

# Hazelhurst Highlights



American Chestnut Tree(See Nature Notes)

A newsletter by, for, and about Hazelhursters

Volume 51 No. 3

July 17, 2015

hazelhursthighlights@gmail.com

## This week

All times in the Highlights are local time, Eastern Daylight Time.

### Friday

8 pm Square Dance Red Barn

### Saturday

Noon Prairie Club Board Meeting Red Barn

6:30 pm Conservation Potluck Slab

8 pm Sunset Point Dune Project Red Barn

### Monday

10 am Monday Morning Coffee Red Barn

10 am Library Open 'til 2 pm Mailhouse

### Tuesday

9 am Camp Clippers Oak Rd Triangle

### Wednesday

11 am Nature Lovers \*

### Thursday

10 am Library Open 'til 2 pm Mailhouse

\*See bulletin board for details

Check the Bulletin Boards for more!

## See the PC Board in Action !

There's a Prairie Club Board meeting on Saturday, July 18, at 12 (noon) in the Red Barn. All are welcome to attend.

—Sue Krusack

## Double-Header Weekend July 17-18

**Friday 8 pm Square Dancing Fun Night Barn**

- Includes introduction to basic moves of square dancing, line dancing
- "Friendship set to music"
- Callers: Teresa and Andrew Berger  
<http://www.bergercallers.com>

**Saturday 6:30 pm Conservation Potluck Slab**

- Brats, hotdogs, buns & beverages provided
- Bring a dish to share and your own table service
- Recognition of conservation volunteers

**8 pm Conservation Speaker Barn**

- Our Sunset Point dune restoration project
- Services of ecological restoration companies
- Pizzo and Associates (conservation experts),  
Mason Shank, speaker <http://pizzo.info>

## Hazelhurst Camp Clippers

The Hazelhurst Camp Clippers worked at the Oak Road triangle on Tuesday, July 14, removing English Ivy and invasive shrubs. Tuesday's team included Lloyd Anderson, Gary Wood, Marsha Foote, Sue Krusack, Ellen & Doug Elrick along with junior clipper Anna Scott (6).

Next Tuesday, July 21, the HCC will continue work at the Oak Road triangle. Join the group on Tuesday, or pull some vines any time!  
—Ellen Elrick

## Ice Cream Social...



**Saturday, July 25.  
Watch for details!**

## Dancing at the Red Barn

While salsa provided the lively focus for the main dance lessons this past Saturday night at the Red Barn, more than 20 Hazelhursters of all ages had a great time dancing to a variety of other rhythms as well. Dance instructor Dana Riley from Stevensville played tango, rumba, foxtrot, chacha, waltz, swing and line dancing music. The cool weather and refreshments also contributed to a great evening. The event was organized by Ellen Elrick and Janice Johnson.

Plan to kick up your heels and have fun with your neighbors this Friday at the Red Barn at an evening of square dancing. Instruction will again be provided.

– Mike Kozubek

## Conservation Heritage

Several Conservation and Prairie Club Centennials are occurring during 2014-2018.

Next year is the big Conservation Centennial of the founding of the National Park Service, in large part at the instigation of proponents of national dunes park in Indiana by many conservationists, including the Prairie Club and the park service's first director and Prairie Club member, Indiana-based Stephen Mather.

How will Hazelhurst Camp and the Prairie Club be involved? From the 2014 Conservation Talk on the History of Tremont by Serena Sutliff of The Chesterton Library (holder of Prairie Club archives and several Frank Dudley paintings), there are several opportunities to participate in National Park Centennial activities, led locally by staff and outreach networks of Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, and through contributions to the National Park Foundation and National Park Conservation Association.

Plenty to ponder this weekend, as we celebrate the Hazelhurst Dune Restoration and consider other conservation partnerships such as in the creation of the new 23-acre Jens Jensen Preserve in Sawyer, achieved with active support by the Prairie Club and many members of Hazelhurst Camp.

Watch the Highlights for more conservation heritage items.

– Layton Olson

## American Pie

The music died on February 3, 1959 when a tour plane carrying Buddy Holly, Ritchie Valens, and J.P. "Big Bopper" Richardson crashed in an Iowa cornfield, killing all three. Don McLean commemorated the event in 1971 with "American Pie," and Rock 'n' Rollers everywhere still mournfully sing McLean's lament, including in the Red Barn in Harbert, Michigan on a pleasant Friday evening. Indeed, Willem Lutter concluded his solo performance July 10 at the Red Barn by inviting the capacity audience to join him in singing Don McLean's classic. We did, and although we may have missed a word or two, we certainly did not miss the point that music is good for the soul, living and dead. Bravo, Willem!

