



Friends of Thorn Creek Woods

Thorn Creek News

Winter 2012-13

GSU in Time and Space Part one

This is the first of a two-part essay exploring the historical landscape of the Governors State University (GSU) campus.

Introduction

To a casual visitor or to a student, the experience of the Governors State campus might be very like the map available on the GSU website (*govst.edu*). It shows a collection of buildings, roadways, parking lots, ornamental plantings, monumental sculptures and the like. But this built environment is only a small part of the entire 780 acre campus landscape, and it encompasses only a part of the diverse ways in which land is used. Much of the campus reflects its past history as well: what we see today is embedded in a still-visible historical matrix.

And we have the documentation to reconstruct the historical GSU landscape at two pivotal points in its past. The first is 1834, the year of the Public Land Survey of Monee Township in which GSU is located. This survey took place before the arrival of the settlers and the landscape described was one of native plant communities as yet unmodified by euro-American agriculture. The second is 1873, in the heart of the agricultural period when, by happy coincidence, were produced both a detailed plat map of area landholdings and an equally detailed assessment of the real and personal property of area residents. The juxtaposition of the two allows for a unique view of the farming landscape at a time when the diversified family farming practices of the 19th century had not yet succumbed to the market driven mono-cultures of the modern era.

1834

The Historical Context

The early 1830's were tumultuous years for the lands of the upper Midwest. It was the time of the Black Hawk War and the time of Indian Removal. In 1833, by the Treaty of Chicago, the combined nations of Potawatomie, Ottawa and Chippewa ceded their lands in Illinois to the United States and agreed to move to territories reserved for them west of the Mississippi River. What would become Monee and surrounding townships, up to that time Indian Territory, were part of that cession. The purpose of the survey of 1834 was to lay out township and section lines so that these lands could eventually be put up for sale to settlers. Although the survey party may not have recognized it, this was a bittersweet moment - those few weeks in July, 1834 - when they were describing a natural landscape soon to disappear, a disappearance that would be as profound as the disappearance of the native peoples who up until then occupied that world. Yet at the same time, their survey was preparing the way for a new beginning: the transformation of the landscape by plow, axe, cow.

The Survey

The basic unit of the survey was the township, a square 6 miles on a side. The interior of the township was divided into sections, each one mile on a side, encompassing 640 acres, and numbered sequentially from one to thirty six. The surveyor, as part of his instructions was required to describe the vegetation and other natural features encountered as the section lines were laid out. The GSU campus, 780 acres, occupies al-

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most all of Section 10 in Monee Township and an additional piece in Section 15, adjacent to Section 10 on the south (Figure 1). In laying out the section lines, therefore, the surveyor walked the perimeter of what would become the GSU campus, describing the landscape along the way. In addition to the surveyor himself, the survey party consisted of a fore chainman, a hind chainman, a flagman and an axeman/mound builder. The axeman cleared the way in woodland and built the mounds for survey stakes in prairie. Fore and hind chainmen carried the chain, 66 feet long, which was used to measure distance. There are 80 chains to the mile.

(Continued on page 3)

