



5010 N JUGTOWN ROAD, MORRIS, ILLINOIS

THE TALLGRASS JOURNAL

Goose Lake Prairie Partners



Spring & Summer 2016

Announcing...

Our Sponsor for
31st Annual Cabin Festival -- June 4



Our 2016 season has officially begun and we have our Prairie Partner fundraiser quilt hanging in the Visitors Center. Proceeds are used to support our educational events.

\$1.00 for 1 chance and \$5.00 for 6 chances and can be purchased through a Prairie Partner or at the Visitors Center.

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Come Experience Life on the Prairie June 4th at the 31st Annual Cabin Festival, 2016

Demonstrating Life on the Prairie in 1800s.

Cabin Fest activities we plan on sharing with you this year :

- American Indian Crafts
- Indian Dances & Dreamcatchers
- Crochet & Embroidery
- American Mountain Man
- Bee Demonstrations
- Maplecroft Blacksmith
- Bobbin Lacer
- Cragg Cabin History
- 1830's Lifestyle
- Hiking & Flower walks
- Kids games
- Knitting & Tatting
- Quilting Bee
- Soap Maker
- Spinners & Loom Weavers
- Tanner
- Woodcarver
- Prairie Partner Gift Shop
- Prairie Partner Food Tent

Other Park Amenities are Open.

- Butterfly Barn & Picnic Areas
- Visitor Center Museum
- Wagon Rides to Cabin

Goose Lake Prairie Partners & Goose Lake Prairie State Natural Area Staff are your hosts for the day.



Come join us at the 31th annual Cabin Fest Saturday June 4th, 2016 for a free day of Family fun. Located at the historic Cragg Cabin 10 am to 3 pm in the Goose Lake Prairie State Natural Area.

From Morris take Route 47 south to Pine Bluff Road; then east 6 miles to Jugtown Road and watch for the stone park entrance sign on your left.

From I-55 take Lorenzo Road west about 7 miles to Jugtown Road and watch for the stone park entrance sign on your right.

Visit our website for updates: <http://gooselakeprairie.org> Find us on FaceBook.



We Welcome
CPV Three Rivers Energy Center
Sponsor of the 31st Annual Cabin Festival

The partners began their 2016 season by securing our re-enactors for this year's Cabin Festival where life on the prairie in the 1800's comes alive for a day. We are excited to have our first sponsor for this event and welcome CPV Three Rivers Energy Center. Through their support, we bring you a blacksmith, bee keeper, sheep shearer, American Indian display, soap making, quilting, bobbin lace, tanning, spinning, weaving and wood carving along with a history of life during that time. Hungry, no problem our food tent will be open serving lunch from 11 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. And don't miss stopping by our gift shop to find that perfect souvenir of your day on the prairie.

Cabin Festival 2016
10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Goose Lake Prairie State Natural Area
Cragg Cabin

The event is held the first Saturday in June and begins promptly at 10 a.m. There are kids games to keep the little ones entertained and (weather permitting) a wagon ride back to the Cabin where the festival is held.

Come spend the day with us and learn a little about our ancestors and the times of old. It is a free fun filled event you won't want to miss.

Adult & Youth Divisions

10th Annual Nature Photography Contest & Exhibit Coming Soon

Goose Lake Prairie State Natural Area

Requirements can be found on the
Goose Lake Prairie Partner Website.

<http://www.gooselakeprairie.org/naturephotocontest.htm>
Be reminded photos are to be taken in Illinois State Parks.

2016 SCHEDULE

Sunday August 7th - Matted Photos are submitted
to the Photo Committee from Noon to 3:00 p.m.

Following the Judging, the photos will be on exhibit
Saturday August 13th and Sunday August 14th

Exhibit will be at Goose Lake Prairie State Natural Area
Visitors Center during open hours.



BEST IN SHOW & BEST IN COLOR

By Rex Termain, Braidwood, IL

"GLPSNA Burn 2015"

DATES: Bring matted entries to the Visitor's Center at Goose Lake Prairie State Natural Area (5010 N. Jugtown Road, Morris, IL) on Sunday, August 7, 2016 from 12:00 o'clock Noon until 3:00 p.m. The first 100 entries are guaranteed acceptance. **Please note all photos must be matted.** Mat board must be 11 X 14 inches. Photographs secured to the mat board can be from 5 X 7 inches to 11 X 14 inches. Labels downloaded from the website must be secured on the back side of the photo.

