



Friends of Thorn Creek Woods

Thorn Creek News

Spring 2013

GSU in Time and Space Part two

1873

The Agricultural Landscape

By 1873, GSU's pre-settlement landscape of prairie and grove had given way to a fully developed agricultural world of cropland, pasture and orchard. This world is graphically illustrated by two documents, the Monee Township Assessors Record for that year, and an 1873 Plat map of township landholdings. Both of these documents are available online in GSU Library Archives at <http://libguides.govst.edu/content.php?pid=45174&sid=1850611>.

The Assessor's 1873 record is particularly detailed compared to other township assessments both before and after this date. The size and value of individual farmsteads were listed, as in other years, but also included, uniquely, were the acreages devoted to the growing of particular crops, thus providing a wealth of information on land use in this mid-19th century era of mixed agriculture. In addition, under the category "personal property", the assessment lists the numbers of livestock – horses, cattle, sheep and hogs – on these same farms, adding another dimension to this emerging picture of a living landscape. A portion of a page from the 1873 assessment is shown below as Figure 1.

1 8 List of Taxable Personal Property in the Town of _____ in the _____

[AUDITOR'S FORM.]

	To Whom Listed.	1		2		3		4		5		6		7		8		9	
		Horses.		Cattle.		Mules & Asses.		Sheep.		Hogs.		Steam Engines, including Boilers.		Fire and Burglar Proof Safes.		Billiard, Pigeon Hole, Bagatelle or other similar Tables.		Carriages and Wagons.	
		No.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.
		Dollars.		Dollars.		Dollars.		Dollars.		Dollars.		Dollars.		Dollars.		Dollars.		Dollars.	
1	Stunkel Henry	6	315	19	580			12	18	3	9							2	60
2	Senne Dietrich	1	60	5	90			1	2	4	12							1	20
3	Stassen Hermann	1	50	2	35					2	6							1	10
4	Schwer Fred			4	70			1	2	2	6							1	5

Figure 1: Portion of Book 3 Page 58 of 1873 Monee Township Assessor Record

The plat map of 1873 puts this information in geographic context: Where were these farms? What were their configurations? Where were the house and barn? The orchard? Who were the neighbors? In short, what was the spatial organization of this landscape. The northeastern portion of the Monee Township Plat, including the future GSU campus and a part of Thorn Grove, is shown as Figure 2. A comparison of this plat with the original survey map of 1834 shows how far things have come. (The 1834 original survey map of Monee Township was reproduced as Figure 1 in Winter 2012-2013 edition of *Thorn Creek News*.)

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

In 1834, for example, Thorn Grove was identified as “timber” still wild, unsettled land. By 1873 it had been divided into innumerable little woodlots owned by nearby prairie farmers. Many of the present day roads had already been established, including Monee Road, which followed the western edge of Thorn Grove, and both Stuenkel and Dralle roads which today border the campus on the north and south.

In Section 10, the future site of GSU, the unbroken prairie of 1834 was now occupied by all or part of seven farms. The roadbed of The Illinois Central Railroad, laid out in the 1850’s had bisected the north-west corner of the section. Landholding patterns were complex due to this, and to the peculiar configura-

(Continued on page 3)