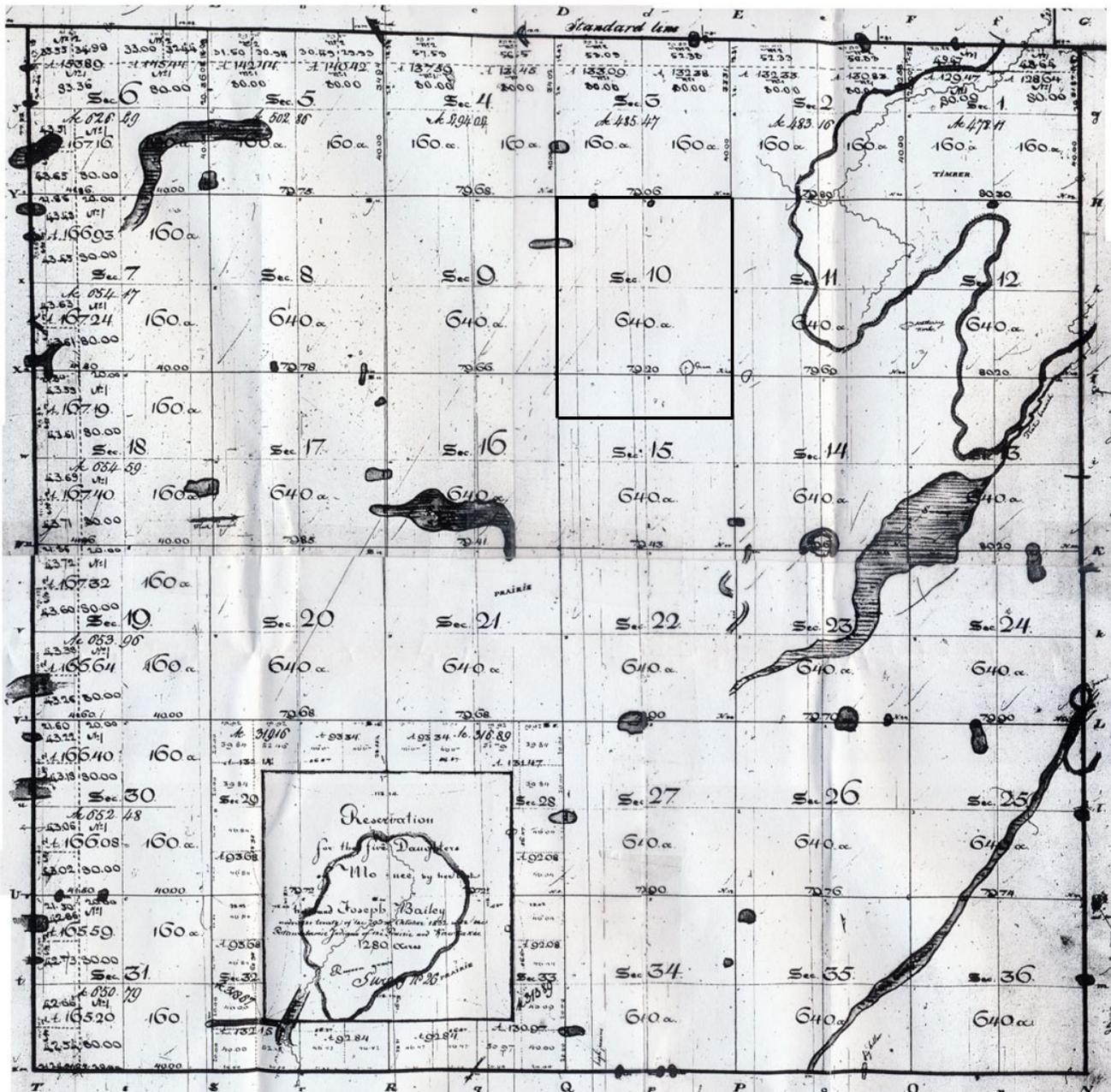


Figure 1

Plat map of Monee Township in 1834 based on field notes and sketches of Deputy Surveyor D. A. Spaulding. Site of the future GSU campus-Section 10 and part of Section 15-shown in bold. Thorn Grove-today Thorn Creek Nature Preserve-occupied 4 sections in the northeastern part of the Township; Raccoon Grove, 4 sections in the south.

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The Land

Here are the descriptions of section 10 as seen from the boundary lines:

West line, from south to north:

South half: "Level wet Prairie, too wet for cultivation"

North half: "Land dry and rolling – good soil fit for cultivation"

East line, from south to north:

A "large hollow" in the south half. The rest of the land is described as "High dry rolling Prairie, good soil fit for cultivation. Corner on high Prairie."

