

Dunes News

Published by Illinois Dunesland Preservation Society

P.O. Box 466

Zion, IL 60099

312 332-3377

April, 2004

Express Edition



Paul A. Kakuris, President

Luncheon Reservations

Saturday, April 17 noon

Park Resort

Please give your menu
choice when you make
your reservation:

1. Chicken Caesar Salad
2. Sesame Chicken
Salad w/fruit
3. Beach Burger
4. Club Sandwich

RSVP by April 14.

Dory Havens 847 945-2243

Karen Jump 847 498-5710

Dunesland in the News!

Chicago SunTimes

March 23, 2004

July 3, 2003

July 14, 1993

July 31, 2003

Waukegan News Sun

March 28,, 2004

August 22, 2003

August 1, 2003

July 17, 2003

Zion-Benton News

July 17, 2003

August 7, 2003

In Memoriam

We regret to inform
you of the passing on
March 4, 2004 of Gene
Rawhoof, our dear
friend and Dunesland's
vice president. He will
be greatly missed.
A tribute to Gene will
be in our next regular
edition.

Park Director and Superintendent Bob Grosso's Annual State of the Park Address Luncheon Meeting on Saturday, April 17 at Noon Illinois Beach State Park Conference Center Make Your Reservation Now!

Park director and superintendent Bob Gross will present the annual state of the park report. As you know, Bob is open and frank in his presentations and this year has much to discuss about what has happened to our precious park and nature preserve. This is one of the highlights of the year because he sets the tone for what Dunesland will be doing to serve the nature preserve and the environment. Bob's program is always educational and exciting. We will also learn more about the endangered species program and further research which is being done at the park. He will discuss the latest findings in the southern nature preserve with regard to the contaminants which have been found there and the recent elevation studies of the drainage of the South Preserve.

Election of Officers

Karen Jump, chair of the nominating committee, will present the slate of directors for Dunesland's board. Please make an extra effort to be at the meeting to support your board. The current board of directors needs to be thanked for their outstanding dedication and commitment to the park and the environment.

Dunesland Files a Motion to Intervene in the Johns-Manville Case

For the first time in Illinois history, an environmental group is seeking to block the settling of a lawsuit brought by the state against a major polluter. On March 12, Dunesland filed for a Motion to Intervene, charging that the probable settlement to be proposed will be a "steal" for the former asbestos products producer. This unprecedented motion was filed on behalf of Dunesland in Lake County Circuit Court by veteran Loop attorney Donald Metzger.

Dunesland President Paul Kakuris also sent a separate letter to Judge David M. Hall who is hearing the case, charging that the Illinois Attorney General's office and the Illinois EPA which jointly filed the suit with the Lake County State's Attorney nearly three years ago, are "far too cozy" with Manville, and so allegedly have worked out a settlement with the firm "that does not represent

the public interest."

Dunesland contends that the sweetheart settlement of the state lawsuit would let Manville get out from under what should be a \$4-5 million fine, permitted by the state statute, for as little as \$750,000 (or less). Unfortunately, none of the fines are earmarked for the Nature Preserve.

Dunesland previously contended that the state belatedly filed the lawsuit - which cites many years-old violations - only because Dunesland had repeatedly charged that state officials were "too chummy" with Manville and had repeatedly failed to crack down on pollution violations cited by field inspectors. The state suit charges that the pollution of Lake Michigan and of Manville's own property which drains into the lake was generated by Manville's now-demolished plant south of the park.

Taskforce Excludes Key Players (continued)

The Attorney General avoided appointing Bob Grosso, the park superintendent, Jeff Camplin, the president of Camplin Environmental Services, and Paul Kakuris, the president of Dunesland to the taskforce. Dunesland wrote to the Attorney General expressing disappointment that the most knowledgeable people and instigators of this taskforce were omitted. Dunesland asked for a response. There was a second letter requesting a response and that has also been ignored. What purpose could possibly be served by not including the people with the most depth of understanding of the issues that affect our park?

Further, many of the members of this taskforce were on a statewide taskforce in 1998 which collaborated on the Hanson Report. As it was noted in the Camplin Report, the Hanson Report was found to have "cooked" the sampling and testing protocols which resulted in manipulated and ambiguous results. The Attorney General's office apparently has appointed a taskforce with a stacked deck and something to protect. Instead of the house winning, the environment loses.

A Major Victory! Dunesland Causes Army Corps of Engineers Not to Dump Their Dredgings From Waukegan Harbor Approach Channel at IBSP !

"Nearness to nature...keeps the spirit sensitive to impressions not commonly felt, and in touch with the unseen powers.

