



# Tallgrass Sierran

Sierra Club - Heart of Illinois Group - Central Illinois Region  
P. O. Box 3593 - Peoria, IL 61614

**SPECIAL EDITION:** Please note this issue of the Tallgrass Sierran is for the months of July and August.

## GENERAL MEETINGS July and August

**\*\*July 20** Enjoy a change in routine. Join us at Forest Park Nature Center at 7 pm for a relaxing hike through Grandview Woods ( one of Illinois's few remaining natural areas ) on the Pimiteoui Trail. The hike will end at The Spotted Cow for ice cream. Return transportation to the nature center will be provided. Everyone is welcome!

**\*\*August 17** A slide presentation entitled *Carving Wilderness from Farms*, will be given by Hal Gardner. First, a summary will be given of prairie restoration by Nature Conservancy volunteers at Jubilee Park. Aerial photographs show a drastic change in Jubilee Park over a 50-year time course, some good and some not, such as loss of savanna. Techniques will be explained on methods of creating a quality prairie eco-system from a corn-field. Knowledge of do's and don't's necessary for successful restoration often has been achieved by experience through either dismal failure or resounding success. Slides of some of our beautiful little-seen prairie flowers and grasses will be shown.

Both meetings will begin at 7 pm and meet at Forest Park Nature Center.

## Thanks!

A special thank you to Joyce Blumenshine, Dave Grebner and Al Harkrader for making it possible to have photographs in this issue of the Tallgrass.

## LOCAL ISSUES

### *Another Shopping Center? On Parkland You Say? by Hal Gardner*

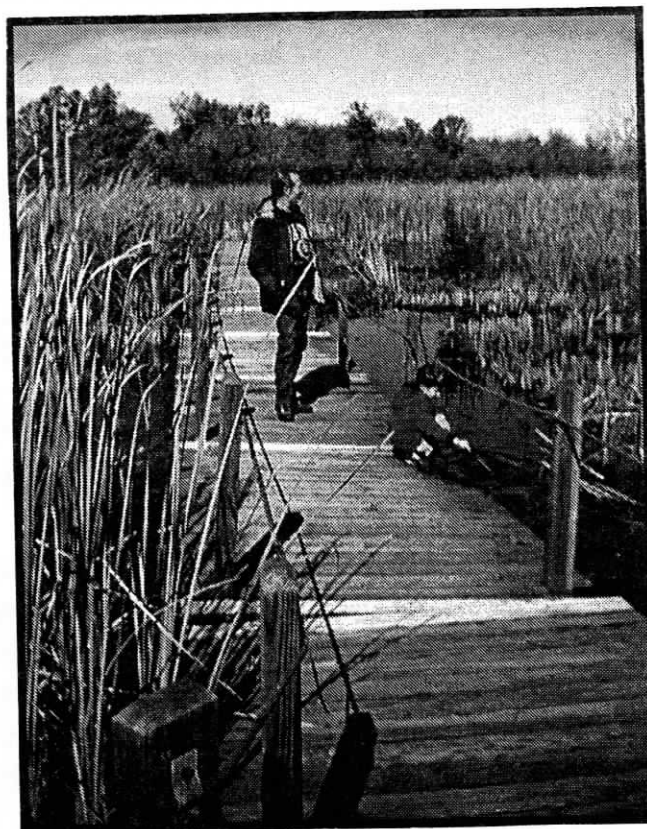
How many shopping centers can the Peoria area support? It must be increasingly obvious that shopping centers are built primarily for the benefit of developers. The newly constructed shopping centers function only in drawing business from older centers. This ring-around-the-rosy asphaltting of Peoria reflects a dismal lack of city planning. Do the developers own City Hall? The latest atrocious proposal is the attempt to grab parkland at Lakeview Center for yet another unnecessary shopping center. The carrot offered by the "anonymous" developer(s) is money for riverfront development. Development for development; what could be better for developers? Let's get control of this situation, and not allow the Lakeview green space to succumb to the bulldozer.



Chairperson John Wosik and Conservationist of the Year Susie Barber.

## Membership Survey, Part Two by Joyce Blumenshine

More! Yes, here's more, continuing the series on the HOI Group membership survey. Consider these selected comments on what the purpose of the Heart of Illionis Group should be: "(1) to keep the membership/public advised on environmental issues in their area and try to organize change, (2) an outing, conservation, environmental education group, (3) explore, enjoy, preserve, (4) protect wildlife in our area, (5) to help enact laws for the good of the community, (6) preserve what we have left of our environment - promote awareness of natural world and importance of guided development, (7) awareness of environmental problems, (8) preservation and conservation - work more for the EMIQUON, (9) environmental clean-up and pollution prevention, (10) watchdog for Central Illinois citizens". Lots of good thoughts! You are a valued member of Sierra Club. You can help by writing letters, calling on issues, helping on work projects or just taking the time to renew your membership.