The "hollow" is the valley of Thorn Creek as it flows northeast across section 10

The "corner on high Prairie" is the present day intersection of Stuenkel Road and University Parkway

North line, from west to east:

"Land gently rolling, good soil fit for cultivation"

South line, from west to east (this line lies ¼ mile north of Dralle Road):

West half: "Level rich Prairie fit for cultivation"

East half: "Gently rolling fit for cultivation"

While traversing the east half of this line, the survey party crossed "a small drain, runs North, some bushes along the bank and a small grove of Oak bushes north of the line." The small drain is Thorn Creek still further upstream, closer to its headwaters.

The oak grove, which still exists, is an outlier of the more extensive woodland, Thorn Grove, lying further to the east.

With the exception of the valley of Thorn Creek and the small oak grove, the GSU campus was indeed a landscape of prairie.

The Surveyor's description of the prairie seems at first laconic, especially if compared to the rather more fulsome descriptions of waving grasses and gay floral displays we have become used to, but on further consideration his lexicon of adjectives, though simple, have elegance and power: *high, dry, rolling, gently rolling, level, rich*, and the phrase *this corner on high Prairie* have an evocative quality all their own. It is symbolic of this pivotal moment in history that each description of the native landscape is followed by an evaluation of its potential for cultivation.

While laying out section lines within the interior of Thorn Grove, just to the east of section 10, the surveyor notes, again with a poetic turn of phrase: "Timber White Oak, Black Oak and Hickory. Very handsome growth of timber as far as I can see..." But continuing his agricultural perspective, he typically describes the forest soils as "thin, broken, not fit for cultivation."¹

The Surveyor

The man responsible for these descriptions was Don Alonzo Spaulding, both chief surveyor and fore chainman of the survey party. A mathematics teacher who had emigrated to western Illinois from Vermont in 1817, he was already a prominent surveyor when he received the contract to survey Monee Township, having surveyed throughout much of Illinois. He was admired for the quality of his work, and eventually rose to high position in the office of the Surveyor General of the United States.

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D. A. Spaulding was more than a surveyor; he was also an actor in the historic dramas unfolding in mid-nineteenth century America. Not only did he have a contract to survey lands ceded by Native Americans under the treaty of Chicago, but he was also a principal surveyor of many of the lands in northeastern Illinois which were reserved for Indians by the same treaty. Among the parcels he surveyed was Raccoon Grove, originally a reservation set aside for the 5 daughters of Monee, an Ottawa, the wife and partner of the well-known trader Joseph Bailly.

He played a role in American history in other ways. His farm in Madison County, just south of Alton, Illinois was a way station on the Underground Railroad for slaves escaping to freedom across the Mississippi River from Missouri. His donation of 60 acres allowed for the establishment of Rocky Fork, a pioneering African-American community located about a mile from the Mississippi.²

He was a well-known supporter of women's suffrage as well.³

It seems somehow fitting that the man who provided us with the first written description of what would become a university campus, was not only a good naturalist with an eye for landscape, but was also involved with the three principal social issues of his day: native American policy, abolition and women's rights.

And he was an admirer of Thorn Creek Woods!

by Jon Mendelson

¹ Eric Nicholson of the GSU Library has transcribed the field notes of the Monee Township survey. The notes are available on-line in the GSU archives. Portions of these field notes are on display at the Thorn Creek Nature Center.

² Spaulding's role in the Underground Railroad is detailed in an article, "Monument dedicated at Underground Railway entry point" which appeared in the Alton Telegraph of April 14, 2011.

³ His career as a surveyor is summarized on the Madison County Surveyors webpage <http://mcsurvey.com>.

President's Message



Hi Friends,

Things are looking up for 2013. On a positive note, we have fixed the windows in the nature center, have a new sign in front of the building, and have a part-time Nature Center Coordinator in place. We hope to soon have programs for children and some of the hikes and programs brought back to life.

Again our Garlic Fest was a wonderful success, as was the Woodland Carols: Annual Food Drive program. Kudos to all of you for your continued help and support without which we would not be where we are today.

Wishing all of you a great 2013. Hope to see you at our Friends-Volunteer Appreciations Day on January 19, 2013.

