a tremendous aid in communications and marketing. Members will receive a form (online or in the mail) to complete, indicating email address and a choice of an online or hard copy "Link."

Approaching EVENTS



Saturday, September 9:

FAMFest 2006 - Aurora's Fall Arts & Music Festival
on the Central Park Square

Plans are underway for another great day of art and musical performances! As always, all art demonstrations, children's activities and musical performances are FREE and open to the public. Featured Saturday evening musical performers are **Jalan Crossland**, vocalist, banjo player, songwriter and widely acclaimed acoustic guitarist; and **The Waybacks**, an acoustic folk-rock group known for crossing the lines between bluegrass & blues, and rock & jazz . . . For more details please check out www.famfestaurora.org.

Sunday, September 10: Griffith Prairie Hike & Brunch (in observance of FAMFest)

We'll meet at the PPRI office on the Square at 8:30 a.m. for carpooling. The hike will begin at the blue barn at Griffith's at 9:00 a.m., followed by brunch at Fayne's in Marquette. Be sure to RSVP to Amy ASAP if you're coming for brunch (402-694-5535 or amyppri@hamilton.net).

Saturday, September 16: "Twilight on the Tallgrass" Prairie Festival

This annual celebration at Spring Creek Prairie Audubon Center near Denton, Nebraska will run 3:00-10:00 p.m. There will be tours of the Center's new "green" Education Building, displays by local artists, educational prairie tours, and, of course, beautiful Spring Creek Prairie at dusk. Featured entertainment will be the family-friendly musical performance of Greenblatt and Seay. Bring a picnic dinner and enjoy a night of fun and prairie exploration. And look for us at the Prairie Plains booth and on the trail! Please see details at www.springcreekprairie.org/ne-festival.htm.

In October:

Enchanted Trail events at Lincoln Creek (Oct. 14) and ONP (TBA); Bader Park Tour/Hike (Oct. 21) and volunteer seed harvesting days (TBA). Please let us know if you want to be on the email or call list for these important volunteer dates.



Amy Jones, equipped with the latest fast-acting antihistamines, managed to mow the trail and snap a few shots at Lincoln Creek Prairie on August 30.



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