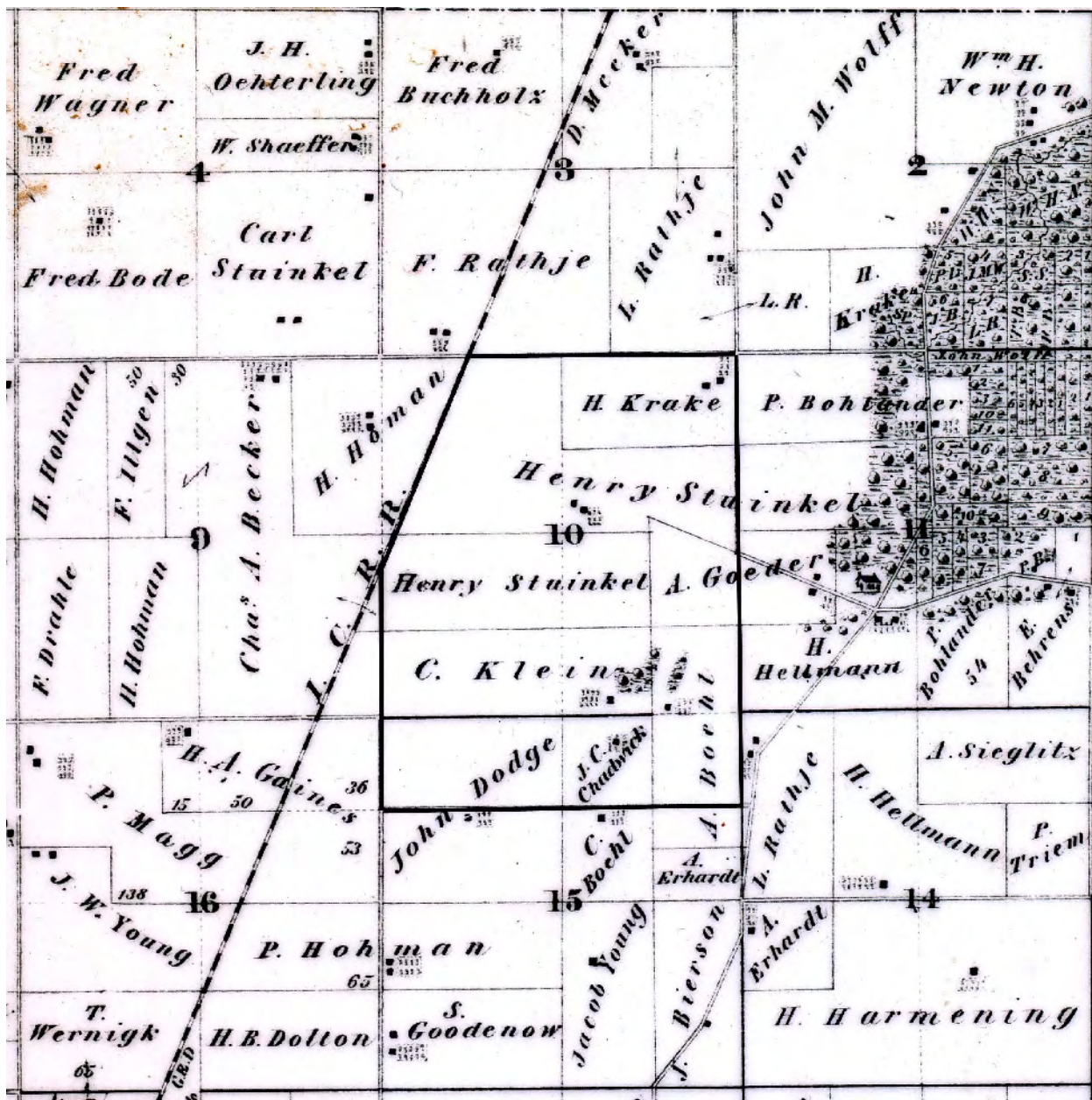


Figure 2: The northeastern portion of the Plat Map of Monee Township 1873. Future Governors State University campus boundary shown in bold outline.

(Continued from page 2)

tion of Exchange Road (now University Parkway) along the east boundary of the section, which influenced interior property lines. In addition, five of the seven landowners had property in adjacent sections. I discuss in detail the holdings of three of the land owners, Krake, Stuenkel and Boeht, as representative of the basic land use practices and constraints on the campus-to-be. The land use acreage and livestock totals for all the farmers in Section 10 is presented as an appendix.

The Krake farm was 77 acres in size, including house, outbuildings and a small orchard. The farm occupied the northeast corner of Section 10, a corner described less than 40 years earlier by D. A. Spaulding, the Public Land Office Surveyor, as being “on high prairie”. By 1873, more than half of this piece of prairie was under cultivation: 15 acres in corn, 4 in wheat, and 30 in oats. The remaining acres were in pasture (6 ac) and hay meadow (21 ac), devoted to maintaining the farm’s livestock which at that time consisted of 3 horses, 12 cows and a pair of hogs. Krake also owned 40 acres in Section 2, just down the road from his Section 10 property. This parcel, as Fig. 2 indicates, was partly wooded, the edge of Thorn Grove. In later years it was operated by the Fathers of St. Charles as Camp Pompei, a camp for kids. It is now part of Thorn Creek Woods Nature Preserve.