Your President,
Penny Chamberlain

Welcome Caitlin McMahon New Thorn Creek Nature Center Coordinator

We are pleased to announce the hiring of new Thorn Creek Nature Center Coordinator Caitlin McMahon. McMahon received her bachelor's degree in Interdisciplinary Science, with minors in both Environmental Science and History from DePaul University in Chicago. It was through her childhood experiences in Chicago's natural areas and her schooling that led to a long history of work in the outdoors. Over the past year she voyaged to Wyoming and completed graduate coursework focused on field ecology and place-based education through the Teton Science School. A passionate educator and nature lover, McMahon spent much of her time between schooling and working outside with youth in Chicago.



McMahon's experience with nature education has brought her to serve many non-profit organizations within the Chicagoland area and she is excited to engage this community in programs at Thorn Creek Nature Preserve. Her experience with education programs began with Afterschool Matters, an organization initiated by the late Maggie Daley just over 20 years ago. The program called Earth Team, engaged culturally diverse teens in environmental education and community service projects.

McMahon has worked for the Garfield Park Conservatory Alliance leading programs for children and assisted with special events at the Conservatory. For three years McMahon served as an Associate Librarian with the Chicago Public Library, leading children's story-time and resume workshops for adults. McMahon continued working with children at the Morton Arboretum as a Field Education Guide and also led several summer programs including Bike and Hike, Weather Watchers, Adventures on the Prairie, The Science of Why, and Nature Art. Over the summer, McMahon worked for the Lincoln Park Conservancy, where she helped to restore the native environments surround North Pond Nature Sanctuary and Alfred Caldwell's Lily Pool in Lincoln Park.

She currently works in organic foods with Door-to-Door Organics, a grocery delivery service featuring local organic produce, meat and dairy products which are brought right to your home. In addition, McMahon was the Coordinator for an afterschool youth program with the Student Conservation Association, where youth have the opportunity to meet experts in the environmental field, build their professional skills, learn about issues related to our changing environment, and perform restoration in Cook County Forest Preserves every week.

McMahon enjoys leading nature hikes and looks forward to meeting all the Thorn Creek Nature Preserve's volunteers and Friends. Look for McMahon on weekends at TCNC where you can meet and chat with her about upcoming events or share what kinds of programs you would like to see.

Come meet Caitlin McMahon at our THANK YOU THORN CREEK VOLUNTEERS Party at the nature center on Saturday, January 19 from 1-3 p.m. We'll gather for a fun-filled afternoon with a potluck, prizes and, a hike in Thorn Creek Woods at 2 p.m. We'll provide the chili and drinks, you bring appetizers, breads, desserts, veggie trays or whatever. Call or drop by the nature center NOW to sign up !



GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT
open house at Thorn Creek Woods
Saturday, February 16, 9 a.m.- 2 p.m.



Thorn Creek Trail Watchers

Trail Watchers walk the trails on a regular basis and report any problems, like downed trees, vandalism, or the like so that repairs can be made as soon as possible. Thank you all!

It's important to have the trails regularly checked, *so we can use more Trail Watchers.*



Owl Lake by Celia Pincus

Trail Watchers report forms with maps on them are available at the trail kiosk. Anyone can take one, make note of any problems on trail and place the completed form in the Drop Box at the front door to the nature center.

Trail Watchers can always follow up by leaving a message on nature center phone 708-747-6320, or e-mailing the nature center at thorn_creek@att.net.

Remember: If dangerous situation occurs, like fire, vandals, unsettling behavior, etc., always call 911! Park Forest Police will respond.

Want to volunteer to be a Trail Watcher? Email the nature center at thorn_creek@att.net, or, stop by and sign up at the nature center on Friday, Saturday or Sunday from noon to 4 p.m.