– Charley McKelvey



*Willem Lutter performs at the Red Barn.*

– Photo by Charley McKelvey

### Hazelhurst Highlights

Editor: Beth Miller

Publisher: Diana Spurgin

Contributors: Please send your contributions to [HazelhurstHighlights@gmail.com](mailto:HazelhurstHighlights@gmail.com) or put them in the box in the mailhouse.

For more information, email your questions to the above email address or contact Beth (Cottage 27) or Diana (Cottage 126).

# Nature Notes

## American Chestnuts grandchildren re-inhabiting Hazelhurst!

Prairie Clubbers, please note with pride that American Chestnut trees, which are functionally extinct in North America, are staging a re-emergence here in Camp Hazelhurst.

Chestnut trees were once the dominant tree in North America. Now they are functionally extinct, due to a blight which kills them at a young age. (For more on the general topic of the demise of the American Chestnut and progress in the effort to create one that is disease-proof, visit [www.acf.org](http://www.acf.org))

In Camp Hazelhurst, at the head of Chestnut Drive, we have the dead trunk of a massive chestnut, between sites 64 and 63. Go contemplate it. From that original giant came the living tree at site #64 (Kay Lincicome). Miraculously, it has survived to the age of sexual maturity and been able to reproduce, with flowers and seeds. Gerry Donnelly carefully harvested seeds from that tree, carried them to the Morton Arboretum, where they were professionally tended and planted by experts – and now we have several dozen "grandchildren" of that original namesake tree here in camp.

Last week Gerry planted 6 American Chestnut trees, each about 6 feet tall, around camp. Please treat yourself to a camp tour of these new "grandchildren of Hazelhurst." The locations of these special trees, which need plenty of sun, are as follows:

- 1 - Corner of the Farmhouse
- 2 - Site #64, in front of its parent tree, and only a few yards from its grandparent tree
- 3 - Cul-de-sac at the end of Chestnut Road
- 4 - Close to the Junior Clubhouse
- 5 - Site # 224
- 6 - Catalpa Road, across from site # 206
- 7 - Legacy Garden (yet to be planted)

Gerry has more, and if you desire to give one a good, sunny home, where it can thrive and flourish, get in touch with him. It's possible you may be able to adopt and nurture an American Chestnut yourself...which would be something to tell YOUR grandchildren about!

– Sharon Lemler

## Coffee, coffee, coffee . . .

The Monday coffees have gone well. The first was a hugely attended event and the second was nearly drowned but well attended in the barn also.



One Monday in August still needs a host so check your calendars if you need volunteer hours. If you are hosting an upcoming Coffee know that it is your choice to use Corelle dishes or paper products.

Look forward to seeing you at the next Coffee.

–Hilary Critchfield

## Hazelnuts

The **Critchfield** clan arrived in waves Alas the weather produced chills and challenges. **Beth Lawton** and twin daughters **Emma** and **Grace** arrived from Atlanta the last week of June. Beach was cold so we took train to Chicago for the Museum of Science and Industry to tour the Submarine and Coal Mine. It was a wonderful solution for ugly weather. They left and as the beds cooled **Scott and Kate Critchfield** with **Tom, Sarah, Anne and Brian** arrived from St. Louis in time to paddle the Lake and enjoy the 4th Potluck, fire and s'mores and a beautiful Sunday on the beach. Again laundry and cooling of beds and Beth, James, twins and James's mother returned for 4 days of blueberry picking, bowling and 1 fabulous beach day.

**Nancy Miller** came to Hazelhurst every summer from 1950-2012. She was saddened that her health prevented her from coming the last two summers. Nancy died in February 2015. Her ashes will be laid to rest on Sunday, July 19, at 12:30 pm at Lakeside Cemetery alongside her husband Wyatt (Bud) and daughter Carol. Following the ceremony a reception will be held at the Episcopal Church of the Mediator.

## Reminders

- If you have any suggestions for the **rule on grills**, send them to Beth Miller at [elizabeth.duff.miller@gmail.com](mailto:elizabeth.duff.miller@gmail.com) by this Friday, July 24.
- Get your nominations for **volunteer of the summer** to Teri Clancy by July 29.
- Study the **proposed lease** and be prepared to vote on August 8. Contact Doug Elrick for more information.

