

THE ILLINOIS PRAIRIE PATH NEWS LETTER  
Spring 1969

WHAT TO SEE

Loveliest of trees, the cherry now  
Is hung with bloom along the bough,  
And stands about the woodland ride  
Wearing white for Eastertide.

Now, of my threescore years and tan,  
Twenty will not come again,  
And take from seventy springs a score,  
It only leaves me fifty more.

And since to look at things in bloom  
Fifty springs are little room,  
About the woodlands I will go  
To see the cherry hung with snow.

From  
*A Shropshire Lad*  
by A. E. Housman

The "cherry hung with snow" is in England, but we have native hawthorn, wild plum, and crabapple that garland our forest margins and abandoned fields. Enjoy them now along the Path. The two mile section between Geneva Road and Prince Crossing is especially rewarding but there are many other choice areas. And don't forget to look for the native wild flowers! The ones you may find blooming in May are at home in the fringes of the forest; mayapple, red trillium, shooting star, Jacob's ladder, strawberry, anemone, violets, etc. Along the sunny, prairie sections, the flowers bloom later. Look for cone flowers, rattlesnake master, feverfew, and others in June and July.



*Hawthorn*  
White blossoms;  
stout; sharp  
thorns



*Coneflower*  
Yellow



*Red Trillium*



*Wild plum*  
White blossoms;  
black scaling  
bark; fragrant;  
twig-like thorns



*Rattlesnake  
master*  
Green



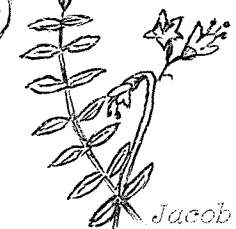
*Anemone*  
White



*Strawberry*  
White



*Violet*



*Jacob's  
Ladder*  
Blue



*May apple*  
White

*Shooting  
star*  
Pink

## WORK OF OUR VOLUNTEERS

Three sections of the Path have been adopted by schools. In Wayne, for a half mile northwest from Powis Road, the *Wayne School*, Mr. Jonathon Hayes, principal, is the custodian. I wish that space would allow me to quote all of the verses and comments sent from there. This is just a sampling.

*"On the Prairie Path the students take a walk,  
Substituting observation and wonder for talk.  
At the close of a really different day  
Here are some of the things they say."*

*"... trees of all sorts, sizes, and colors"  
... "animals within their snug homes within  
trees and grass" ... "a good place to go when  
you want to be alone" ... "The Prairie Path  
and I like to keep plants and animals alive."*

The piece from Washington to President in Wheaton has been chosen by the Biology Department of *Wheaton College*. Dr. Leedy, head of that department writes, "We use it a lot in Taxonomy and Ecology. Also I enjoy taking the grade school students up and down its interesting length." Dr. Boese of *Elmhurst College* shares the responsibility of maintaining the section in Lombard from Brewster to Grace. The college has shown considerable interest in the Path.

## ACTIVITIES

*Area Meetings* Community meetings were held (1) in Elmhurst on February 14, Mrs. Anton Sobolik, chairman, and (2) in Wheaton on February 27, Mrs. Robert Headen, chairman.

*Talks* Mrs. Sindt has given several talks this season: to Western Electric personnel on January 15; in Warrenville during February; and to the Clarendon Hills Girl Scouts on March 3.

*Members Walks* On February 22 more than 70 people, led by Mr. Swink of the Morton Arboretum, walked along the path north of Wayne. Equestrians, meeting in Wayne on March 22, were led by Mr. Corwith Hamill. The next walk, scheduled for April 26, will be led by Dr. Keck. This is to be a bird walk. It is not recommended for entire troops though individual interested scouts are welcome. Bring Peterson's Bird Guide and field glasses. Information about the June walk will be found on the next page.

*Other Activities* There was a second annual scout clean-up day in Lombard and Villa Park on April 12. In March, 50 blue-bird houses were set up by the Illinois Audubon Society. We again exhibited at The Chicago World Flower and Garden Show.

## MEMBERSHIP

Another year of our lease with DuPage County is ending. The agreement, for 12 years, was signed on May 10, 1966. Once again you will receive the reminder that annual dues are payable as of May 1, 1970. Perhaps you would like to know how we do and do not use your contribution. We *do not* pay any salaries or rent. All our board members, attorney, field leaders, committee workers, security officers, and speakers give their time. There are many miscellaneous expenses: for our path signs, a bridge, the booth (available for flower shows); but our greatest expenditure is for postage and printing. The Trail Guide, News Letter, flyers and announcements are mailed to hundreds of people. We are expecting to start resurfacing the most needed areas this spring. The annual dues are \$3.00 for individuals, \$5.00 for families, \$10.00 for organizations (though we would be delighted to have a bigger contribution from large organizations) and \$100.00 for supporting members. We present a certificate of recognition to supporting members. One final word. We are a not-for-profit organization and contributions are tax-deductible.