Our Forest Preserve Listens

In the last edition of *Thorn Creek News* I wrote about a log in Raccoon Grove that had played an important part in my life. The Forest Preserve District of Will County had removed it, adding it to huge piles of downed wood that they had piled up throughout the woods, ready for a prescribed burn. The potential damage to Raccoon Grove's spring ephemerals, trees and wild life from the burn was horrifying to me. After the article appeared, we contacted District One's Board Commissioner, Katrina Deutsche. She advised us to go to the next Operations Committee meeting, put our case before the Commissioners and ask them to reverse this policy. We did – and they did. Before the meeting, we emailed pictures to the Commissioners. Pictures of the woods, the wild flowers at risk if the burn took place, and pictures of the huge piles of logs now distributed throughout the forest floor.

Commission President Cory Singer told us that this had been done in error. It is something that the District routinely does before it conducts burns in open fields or prairies to ensure that scattered logs don't continue to smolder after the burn is completed. However, piling logs in an open field is much different than stacking them under the forest canopy on the roots of the trees where delicate spring ephemerals are waiting to bloom. Not only did the Commissioners listen to our concerns, they ordered their work crews to dismantle the piles and scatter them throughout the woods again. About a week later a Forest Preserve employee - evidently a reader of the *Thorn Creek News* - came to our back door and asked where "Kendra's log" had been so they could put it back in the same place. And they did! I'm pleased to report that, a few months later the forest floor was again carpeted with trout lilies, blue bells, wild ginger, trillium, Dutchman's breeches, spring beauties and many other lovely blossoms. No lasting damage had been done and my faith in our system of representative government was renewed.



-Kendra Reinshagen

Scarlet Tanager

On Wednesday July 11, 2012, Kate Caldwell and I, both Interpretive Naturalists at the Forest Preserve District of Will County, scouted the trail at Thorn Creek Nature Preserve. We did this for the next day's public program called Morning Meanders, a hike with an interpreter from the forest preserve district. As we traveled through the preserve we observed the nature happenings around us. I took notes on the hike and researched my findings to incorporate them into the following day's hike.

We strolled on the boardwalk and heard a bird call that wasn't familiar to me. After looking up into the trees in front of us I noticed a scarlet tanager. Scarlet tanager males are beautiful red birds with black wings and a cream bill. The bird is less common locally. This tanager was not making its unique bird *chick-burr* call. It was making a warbled song. We were lucky to follow it as it searched through the branches of the trees for insects. Then, to our surprise, we watched it collect insects and feed its fledgling. Fledgling scarlet tanagers are greenish yellow in color.

We continued to observe the scarlet tanager as it flew to the forest floor about ten feet to the right of us. Soon after the tanager landed, it began to stab its beak at the bottom of a tree. As it stabbed, we saw the bird was eating insects. Then, it traveled back and forth to feed the insects to the fledgling. We stood in awe of the show the tanager was giving us. Puzzled by what insects it might be eating, we used binoculars to try to narrow in on the insects. As we focused on the insects we noticed that the sides of the tree seemed to be moving, small insects were flying around the bird and we tried to deduce what these tiny creatures were.

I thought maybe termites or bees. After we watched for a few more minutes the scarlet tanager looked agitated and started to pick the insects from its body. Then the bird flew off and we rushed to see what insects were on the tree. The tree was covered with ants. A carpet of ants covered the tree and the ground around the base of the tree. We were very fortunate to see this unique occurrence and felt it was a very special day at Thorn Creek Nature Preserve.

-Kelli Parke
Interpretive Naturalist
Forest Preserve District of Will County

Photos by Kelli Parke





Eugene Schwartz Memorial Library in its original location in the balcony of Thorn Creek Nature Center. It has been moved to the main floor stage.

Tina Schwartz

We were sorry to hear of the death of long time Friends member Tina Schwartz. Tina and her late husband Eugene Schwartz were founding members of Friends of Thorn Creek Woods. Gene's eloquent prose documented the woods and the preservation struggle, and graced the early newsletters.

Tina was very kind and generous to Thorn Creek Nature Preserve through the years, even from far off California. She would often write to us with comments about articles in the newsletter or projects in the preserve.

Tina very generously left over \$2,000 to Friends of Thorn Creek Woods for use in the Eugene Schwartz Memorial Library.