Henry Steunkel (Stuinkel) was the principal landowner in Section 10 with approximately 320 acres mostly in the north half of the section. As befits Spaulding’s original description of this land as “dry and rolling”, more than two-thirds of Stuenkel’s farm was either in pasture (153 ac) or hay meadow (58 ac), a much greater percentage than that of the Krake farm. Permanent pasture and meadow, moreover, suggest that the Steunkel farm may have provided a refuge for remnants of the original prairie. Stuenkel had correspondingly more livestock grazing his pastures than Krake – 6 horses, 19 cows and a dozen sheep, together with a trio of hogs. Oats, corn and wheat, in that order, were the principal crops grown, as with Krake, but an additional 6 acres were in “other field crops” which at that time would have included barley, rye, potatoes or flax. The farmstead, which was still in existence as late as 1939 but under different ownership, included house, barn and 2 acres of orchard. Ironically, the main GSU building now sits atop its remains.

The A. Boeht farm was located in the southeast portion of the campus, 40 acres in Section 10 and an additional 60 acres in Section 15. The farmstead – house, outbuildings and an orchard - overlooked the valley of Thorn Creek, described originally by the surveyor as a “small drain”. The northern portion of the farm also included the “small grove of oak bushes...” noted in the survey. Thus, the Boeht farm occupied a rather more diverse landscape than the Steunkel or Krake holdings, and this is reflected in land use: in addition to 9 acres of this original grove, 4 acres were in other field products (unspecified), and the remainder was split evenly between permanent pasture, meadow and cropland. Boeht’s livestock was equally diverse: 3 horses, 7 cows, a sheep and a quartet of hogs, which, in my imagination, I see rooting about in his oak woodland.

Ownership of the land has changed many times between 1873 and the establishment of the GSU campus nearly 100 years later. Gone are the Steunkels, Krakes, Kleins, Chadwicks and Boehts, replaced by Hantacks, Urbans, Sztubas and Ruders. But traces still remain. The present day Field Station building, for example, is very close to the original Boeht farmstead; the Conference Center occupies what in 1873 was the site of the Klein house and orchard. But the most enduring legacy of that rural past are the Osage Orange hedgerows, the living fences of the mid-19th century which, before the advent of barbed wire, served to demarcate boundaries, enclose pasture, and protect crops from the ravages of livestock. Remnants of one such hedgerow, which originally separated the Steunkel farm from the Klein’s to the south still exists, serving as a backdrop to the sculpture “Field Rotation”. A second hedgerow, which originally separated

(Continued on page 4)

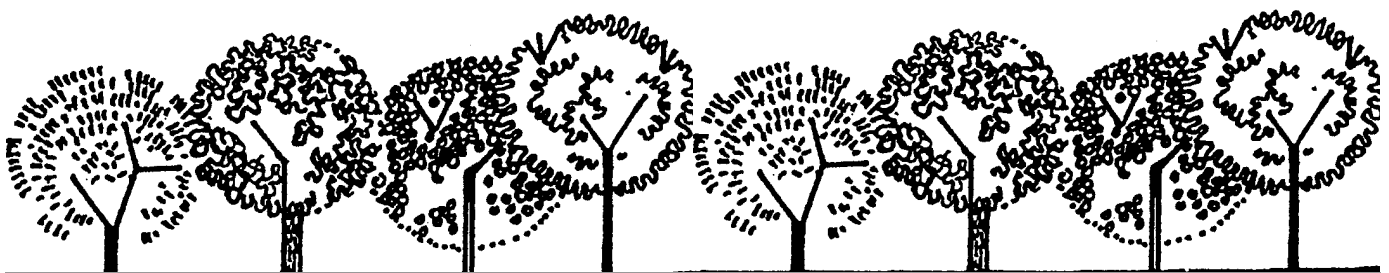
(Continued from page 3)

the Krake farm from Steunkel's, lies on the north side of the main campus lake. Within it today is nestled the beautiful chair, centerpiece of the Martin Puryear sculpture "Bodark Arc", a reference to bois d'arc, "wood of the Bow" for which use Osage Orange was renowned.

