

NAGS – 2009

We worked hard digging/pulling/cutting sweet white clover, which has gone crazy at Munson, and we continue working at wild parsnip removal and cutting and treating sumac there. We also cut out silver poplars at Greenlee. We compiled a calendar of events/annual plan of work.

Burns were held at Munson and Greenlee prairie cemeteries, Giant Goose prairie in Atkinson, and a couple of private properties in March and April.

Last year, Wallace Chase sent us a report on our Eastern Prairie White Fringed Orchids at Munson. He found 26 orchids, very scattered and often in areas where they were not found before. When he went back to check on seed pod formation, he could find only 17 of his 26 flags. Sixteen of the seventeen set good seed; this was with no human assistance.

Six of our members attended the 2nd Annual Hill Prairie Conference "Slash, Burn and Graze – Is That Any Way to Treat a Hill Prairie?", hosted by Augustana College, on May 1-2, 2009.

We hosted our annual Bob Rishel Memorial Prairie Walk on June 28 at Munson; Tim Keller from Whiteside County led the walk and there were 50 people present on a beautiful (but windy) day. We presented our \$500 annual scholarship to Ryan Hancock of Orion, who will be a senior at Augustana in environmental studies, and he joined us on the walk.

We took a field trip on July 9 to see Jon & Connie Graham's prairie north of Erie.

We enjoyed our annual cookout on October 8 at the home of Carles & Dorothy Brown.

Karen Larson was chosen as the Henry County NAG of the year for 2009.

Long-time member and friend, Clarence Medley, passed away this year; he is greatly missed!

Respectfully submitted,
Sandy French