Her contributions, including this one, were very important to the preservation of the Woods, the operation of the nature center and development of the Eugene S. Schwartz Memorial Library. Tina was a wonderful friend to Thorn Creek Nature Preserve over many years.

Thank you Tina.



Are you trying to identify the strange bird you saw yesterday?

Our Eugene Schwartz Memorial Library has a book that will help you, plus other books that describe the bird's habits, food preferences and all kinds of information on its private life.

We have such books for local mammals, insects, salamanders, frogs, toads, mushrooms, grasses, flowers, trees and shrubs—Oh My!

Come in and relax with a library book

Thanks To—

- ☀ Thorn Creek Audubon Society for a very generous \$500 donation to the preserve.
- ☀ Friends for reprinting popular green long sleeve T-shirts and brown short sleeve Garlic Fest T-shirts for the nature center to sell for a profit.
- ☀ Open Hours volunteers and Penny who schedules these 25 wonderful people.
- ☀ Wednesday Walkers who deliver our flyers to area sites and libraries.
- ☀ Artist Pat Moore for a wonderful children's art program this fall. And to special donations by Marcy Marzuki for the program.

Thank you all for the wonderful donations

Bird Seed

When you buy bird seed or suet for your backyard feeders, get an extra for the nature center.



Bring it Friday-Sunday noon to 4 pm and relax with a cup of coffee or tea at our bird viewing corner.

Look in our references and wonderful bird books to identify and learn more about these winged creatures.



Woodland Carols Food Drive a Huge Success

Over 47 people attended the afternoon of music—the Nature Center’s annual food drive to benefit the Rich Township Food Pantry. Penny

Chamberlain, President of Friends was “very pleased to deliver to the Pantry some 22 bags of groceries and \$380 in cash contributions, on behalf of the Nature Center and its many volunteers and donors this holiday season.”

Woodland Carols was made possible by the generous donation of the musicians’ time and talents! Thank You to singer Patricia Caldwell, guitarist Leslie McClintock, keyboardist Kendall Parish and young singer Gabriel Velez accompanied by Marco Serratos.

* Volunteers Allison McCray, Susan Velez, Marva King, Delpha Williams, Millie Just, Cindy Harn, Penny Chamberlain, Barb Stephens, Suzie Brown, Cosi Dean, Jan Suczynski, Daryl Devlin, Cousandra Armstrong, Karen Anderson, Mary Ann Ciesielski, Vickie Jones, Joyce Gallagher and Judy Mendelson provided homemade soups and baked goods for the music event.

* The Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra donated two concert tickets for a door prize and Penny provided two gifts.

The Rich Township Food Pantry, located at 22013 Governors Highway, regularly feeds over 750 low-income families from ten surrounding communities. Each dollar donated can purchase four meals. Donations are accepted there 8:30 am to 3:30 pm daily. 708- 748-6722

Garlic Fest 2012

Our annual Garlic Fest fundraising event was our best ever!

We raised \$ 4176.80, topping last year’s 3780 !

- About 400 visitors attended paying \$717.05 admission.
- Again we COMPLETELY SOLD OUT of garlic-- over 1300 bulbs - making \$2067.
- We had the most refreshments of any year and SOLD OUT making an all time high of \$295.25.
- Braiding took in \$202.50.
- The Raffle was huge taking in \$269. The Raffle Baskets and items were exquisite thanks to Maureen Chappell, Emily Theil, Mary Ann Transon, Marva King, Jan Suczynski, Joyce Gallagher, Marcy Marzuki, Jeannette Dumais, Penny Chamberlain, Barb Stephens and Judy Dolan Mendelson.
- The garlic/Organic Gardening books, items and T-shirts brought in \$261. And miscellaneous donations totaled \$365.

There were 39 volunteers the day of Garlic Fest, plus 15 bakers, 18 garlic cleaners and at least 7 work day volunteers for about 300 worker hours.