-Jon Mendelson

Landowners & acres owned:	Crops								Livestock			
	Wheat	Corn	Oats	Hay	Pasture	Orchard	Other Field crops	Woods	Horses	Cattle	Sheep	Hogs
Steunkel 320 acres	15	45	50	58	153	2	6	0	6	19	12	3
Kracke 77 acres	4	15	30	21	6	1	0	0	3	12		2
Goeder 80 acres in S10 & 11	3	20	32	14	9	2	0	0	3	6	2	4
Boeht 100 acres in S10 & 15	6	15	22	24	19	1	4	9	3	7	1	4
Chadwick 40 acres	0	3	10	13	10	3	0	0	3	2	0	1
Dodge 160 acres in S10 & 15	7	58	24	42	30	1	0	0	3	11	0	30
Klein 137 acres in S10 & 9	16	21	21	27	37	2	7	0	6	13	5	5

Appendix: The land use acreage and livestock totals for all the farmers in Section 10, taken from the 1873 Monee Township Assessors Record.



Elizabeth Clemens and Dorea LaPorte wrote:

Please accept this donation in honor of Margaret Carter who passed away March 10, 2013.

She was an avid gardener and lover of birds, having a huge feeder that was as busy as Grand Central Station! And she didn't discriminate against squirrels either.

Margaret will be a part of Thorn Creek Woods forever."

Thank you

What Does it Mean To “Walk in the Woods”?

It's been about three months since my introduction into the historical, well-supported, and truly treasured world of Thorn Creek Woods. In my short time here I've had the pleasure of meeting many volunteers who have been vital in keeping the Nature Center open and continuing to bring in donations and visitors throughout the year. The awe and majestic feel of these woods can be seen in their eyes and now, mine. Sharing sightings of barred owls, squirrel caches, white-washed trees (most likely from perched great horned owls), pileated woodpecker foraging holes, or viewing the contrast of the fresh snow with dark trunked giants towering above you is simply beautiful.

So, what does it mean to walk in the woods? For those who spend their weeks busy with work, school, errands or tasks, a walk in the woods is relaxing. It is a chance to quiet the mind, listen to the crunch of snow under your feet, meander a wandering path or creek bed, breathe the fresh air, and slow the pace of your daily routine. A walk in the woods gives you time to reflect, time to listen and time to focus on the simple wonders of the Earth that need nothing but our appreciation to remain beautiful.

For some, a walk in the woods can be a time of learning, exploration, and discovery. Perhaps you are compelled to understand, acquire knowledge and then share this with friends or loved ones. A simple hike can transform your experience whether taken alone or with a guide. By taking one of our trail guides, one can learn a new species of tree, how to identify and interpret animals tracks, or understand how the shapes and curves of the landscape were created. In this way, the hiker becomes the student and the woods the teacher. The ancient teachers of these woods are 200 year old oaks, black walnut, or hickory trees. Listening to the wisdom of these elders can often bring new insights and perspectives into our daily lives.

I hope when you visit Thorn Creek Woods you come knowing that this place has been preserved for you. It is special, just like you. Most people who visit or participate in our nature hikes come back with family and friends. They walk the trails each time visiting favorite oases along our paths and often see something new. As we grow and change as people we can watch the growth of this living community, this ecosystem, this entity that is a short journey from our homes and a welcoming adventure. I hope when you visit you discover yourself in the landscape, you reflect on your life with the same awe that comes to mind when you see this magnificent place. The thoughts that emerge from your time spent here, carry them home with you. Share your questions, experience and feelings with your loved ones and invite them to take the journey with you.

To walk in the woods is to connect with nature. It is an opportunity to become one with many of the elemental compounds of which your body is comprised. When sharing your experiences from Thorn Creek Woods, create stories and imagine what it would be like to live here as a squirrel, mouse, or deer. If you take a second look at this place you may see something new, something you had never seen before. At Thorn Creek Woods you have the chance to redefine your vision of the world, the environment and yourself.

I welcome you to come and experience all that Thorn Creek Woods has to offer. Bring friends and family or come for personal solace. A walk in the woods can be the experience of a lifetime.

- Caitlin McMahon, Thorn Creek Nature Center Coordinator

Spring Haiku

Sun puddles today
Dark brown fields turning over
Simply celebrate!

-Jenifer Morison-Silver



Seasons

“I do miss them” my aunt said.

She lives in Florida now. She moved there from Indiana many years ago when she and her partner retired to their second home in Tampa. We go down to visit about twice a year. She’s a great lady and we always enjoy our time with her. The 70 degree weather in January, the walks on the gulf and glimpsing an occasional dolphin from the dock behind her house is a nice bonus. One of our daily rituals is watching her feed the birds. She steps out of the house, gives her particular “come and get it” whistle, and begins spreading peanuts, seed and chunks of bread. First the gulls come wheeling in. They are followed by egrets, herons and, if we’re lucky, an ibis or two. They settle around her and begin to feed. I love water birds and can’t get enough of watching them hover over her as she performs her part of their daily dance.