Ohiyesa, Sioux

After years of battling with the Army Corps of Engineers, the Corps chose to take their dredged material and dump it offshore of Waukegan Harbor and not at the park's beaches. Over the years, Dunesland has bitterly complained that the Corps' dumping of their dredge material at the park apparently contained contaminants and microscopic asbestos. Although the Corps has taken samples and tested before dredging every year, Dunesland

accused the Corps of "cooking" the sampling and testing protocols in order to achieve an outcome of "clean" sand. You can't detect contaminants if you don't test for them. In earlier years, Dunesland conducted its own tests and found the contaminants in the dumped material, even when the Corps said it was clean sand.

This last spring, Dunesland asked the Illinois EPA for a

public hearing with regard to the Corps' planned dredging for the summer of 2003. Apparently, the Corps backed away when they realized they would be exposed to public scrutiny and bad press. Dunesland is working with the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency to force the Corps to take more detailed samples and more in-depth testing. Stay tuned to see if IEPA's director Renee Cipriano will order proper sampling and testing protocols as set forth by Dunesland.

USEPA, IEPA, IDNR Pressured to Test Nature Preserve Their Limited Tests Will Mask the True Level of Contaminants

Be sure to contact the directors of these agencies. Contact information is on the back page. Show your involvement and let your friends and neighbors know what's happening to our beautiful park...

"The pen is mightier than the sword," don't forget.

After the brush fire which denuded the Nature Preserve last spring, Paul Kakuris and park superintendent Bob Grosso took a field walk to have a better view of the Manville industrial canal's connection to the Nature Preserve because the fire had destroyed so much brush. Those illegal connections were obvious, but what was more startling was the sight of asbestos debris from Johns Manville strewn over acres of the Nature Preserve.

Dunesland requested an investigation of the area immediately and sent formal complaints to the various agencies

requesting an immediate investigation. Subsequent investigations lead to an IEPA preliminary water test of the leakage in the Nature Preserve swail. The results show that contaminants were found in the Nature Preserve's surface water. These contaminants appear to be similar to the contaminants found in the Manville canal.

Unfortunately, the USEPA has requested that Johns Manville, the alleged polluter, test for four metals in the soil of the Nature Preserve. Dunesland discussed the lack of a comprehensive testing protocol with the USEPA's

Superfund manager Brad Bradley who doesn't see a reason to do detailed testing in the Nature Preserve. Are the foxes still guarding the hen house?

The list of contaminants that should be tested for could be well over 150. Apparently, the USEPA doesn't want to find contaminants in the Nature Preserve because it would slow down the delisting of the Superfund site. A narrow scope of testing is indicative of the narrow mindedness of the environmental consciousness which appears to be prevalent in these agencies, let alone their lack of enforcement and prosecution.

Why is Dunesland Demanding Full Spectrum Testing?

The industrial canal which is one of Manville's six lagoons is connected directly to the Nature Preserve through breaks in the canal's banks. These openings lead to several swales which lead to the Dead River approximately 2,000 feet to the north. The Manville lagoon system has been connected due to the breaks and thus has leaked into our Nature Preserve for decades.

Over the decades, apparently, whatever contaminants were in the lagoon ended up draining through the Nature Preserve north to the main branch of the Dead River and out into Lake Michigan. These open breaks in the canal bank are a violation of the federal consent decree and the NPDES permit which are designed to regulate the Manville Superfund site. The IAG (Lisa Madigan), the Nature Preserve Commission (Carolyn

Grossboll), USEPA (Thomas Skinner), IEPA (Renee Cipriano), and IDNR (Joel Brunsvold) are the so-called custodians for this area have evidently turned the other way and ignored this problem. By not doing full spectrum tests, these agencies appear to be covering up for Manville and not doing what they are charged to do, that is, protect the environment and enforce the violations.

Please contact the directors of these agencies to share your views on this topic.

AG's Taskforce and the University of Illinois's Occupational Health Department Announce Scope of Work to be Studied:

Key Areas Excluded From Testing and Examination

The AG's taskforce recently announced the scope of work for studying the health risk of asbestos at Illinois Beach State Park and the surrounding area. The Camplin Report identified the key areas to be studied, that is, the 6 1/2 miles of beach at the park and site #2 at Greenwood Avenue and the fishing pier. The scope of work for the AG's taskforce has excluded the recommended tests for these areas. Additionally, the announcement mentioned the other studies to be reviewed, but excluded mentioning Dunesland's Camplin Report. How could the University of Illinois and the Illinois Attorney General's Office conduct themselves in such an unprofessional manner? Are they trying to cover up, too? Why don't they demand new tests?