Thank You All For The Best Garlic Fest EVER



Winter-Spring Thorn Creek Woods

247 Monee Rd
Park Forest
708-747-6320

Thorn_creek@att.net

Nature Center open Friday-
Sunday, noon to 4 pm

Trails Open Dawn to Dusk

Wednesday Morning Walkers	Wednesdays 7:30-8:30 am Year round
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Thank You Volunteers Party	Saturday January 19 1-3 pm Snow date: January 26
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Winter Night Hike	Sunday January 27 4-6 p.m. All ages
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Animals in Winter Hike	Sunday February 3 1-3 p.m. All ages
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Great Backyard Bird Count	Saturday February 16 9 am-2 pm All ages, free
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Winter Night Hike	Saturday February 23 5-7 p.m. All ages
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Make a Gourd Birdhouse	Sunday March 3 1-3 pm All ages \$10/house
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Spring Clean Up	Saturday March 16 9am-2 pm
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Newsletter editor:
Judy Dolan Mendelson
Friends: P.O. Box 159,
Richton Park, IL 60471,
dolanmendel@aol.com



New Windows

Tinley Park Glass repaired the nature center windows this fall. They removed the old caulk and old frosted window glass, repaired the muntins and mullions as needed (notably on the front south window), added horizontal braces to each window

stabilizing each top window and replaced all the frosted glass.

The total project cost of \$4100 was paid by Friends of Thorn Creek from the Capital Fund.

This project was made possible by an anonymous gift by Friends members through the T. Rowe Price Program for Charitable Giving. The \$5000 gift was for nature center repairs and has been used for the repair of the steeple louvers and the recent window repairs.

The window repairs were critical—the front windows especially had rotted wood and were in danger of literally falling apart.

Thanks also to volunteer Tom Gallagher who braced the worst front window last year and who painted the recent repairs to protect the wood.

Thank You to the generous donors to the Capital Fund and to Tom Gallagher.

We'll be looking for funding for the next vital project—to paint the nature center exterior.

Nature Center Needs

We Need:

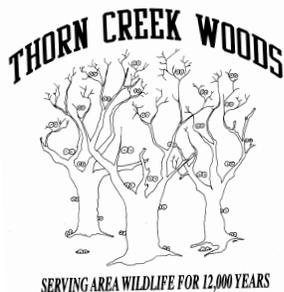
- Scissors—for adults and for children
- Magnifiers
- Binoculars—for adults and for children
- Garlic roasters, keepers or books
- Garlic recipes
- Plants for Butterfly Garden—must be shade tolerant and deer resistant
- Hand truck

Always needed:

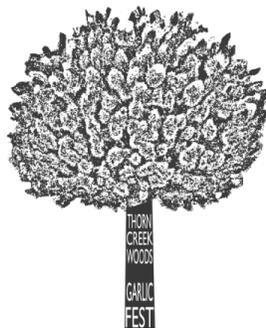
- Birdseed (mix or black sunflower seed—no corn)
- Stamps you saved for Audubon Society
- 3M Command medium Picture Hanging Strips
- 3M Command Poster Hanging Strips
- 1" x 2 5/8" address labels – ink jet or laser
- 6" x 9" mailing envelopes
- Suet cakes

Can you scan in various graphics for our collection?
Call or email
708-747-6320
Thorn_creek@att.net

Get your Thorn Creek T-Shirts



Long sleeve -
Green with Sagestone Design
Short sleeve -
Blue with White Design



Short sleeve Garlic
T-Shirts
Dark Brown with Blue Garlic
Scape Design

Short Sleeve Thorn Creek Woods = \$ 10 + \$3
per shirt shipping/handling
Short Sleeve Garlic Fest = \$10 + \$3 per shirt
shipping/handling
Long Sleeve = \$15 + \$3 per shirt shipping/handling

Please make your check to:

Thorn Creek Nature Center
247 Monee Road
Park Forest, IL 60466
708-747-6320

Or stop by the nature center Friday
Sunday
Noon-4 pm

Be a FRIEND OF THORN CREEK WOODS

___Membership \$10 ___Organization & Business \$50 ___Life Membership \$150

New Member ___ Renewing Member ___

___I'd like to help as a volunteer at Thorn Creek Nature Center, please call me.

___I am donating \$_____ to the **Thorn Creek Woods Capital Fund**
for improvements in the Nature Center building & in the Preserve.