I’ve adopted her methods and now, when I go out to fill our feeders at home, I whistle “Whit-whee! Whit-whee!” If there is a woodpecker on the suet, it knows me for a friend and continues digging away while I wait patiently for it to finish. Mourning doves, chickadees, nuthatches and other woodland friends who used to scatter at my arrival now come flocking in and settle in the trees, watching expectantly, eager to settle in and begin feeding.



Of course, there are birds that don’t visit the feeder. We are fortunate to be in the flight path of the sand hill cranes. During this past week they began passing overhead again, heading north. Our first awareness of their flight is their unique, churling cry. Because they don’t stop here and are moving fairly rapidly and high up, it can be challenging to spot them. We stand in our yard with heads tilted back, searching the sky. They may be only tiny specks or flying above the clouds and invisible to our eyes. But, if we are fortunate, they are flying close enough to the earth that we have the joy of watching the shifting patterns of their long, v-shaped flight as they move over us on their way to Wisconsin and Michigan.

Another harbinger of spring that is not interested in our feeding station are the robins that began appearing in early March. They are the males, here to scout out territories and stake a claim before the females arrive. We watch them chase each other away from the most desirable spots and listen to their nightly complaints when the daylight begins to fade. The red-winged blackbirds came flocking in even before the robins. They settled loudly on the tops of the trees, with their musical *Tink! Tink! See-yee!* The mornings are full of bird song again and, even with the unseasonable cold, it still feels like spring is finally on its way.

During our weekly conversations my aunt likes to brag on the weather in Florida. 75 degrees in March! She complains about the “chilly” 62 degree day she just suffered through (our little joke). She describes the lovely sunset she and her dog Tigger watched the night before (while we were suffering through 32 degrees and sleet) and we share a laugh about the cattle egret that hangs around even after feeding time is over. It sounds nice. No snow. No ice. Balmy weather in February and March. A good place to retire.

I mention that the robins came back last week.

Florida is a good place to retire. No doubt about it. But without any spring – or robins - to look forward to as winter winds down. “I do miss them,” she says.

-Kendra Reinshagen

Hello Thorn Creek Woods Friends,



I enjoyed Dave Mauger's article about sandhill cranes [*Thorn Creek News*, Winter 2011-12] and want to share a few notes about the sandhill population in my locale.

Recently, on a warm Florida morning before I could tee off on the first hole, I had to interrupt a rather indignant, foraging sandhill crane and shoo him away from the tee box. For a few moments, we stood almost eye-to-eye as he rattled his disapproval, but with an elegant sway of gray feathers, he turned and strolled out of my swing range.

"And, please not to the fairway," I pleaded. On occasion, fairway-foraging sandhills suffer a broken wing or leg—golf ball injuries—nearly as damaging as a bullet.

My husband laughed and asked, "Do you remember when you and your sister packed lunch, down jackets and field glasses in the car and headed for Jasper-Pulaski to watch the cranes?"

"Yes," I answered. "And it was great fun."

Now, I only need to look in the backyard or scan the gold course. Florida's non-migratory population (*Grus Canadensis pratensis*) - very much habituated to humans-stroll golf courses, parks, airstrips, playgrounds, backyards and roadsides, wherever there is an open expanse of grass, especially mowed grass. Loss of native habitat due to residential and commercial development is a major reason for sandhill movements to "suburbia".

Unfortunately, along with development come motor vehicles and the cranes are at risk each time they cross a road. Often, after one of a pair has lost a mate to traffic, the one left behind will stand at the road edge near the dead mate and croon a sad, haunting call for days and days—then, disappear.

Sandhills are omnivores. Depending on the season, they feed on a wide variety of plants, small vertebrates and invertebrates. However, bird seed, spilled on the ground from a backyard feeder, becomes an ideal feeding area as does feed deliberately set out for the cranes.

Both situations can be problematic, as cranes fed by humans can become aggressive damaging windows, shiny cars or people who try to hand feed. In an attempt to prevent some of the aggressive territorial behavior, Florida Fish and Wildlife in 2002, made it illegal to feed sandhill cranes.