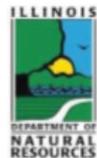
Entry into the photo contest implies permission to use entered photo(s) in IDNR and affiliated publications, in general circulation publications and in non-profit fund-raising activities without compensation to the photographer.

EXHIBIT: Photos will be exhibited August 13 and 14 in the Visitor's Center from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Display will close at 3:00 p.m. Sunday, August 14 at which time the People's Choice Award will be determined and display will be removed. Photos may be picked up on Sunday, August 14 from 4:00 to 4:30 p.m. If pickup cannot be accomplished on this date, call (815) 942-2899 to arrange pickup.



After September 1, photos remaining will become the property of GLPSNA and GL Prairie Partners.

This contest is sponsored jointly
by the Goose Lake Prairie Partners
and the Goose Lake Prairie State Natural Area



the rules for the contest are on the website at <http://gooselakeprairie.org/naturephotocontest.htm>

Entry Form

Nature Photo Contest

One entry form per photo. Attach securely to the back of the photo. Limit three (3) entries per category.

Please print clearly.

Name:						
Address:						
City:				State:		Zip:
Day Phone:			Evening Phone:			
TITLE:						
Photo Location:						
Color Plant	Color Animal	Color Birds	Color Insects	Color Landscape	Color Reptile	Color GLPSNA
B/W Plant	B/W Animal	B/W Birds	B/W Insects	B/W Landscape	B/W Reptile	B/W GLPSNA
<i>Youth</i>	<i>Animals</i>	<i>Birds</i>	<i>Creepy Crawlers</i>	<i>Landscape</i>	<i>Plants</i>	<i>GLPSNA</i>

Revised 5-11-2016

A Mural for Goose Lake Prairie’s Visitors Center

By Chuck Johnson, Chairman

On April 26, the Mural Project was 62% funded with three \$1,000, three \$500, one \$250, and two \$100 donations.

The mural is being done on seven four-foot by eight-foot panels by Ray Grossi of Midwest Signworks. It will be on the front wall of the auditorium. The panels will be removable for storage if necessary. The project will be completed before Prairie Day, September 17, 2016.

The mural provides a full educational unit. The seven panels depict seven distinct periods in the area, starting with a retreating glacier and prehistoric mega-fauna and continuing to today's Goose Lake Prairie area. An outline drawing of the mural will identify each depiction. A separate plaque will give the time period and a brief summary of what is depicted.

Planned for the future are interviews with scientists, historians, sociologists, engineers, and local people who have a knowledge of their ancestors. Also planned is a working projector/screen unit to record the interviews. The same interviews will be available through the Goose Lake Prairie Partners Website. Interns from the Joliet Junior College will be doing the filming.

Lacking in state funds to update the center and following the partners' mission, the Goose Lake Prairie Partners and its donors have elected to raise the funds to make the center a first rate educational destination. If you are interested in lending your support to this project call Chuck Johnson, Mural Chairman. His phone number is 815-942-3722.

From our Site Superintendent – Duane Snow

Observations from My First Year



My first year at Goose Lake Prairie, Heidecke Lake, and Morris Wetlands as Site Superintendent has been full of learning experiences that have been very rewarding. I have enjoyed learning the community of Morris, Illinois and in return I have felt very welcome. I have visited the I&M Canal and rode the mule pulled canal boat. I have participated in Grundy County Corn Festival with my family and enjoyed learning about the rich history of the area.

The IDNR staff works as a team to manage and benefit Goose Lake Prairie, Heidecke Lake, and Morris Wetlands. I have worked with the District Forester, Fish Biologist, Heritage Biologist, Wildlife Biologist and the Nature Preserve Commission to manage these areas.

I especially like the way the Goose Lake Prairie Partners work with IDNR staff for the common good of Goose Lake Prairie, Heidecke Lake, and Morris Wetlands. Activities such as the Cabin Festival, Nature Photo Contest, Prairie Day, and Holiday Open House wouldn't be possible without all the hard work and planning from the Prairie Partners. We have also worked together to put on Natural Resource Tours with Grundy County Soil and Water Conservation District and the various small groups that ask for tours, talks and activities.