In memory of _____ In honor of _____

___I am donating \$_____ to the **Jim Marzuki Memorial Fund** -
to make a difference in Thorn Creek public programming.

___I am donating \$_____ to **Friends** general purposes.

Total Enclosed \$_____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone & e-mail _____

Make checks payable to: FRIENDS OF THORN CREEK WOODS, Box 159, Richton Park, IL 60471



Friends Membership Renewals

On the mailing label, the **DATE BEFORE YOUR NAME**
is the date **YOUR** membership should be renewed. Check it out!



Watch for our SPRING WORK DAYS

SPRING CLEAN UP DAY
Saturday, March 16, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

GARLIC MUSTARD WORKDAYS
Saturdays, March 30, April 6 & April 13
9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Free! All ages;
children under 15
must be accompanied by an adult.

Registration for a group
of 6 people or more is required:

call Nature Center 708.747.6320
or email thorn_creek@att.net

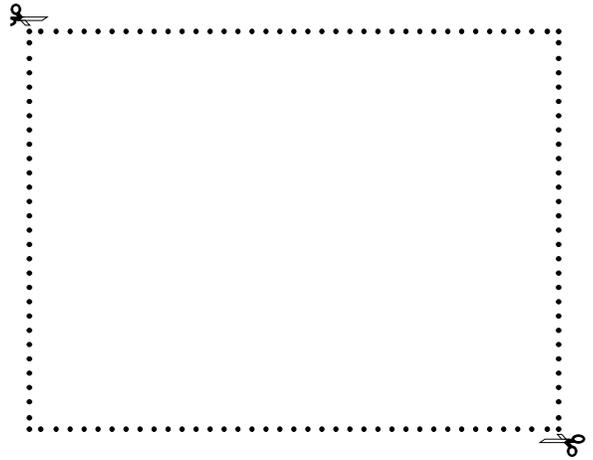
Know your local wildflowers?
Come by the nature center
and help identify
the wildflowers and fungi
depicted in our photographs.
Call or email the nature center
-708-747-6320
Thorn_creek@att.net

Interested in baking
or making soups
for our events?

Call or email
the nature center
708-747-6320
Thorn_creek@att.net

Friends of Thorn Creek Woods
Box 159
Richton Park, IL 60471

Please clip commemorative stamps
& bring to Nature Center for
Audubon Stamps
for Wildlife Habitats



Renew Now!

Want to receive
Thorn Creek News
only via email-
then email editor
Judy Dolan
Mendelson at
dolanmendel@aol.com

GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT

Saturday, February 16
9 a.m.- 2 p.m.



Come to the GBBC open
house for help with *all things*
BIRDS!

And sip hot chocolate or tea or coffee
at the bird viewing window

Birders of all levels welcome!
Great for beginners and children!

Tips on Identifying Birds

Bird Watching Hike at 12 p.m.

Games * Crafts * Slides * Viewing Window

Bird Feeders and Seed How To's

Thorn Creek Audubon Society Exhibits

Bird Checklists & Field Guides

Using Binoculars

An afternoon for Friends,
volunteers & supporters!



THANK YOU **THORN CREEK VOLUNTEERS**

Saturday, January 19, 1p.m.
Snow date: Saturday, January 26, 1-3 p.m.
Registration by Thursday, January 17

Volunteers will gather for a fun-filled
afternoon with a pot luck, prizes and, a hike in
Thorn Creek Woods at 2 p.m.
Meet our new Coordinator Caitlin McMahon.

We'll provide the chili and drinks,
you bring appetizers, breads, desserts,
veggie trays or whatever.

Call or drop by the nature center
NOW to sign up !

708-747-6320 thorn_creek@att.net