Florida cranes have a curious nature and inspect any changes in the neighborhood. After a home had been removed, the foursome checked out the vacant lot.

When probing the ground for food with their long bills, sandhills do damage lawns, gardens and well manicured golf course greens. But, on the plus side, their digging provides a natural form of pest control. They eat a variety of pests such as mole crickets, beetles and grubs. However, there is some jeopardy involved—poisoning from the heavy use of pesticides on lawns, golf courses, gardens, etc.—especially for young cranes.

Sandhill cranes are a welcome sight in Florida. In the spring, when a pair and their downy chick stroll among the shoppers at our community yard sale, they walk, not intimidated, amid admiring stares.

Sincerely from Florida,
Nancy Nourie
2 March 2012

President's Message

Here we are in the spring of 2013. We have made it through some dark days, thanks to all the Friends and volunteers who have supported us throughout.

Caitlin, our new Nature Center Coordinator, has been working hard with Judy M. to set up hikes and programs. She has plans for two free hikes each month and will reinstate the Junior Ecologists Club in April.

We just had our Woods Music program that featured wonderful performances by folksinger Anna Stange, singer Melva LeBlanc accompanied by Helen Silvia, and the bluegrass group Fall Creek.

Another great program will take place in June. Artist Marikay Peter Witlock who donated signed prints of her Prairie Chapel drawing, will be at the Nature Center for a casual afternoon of discussion of her art and display of some of her other works. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet and get to know Marikay. We thank her for her generous donation.

I encourage all of you to stop by the nature center (Friday, Saturday & Sunday, noon—4 p.m.), have a cup of coffee or tea, and see all the new changes taking place. I am so proud to be part of such an awesome endeavor to keep a gem in the south suburbs.

Hope to see all of you this spring.

Your Prez, Penny Chamberlain



Penny Chamberlain
President
Friends of Thorn Creek Woods



Steve Aultz leading
volunteers and Friends on a
"Zen Woods"
hike in January

Visions and Voices: A Benefit for Thorn Creek Woods

featuring *Marikay Peter Witlock, Patricia Caldwell & Jerry Santoni*

Sunday, June 23, 1- 4 p.m. Admission \$ 5

Come to an open house at Thorn Creek Nature Center.

Meet the artist who was inspired by our Nature Center to create ***Prairie Chapel***

an original graphic drawing featuring the iconic 1860's church.

Enjoy songs of inspiration and humor by Patricia Caldwell.

Hammered dulcimer musician Jerry Santoni will evoke memories of long ago
with his poignant melodies.

There will be refreshments and a silent auction.

Proceeds of sales of ***Prairie Chapel*** prints and donations will benefit the Nature Preserve.

Inspired by Thorn Creek Nature Center

Prairie Chapel

is an original graphite drawing by Marikay Peter Witlock.

Intrigued by a promise of a patch of prairie, Witlock visited Thorn Creek Nature Center in the late summer of 1988. She left that visit with a vision of prairie and chapel woven as one, and a profound sense of the sacred in the land. *Prairie Chapel* became the first in a series of over 35 drawings combining architectural elements with the grasses and forbs of Illinois.



Available in limited edition of 300 signed and numbered prints

Image size 13" x 17", finished size 18" x 21"

Printed on acid free 80 lb. paper, the reproduction retains every detail of the original graphite drawing

Through a generous donation by the artist this print is available
with a donation to Friends of Thorn Creek Woods of \$75 or more.

Use the form below to order a print. For information :708-747-6320 or thorn_creek@att.net

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____
E-mail _____

FRIENDS OF THORN CREEK WOODS is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization. Donations to FRIENDS, over the value of the *Prairie Chapel* print (valued at \$75) are tax-deductible. Consult your tax advisor.

Donation - \$ _____
Shipping/Handling for a print - \$ 5.00
Total amount enclosed - \$ _____

Mail check made out to: Friends of Thorn Creek Woods, P.O. Box 159, Richton Park, IL 60471

Ashes to Ashes

Some think of ash
 As a tree that's just trash,
 But to me it seems brash,
 Even crass
 To so designate ash.
 If asked, in a flash,
 I'd defend ash, and clash
 With those ingrates who trash
 The good name of ash.
 Its bronze-purple leaves
 Spread a colorful splash
 Through the woods, in their youth and in fall.
 And the absence of ash
 Would leave a cruel gash
 In the woods' panoply, were there no ash at
 all.
 Ashes have seeds
 That supply all their needs,
 Fed by their compound leaves.
 As with ease,
 On a wing, like a sneeze
 Ash seeds glide on the breeze.
 They land where they please.
 In niches they squeeze
 'Neath the oaks' canopies.
 With rainfall and soil
 And the air's warm degrees,
 The seeds sprout, warmed and fed by the sun.
 So from seedlings to trees,
 Their purpose achieved,
 Young ash trees endure,
 one more battle is won.