A floating interpretative path along the edge of a wetlands in a wildlife refuge in Wisconsin. Would it be possible in the Emiquon?

### ONE EARTH, ONE CHANCE.

☐ Yes, I want to help safeguard our nation's precious natural heritage. My check is enclosed.

Name

Address

City

State  ZIP

Phone (Optional) (  )

**MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES**

	INDIVIDUAL	JOINT
REGULAR	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35	<input type="checkbox"/> \$43
SUPPORTING	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50	<input type="checkbox"/> \$58
CONTRIBUTING	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100	<input type="checkbox"/> \$108
LIFE	<input type="checkbox"/> \$750	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000
SENIOR	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15	<input type="checkbox"/> \$23
STUDENT	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15	<input type="checkbox"/> \$23

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P.O. Box 52968,  
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80322-2968

Annual dues include subscription to Sierra (\$7.50) and chapter publication (\$1). Dues are not tax-deductible.

### Once Again the Emiquon Needs Letters!

Even though the President did not budget money for the development of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife's Emiquon Wildlife Refuge and the final stages of the Meredosia Wildlife Refuge, at the request of Congressmen Lane Evans and Robert Michel the House of Representatives did budget \$500,000 for the Emiquon and \$1.1 million for the Meredosia in the Interior Appropriations budget.

Now letters to Senators Carol Mosely-Braun and Paul Simon are needed. Request that they support, at minimum, the House of Representatives budget of \$500,000 for the Emiquon and \$1.1 million for the Meredosia.

Write: The Honorable Senator \_\_\_\_\_, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510.

*Editor's Note: An outing is being planned to tour the newly aquired land for the Emiquon, the Meredosia and Chautauqua Wildlife Refuges. The tentative date is September.*



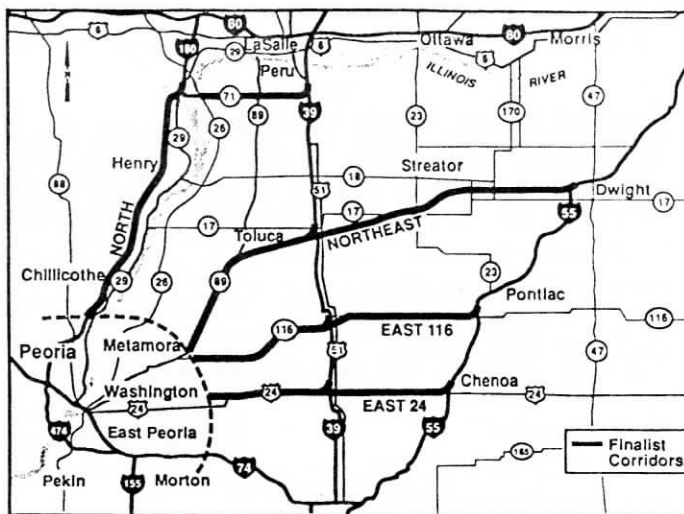
### ***Destructive River Bluff Interstate Proposed***

Once again the Illinois River's bluffs and watershed is in danger of being damaged in the name of progress. As different governmental agencies and organizations scramble to find funding to help stabilize stream banks and slow the siltation problem in Upper Peoria Lake, the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) has listed a corridor parallel to Illinois Route 29 as one of the finalists for the Heart of Illinois Highway (Peoria to Chicago).

This proposed highway would extend from Illinois Route 6 near Mossville to I-180 and require a new roadbed to be developed. It would travel along the bluffs through oak/hickory woods and cross at least four creeks that feed into the river. Wooded land can be purchased more cheaply and is considered of less economic value. Two of the creeks, the Senachwine and Crow creeks are suffering from serious erosion problems now. Bridge and road construction would increase this problem. Of the four proposals, this alternative favored by IDOT is the most environmentally sensitive.