## Dunes via Train, Bus, Boat & Foot

I was looking over *Terminal Town* by Joe Schwierterman (see the July 3 issue of the Highlights) and was reminded how our family got to Tremont and later got to Hazelhurst in the 1930's and 1940's.

We didn't have a car until I returned from college in the summer of 1950 with a 1935 Chevrolet. This meant we used public transportation and walking as a means of travel. In fact I attribute my long life span to all the walking I did as a child.

At Tremont from 1929 to 1933 we used the South Shore Line. We got on the train at 115th street at got off at the Tremont dunes station. We walked one and a half miles to our cottage on the beach. I remember struggling with bags of what we were going to use for the summer. However the walk wasn't too bad. We could stop and eat wild blueberries we found growing in the woods and plains behind the hills on the beach. For supplies during the summer we had a grocer at Waverly a mile down the beach. He drove a truck down the beach and delivered what we ordered the next day. My father bought a boat with a 12 hp motor and went to Waverly for special supplies (if he could get the motor started). That boat was later moved to the Hazelhurst beach where my father enjoyed giving children a ride to Tower Hill.

In September we sadly left our summer home and took the South Shore Line to 115th street and finally the streetcar home. Our cottage was moved from Tremont to Hazelhurst in the fall of 1933. I was six years old.

Again to get to Hazelhurst we used the South Shore line, taking a streetcar to 115th Street, the South Shore line to Michigan City and a bus to Harbert. (The South Shore line ran an hourly bus from the Michigan City Station to Benton Harbor until the mid 1950's). We walked from the Highway to the Prairie Club, again carrying what we needed for the summer in Michigan. However we had many more services at Hazelhurst than we did at Tremont. We could order groceries from Joe Trudell who would deliver them the next day. We had a laundry pick up once a week. Milk was delivered three times a week, and the ice man came twice a week. What more could you ask for? When I was a teenager I shipped my bike to Michigan for the summer. I would ride the bike to the 115th st. Station, they would load it on a baggage car to Michigan and put it on the top of the bus for Harbert. All with no extra charge.

There were other ways to get from Chicago to Michigan. Indian Trails Bus Line ran a bus twice a day serving the Michigan shore. We tried them once but

they were two hours late so we didn't use them again. There was a daily sailing across the lake to Benton Harbor on the SS Theodore Roosevelt. That ship was noted for its gambling. The service ended when they outlawed gambling on the Great Lakes in the 1950's.

Our use of the South Shore Line Transportation system ended when the Calkinses got a car in 1951.

We found we couldn't live with out it. – Frank Calkins

## Beyond the Gates

Here are some opportunities to participate in the larger community and get to know our neighbors.

**Sustainable Living Seminar**, July 18, 10:30 am. Learn about the ecology and history of this area, native and invasive plant identification, and invasive plant removal techniques and safety. Sponsored by Chikaming Open Lands. Fee: \$10 per person, free to COL members. Meet at Preserve on East Rd just west of I-94. 269-405-1006, chikamingopenlands.org

**Lakeside History Day**, July 18, 10 am - Noon. Wander Lakeside to seven interesting sights to hear stories and gain historical perspectives about our unique village. Tickets, \$10 individual, \$25 family, are available at Lovell and Whyte, Lakeside

**French Market**, July 18, 9 am - 3 pm. Something for everyone! Garden plants, garden art, bake-sale, hand-crafted art, attic treasures and collectibles. Outdoor sale event with approximately 20 local vendors. Church of the Mediator, 14280 Red Arrow Hwy, Harbert.

**Galien River Sanitary Board**, July 22, 10 am. An opportunity to hear future water/sewer plans and rates. Chikaming Municipal Building, 13535 Red Arrow Hwy, Harbert.

### Looking Ahead

July 25	*	Ice Cream Social	*
July 26	1 pm	Camp Council	Red Barn
July 30	8 pm	Book Club	Cottage #129
Aug. 1	10 am	Nominating Committee	Red Barn
	*	Hazelhurst Variety Show	Red Barn
Aug. 2	1 pm	Hazelhurst Memorial	Red Barn
Aug. 4	*	Bike Ride	Red Barn
Aug. 13	8 pm	Book Club	Cottage #42
Aug. 8	10 am	Siteholders Meeting	Red Barn
	8 pm	ClariCello	Red Barn
Aug. 15	8 pm	Vietnam Travel	Red Barn
Aug. 22	8 pm	Readers' Theater	Red Barn
Aug. 27	8 pm	Book Club	*

\* See Bulletin Board for more information