Ash Seeds

-Lily Bormet

Garlic Mustard Workday

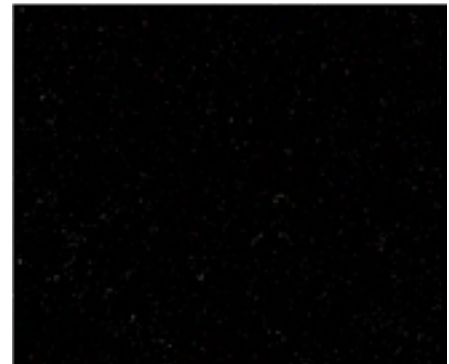
Saturday - May 4
 1 - 4 p.m.

Come spend an afternoon
 in the spring woods.

Get down and dirty
 and help pull out or clip these
 pretty but troublesome plants.

Gloves, bags and a short
 orientation will be provided.

Dress for the weather,
 wear sturdy boots, and bring hand
 clippers if you have them.



All ages;
 Children under 15
 must be accompanied
 by an adult.
 Registration
 for a group of 6 people or
 more is required

Calling Young People Age 9 to 12!

Thorn Creek's Junior Ecologists Club offers fun-filled nature activities each month for young people. They will explore the woods, track seasonal changes and discover woodland plants and animals.

JEC will meet one Saturday each month from noon to 3 p.m. at Thorn Creek Nature Center.

Registration is required by the Thursday before each meeting. Program is free.

April 27—Amphibians of Thorn Creek Woods

May 18—Birds

June 8—Creek Walk and Study

July 20—Woodland

August 17—Insects

Junior Ecologists Club

Uncover the mysteries of nature
first-hand
while exploring

Thorn Creek Woods Nature Preserve,
and working on projects and studies.

Call or email now for information



Nature Center Needs

- Hand truck
- Garlic roasters, keepers, books or recipes
- Scissors and Binoculars - for adults and for children
- Magnifiers
- Large storage boxes about 1.5 ft by 3 ft
- Refrigerator-operational
- 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
- Cases of bottles of water
- Suet cakes

Spring at Thorn Creek

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 7:30-9 am Year round
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Junior Ecologists Club Ages 9-12 Noon-3 p.m.	Saturdays April 27 May 18 June 8 July 20 August 17
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Bike & Hike Benefit \$20 donation	Saturday May 11 Noon-4 p.m.
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Morning Bird Hike	Saturday May 18 8-10 a.m.
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Farm Walk	Sun., June 2 1-3 p.m.
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Visions & Voices	Sunday June 23 1-4 p.m., \$5
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Fireflies Night Hike	Friday June 28 7:30-9 p.m.
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Women of the Woods Retreat	Saturday June 29 9 a.m.-1 p.m. \$5
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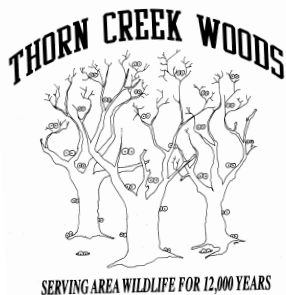
Newsletter editor:
Judy Dolan Mendelson
Friends: P.O. Box 159,
Richton Park, IL 60471,
dolanmendel@aol.com