Of the three other alternatives, all appear to be more direct links and use more existing roads (see map). IDOT is hearing from industry and the local governments. They need to hear from those who wish to save the Illinois River's beautiful bluffs, woods and the lakes. Studies continue and a decision has not been made. **There is still time for your input!**

For more detailed information on the bluffs, woods and creeks contact member Lloyd Murphy at (309) 364-2507. For the proposed highway information and to send letters on your position on this issue contact Annette Mills, P.E., Program Development Engineer, Dist. 4, Illinois Dept. of Transportation, 401 Main St., Peoria IL 61602, (309) 671-3490. *Editor's Note: Your letters will go into the file as part of the public input. Federal funds will be used. It is important that the government be aware of our feelings on this issue.*



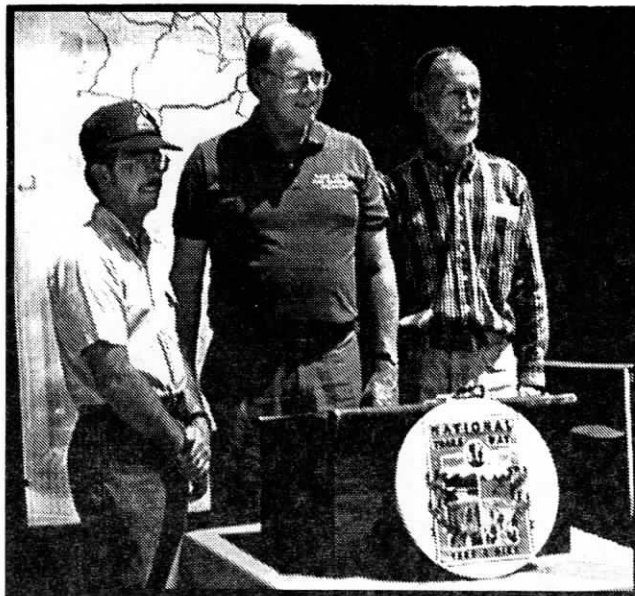
Map source IDOT

### ***Conservation 2000***

At this writing Conservation 2000 remains a victim of politics in the State House. Conservation 2000 (HB1594) was designed and recommended by the Conservation Congress and the Water Resources and Land Use Priorities Task Force of 1993. It is a cooperative effort between the different agencies to create a 6 year plan instead of the usual year to year plan.

**Calls are needed to your state representative asking them the status of this bill and to encourage them to support it. Call (217)782-2000 and ask for your representative.**

(For more information call Cheryl Pauli at (309) 446-9792.)



Dan Hardmann, Rep. Dave Leitch and Bob Thornberry at RIT dedication.



## Heart of Illinois Group Calendar

### JULY

13 Wednesday

Executive Meeting, 7pm

Corp of Engineers building, foot of Grant St. Everyone welcome.

20 Wednesday

General Meeting, 7 pm

Hike along Pimiteoui Trail.



### AUGUST

10 Wednesday

Executive Meeting, 7pm

See July 13 date for location.

17 Wednesday

General Meeting, 7pm

Carving Wilderness from Farms. Slide show by Hal Gardner.

26 Friday

Newsletter Deadline

Send articles to C. Pauli,

RR 1 Box 168 A, Brimfield, IL 61517

31 Wednesday

Newsletter Mailing, 7 pm

Peoria Pizza Works. Good food, good conversation and great people. Everyone welcome.

### SEPTEMBER

14 Wednesday

Executive Meeting, 7 pm

See July 13 date for location.

21 Wednesday

General Meeting, 7pm.

### Group Election Time Again!

A nominating committee will be assembled in August and nominations for the 1995 Executive Board will be accepted.

### 1994 HOI EXECUTIVE BOARD.

The following members will be serving on the Heart of Illinois Sierra Club's executive board in the following capacity: **Chairperson**, John Wosik, 682-8950; **Vice-Chairperson and Legal Advisor**, George Burrier, 266-5085; **Treasurer**, Phil Minear, 694-3014; **Secretary**, Joyce Blumenshine, 688-0950; **Membership and Outing Chairperson**, Larry Robbins, 692-3930; **Conservation Co-Chairperson**, Dale Goodner, 682-0789; and Glenn Zipp.

Appointed positions are as follows: **Conservation Chairperson**, Hal Gardner, 446-9792; **HOI Representative to Sun Foundation**, Rudy Habben; **Newsletter Editor**, Cheryl Pauli, 446-9792



### OTHER EVENTS

*Friends of the Rock Island Trail Workdays, 9 am July 9, August 6 and September 10*

Meet at the Alta end maintenance building. Leaving Alta on Rt. 91, go about 1 mile, turn right on Radnor Rd. Follow road around curves, maintenance building is on your right just before the railroad tracks.

For those interested, breakfast at 8:15 am at Hardees on Rt. 150 (by Pharmor/Sams).

Call Chris at 682-0549 or 691-2246.

*September 25, Breakfast on the Rock Island Trail.* More details in the September newsletter.

[Note: The HOI Grp. provides this information as a public service. OTHER EVENTS are not sponsored by the Sierra Club.]

HEART OF ILLINOIS

**Sierra Club**

P.O. Box 3593  
Peoria, Illinois 61614

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