Recent Chicago SunTimes Article Criticizes AG's Office for Operating the Taskforce in Secret

Not only have Grosso, Camplin, and Kakuris been kept off of the taskforce, but the taskforce meetings have been closed to them, as well as to the public. Attorney General Lisa Madigan has claimed to be a staunch supporter of the Open Meetings Act for other groups, but has ruled that her taskforce is not subject to the Open Meetings Act and possibly is not subject to the Freedom of Information Act. The criticism generated a further response from the AG's office saying that the Kakuris and Camplin were not on the taskforce because they do not work for a government.

In a recent conversation with the AG's office, Paul then asked if that was the case, why not allow the park superintendent Bob Grosso to be a member of the taskforce? That question was met with silence. State Senator Susan Garrett, when questioned about open meetings and her role with the AG on creating the taskforce, responded by saying that she was for open meetings and open democracy, but would not insist that the AG follow the Open Meetings Act. We're very disappointed that these two elected officials don't seem to be walking their talk now that they are in the first year of their new positions. It's apparent to all that Grosso, Camplin, and Kakuris would insist on the tests recommended in the Camplin Report and would have changed the landscape of the taskforce's present scope of work. As stated before, many of these same individuals and agencies that were involved in the skewed 1998 - 1999 Hansen Report are the same individuals on the present Taskforce. They will also be analyzing their own work on the Hansen Report. Isn't that a cozy set-up?

Chicago SunTimes, September 26, 2003

"The shining water that moves in the streams, rivers, lakes, and oceans is not only water, but the blood of our people.

You must remember and teach your children to give the water the kindness that you would give your brother.

The white man treats his Mother, the Earth, as a thing to be bought and sold.

He will devour the Earth, leaving behind only a desert, leading to the end of living and the beginning of survival. The Earth is precious to God.

To harm the Earth is to harm its Creator.

We must keep the land sacred, a place to taste the wind that is sweetened by the meadow flowers.

All things are connected.

Teach your children that the Earth is our Mother.

Every part of this Earth is sacred to our people.

Know this...

This earth does not belong to Man, Man belongs to the Earth.

Know this...

All things are connected, like the book which unites one family.

Know this...

We do not weave the web of life. What we do to the web, we do to ourselves.

All things are connected."

Chief Seattle, 1854

Please Pay Your Dues! Additional Donations Are Always Welcome to Enable Our Work.

We operate on a calendar year, so please plan to pay at the meeting or send in a check if you haven't paid in 2003.

Regular, Individual \$25 Regular, Family \$40 Friend of Dunesland \$100
Lifetime \$1500 Full Time Student \$15 Senior over 65 \$20 (on request)



Donations are tax deductible.

Support Our Work Days

Work Days are the second Saturday of each month from 9 AM until noon. Arrangements can be made if you want to work beyond noon or on another day. Meet at the Nature and Interpretive Center at the southe end of the park unless otherwise specified. In the event of inclement weather, special projects or training sessions will be held at the Nature Cener. If you have questions or suggestions, please conact Don Wilson at 847 772-2910 (cell) or 847 937-2583 (work) or Bill Wengelewski at 847 662-4811 (park).

There are special opportunities such as wetland burns, adopting a section of the park for monitoring, such as locala creeks, ravines, birds, park boundaries, bluebirds, butterflies, reed grass, purple loosestrife, and others. There is also training for identification of plants and animals and dunesland topography.

Ms. Lisa Madigan Illinois Attorney General 100 W. Randolph Street Chicago, IL 60601 312 814-2503 312-814-3174 FAX l.madigan@atg.state.il.us	Mrs. Carolyn Grossboll Illinois Nature Preserve Comm. 1 Natural Resources Drive Springfield, IL 62702-1271 217 783-8686 217 785-9235 FAX c.grossboll@dnrmail.state.il.us	Mr. Thomas V. Skinner USEPA Region 5 77 W. Jackson Blvd Chicago, IL 60604-3590 312 886-9851 312 352-1120 FAX skinner.thomas@usepa.gov	Mr. Joel Brunsvold IDNR 1 Natural Resources Dr. Springfield, IL 62702-1271 217 785-0075 217 785-9236 FAX j.brunsvold@dnrmail.state.il.us	MS Renee Cipriano IEPA 1021 N. Grand Ave. East Springfield, IL 62794-9276 217 782-9540 217 782-9039 FAX epa8144@state.il.us
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***Attend our November 15 Luncheon Meeting!
Mark your calendar now for the February 21, 2004 meeting.***

***Illinois Dunesland Preservation Society
P.O. Box 466
Zion, IL 60099***