Thank You

- ☀ Steve Aultz for leading a “Zen Woods” hike for volunteers and Friends.
- ☀ Village of Park Forest & Penny Chamberlain for door prizes.
- ☀ Pat Moore for teaching adults and children how to paint gourd birdhouses. The program was lots of fun. She and Judy Mendelson prepared the gourds for painting. Marcy Marzuki purchased the gourds for the program.
- ☀ Woods Music musicians celebrated the woods and Spring Equinox so beautifully: Anna Stange; Melva LeBlanc accompanied by Helen Silvia; and, bluegrass group Fall Creek—Chere McKinley on guitar and vocals, Mitzi Oden on banjo and vocals, Grady Grice on fiddle, and Linda McLemore on bass.
- ☀ Volunteers who clean up and set up before and after Woods Music.
- ☀ Wednesday Walkers who deliver our flyers to area sites and libraries.
- ☀ Delpha Williams, Suzie Brown and Nancy Nourie for stamps.
- ☀ Ellen Eads, Mary Hellings, Marilyn & Penny for bird seed and suet.
- ☀ Open Hours volunteers and Penny who schedules these 25 wonderful people.
- ☀ Phyllis Camplin for table cloth and hand carved cane.
- ☀ Jim Pisani & Mark Jackson for replacing boards on two boardwalks, clean up along road edge, and the special task of getting the five new benches out to the trails. Benches were built by Dave Mauger.
- ☀ Jim and Mark continued the work Caitlin and two young volunteers did on Clean Up Day in scraping the white paint slashes off of about 30 trees along the “tractor trail” !
- ☀ Tom Gallagher who re-hung the tool peg board and mapped out our electric circuits.
- ☀ Jim & Judy Rastorfer for books for the Schwartz Library.
- ☀ Emily Theil & Sue Zelek for working with Caitlin on hikes; Sue Zelek for leading the Great Backyard Bird Count hike.
- ☀ Penny Chamberlain for cookie trays for GBBC and Woods Music.
- ☀ Friends provided the cheese tray and crackers for Woods Music.
- ☀ Thorn Creek Audubon Society for use of their displays for GBBC and Build a Gourd Birdhouse.
- ☀ Welcome new **members** of Friends of Thorn Creek Woods.
- ☀ For donations to the Jim Marzuki Fund & the Capital Fund.

Thank You all

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 \$_____

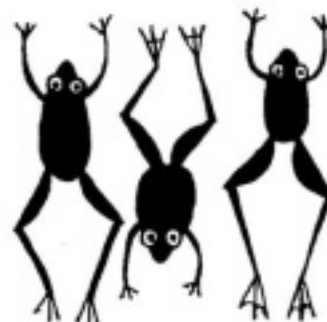
Name _____

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!

BIKE AND HIKE: BENEFIT FOR THORN CREEK WOODS



Saturday, May 11, noon- 4 p.m.

Rain or shine.

Suggested \$20 donation per person.

Registration required by Thursday, May 9.

Ride your motorcycle or bicycle, or even drive or walk to Thorn Creek Nature Center, savor homemade soups, tour the Nature Center and enjoy a two mile naturalist led hike.

The benefit event is in memory of the late Joe Hanes. Joe and his wife Alice were early supporters of Thorn Creek Woods and longtime members of BMW Club.

Cosponsored by Friends of Thorn Creek Woods, Chicago Region BMW Motorcycle Owners Association, Park Forest Environment Commission and Garden Club of Park Forest.

Plan to attend this exciting new event.

*We need volunteers to make baked goods,
to manage the parking of bikes and cars,
and helpers for the program.
Call or email to sign up to help.*



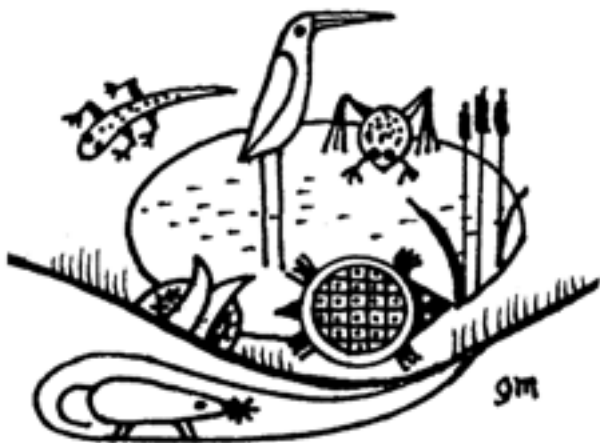
Friends of Thorn Creek Woods
Box 159
Richton Park, IL 60471

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



FRIENDS OF THORN CREEK WOODS ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, May 19
1-3 p.m.

*Join other nature lovers
for the Friends business meeting
and a spring hike.*

Business includes:

elect officers, Treasurer's report, reset dues renewal date, and plan
Capital fundraising for painting the building and rebuilding south bridge.

Learn ways to help.