I have enjoyed working with the Prairie Partners this past year! They are very dedicated in their works with the Prairie and to IDNR's mission. I look forward to 2016 and the activities they have planned again for our visitors.



Earth Day in the Parks May 4, 2016 at Goose Lake Prairie's Visitors Center

Twenty-nine students and their adult chaperons arrived at Goose Lake Prairie State Natural Area Wednesday, May 4 at 10:00 a.m., ready to plant milkweed and butterfly weed plugs to ensure the arrival of butterflies to the park this season. The Monarchs are our state butterfly and rely on the milkweed leaves for their survival.



Their day began at the Washington Elementary School in Sterling Illinois, filing onto their school bus under the direction of Ms. Denise Hearts, their teacher. Upon arrival everyone disembarked the bus, and was ready to literally "dig-in" with their trowels, seed plugs, and water buckets. Their project was to get the seeds sown and plugs planted into the parking lot islands and near the visitor's center. With the sun peeking through the clouds intermittently, they were very successful planting their plugs. They worked in groups of five with their adult chaperones. Members of the Goose Lake Prairie Partners (GLPP) kept a watchful eye and lent a willing helping hand over the process.



Under the administration of Site Superintendent Duane Snow, the day was a very successful one. Ken Holub, a friend of GLPSNA, donated swamp and common milkweed and butterfly milkweed seeds for this event, and the GLPP supplied the plugs. The Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) supplied seed plugs also. Prairie Partner Bev Mansfield had been preparing for this day for a few weeks by planting, growing and carefully monitoring seed germination and growth.

Following the project, everyone returned to the center and ate their lunch while listening to talks by Supt. Snow and Prairie Partner President Susie Johnson. Partners Jan Lindstrom, Char McDade, and Becky Sipple assisted the groups and Supt. Snow.

This project was sponsored by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources state parks in support of a healthy environment. This was the tenth annual **Earth Day in the Parks** event. The event is an initiative of the IDNR to introduce students to environmental stewardship. Our Supt. Snow said that, "We are one of eight parks in Illinois participating, giving students the opportunity to perform meaningful natural resources stewardship activities."

Participating teachers were selected by a random drawing through an application process.



Goose Lake Prairie Partners, Inc

Special Events for 2016

Goose Lake Prairie State Natural Area

31st Annual Cabin Festival	June 4	10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. http://www.gooselakeprairie.org/craggcabinfestival.htm
See authentic pioneer crafts done by the Prairie Partners and Friends as they re-enact in authentic dress. Visit the Cragg Cabin history exhibit and prairie life presentations. Park your car in the visitor center parking area. Walk the trail to the Cabin or ride the wagon. Some demonstrators and vendors will have items for sale. Visit the gift shop and food tent. The event is to celebrate cabin living and life in the 1830's. Location is in and around Cragg Cabin North North-East of the Visitors Center. Sponsor is CPV Three Rivers Energy Center.		
10th Annual Nature Photography Contest	August 7 (Sunday)	Noon – 3:00 p.m. Accept photo entries.
	August 11 (Thursday)	6:00 p.m. Closed contest Judging in Auditorium.
	August 12 (Friday)	Partners Prepare exhibit.
	August 13-14 (Sat-Sun)	Exhibit Days during Center hours.
	August 14 (Sunday)	Exhibit Closes 3:30 p.m. -- 4:00 to 4:30 p.m. Photo pick up.
http://www.gooselakeprairie.org/naturephotocontest.htm		
The Nature Photo contest offers budding photographers a chance to display the best photographs from their many trips to State Parks in Illinois this past year. While we would hope that everyone visits the GLPSNA for their entries, <u>photographs are to be taken in state parks in Illinois</u>. See our website for details. All activities are in the Visitor's Center.		
19th Annual Prairie Day	September 17	10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. http://www.gooselakeprairie.org/prairieday.htm
The Annual Prairie Day celebrates the prairie environment at the Goose Lake Prairie State Natural Area, 5010 N. Jugtown Road, Morris, IL 60450. It is in conjunction with National Prairie Week. Prairie Day began as an annual activity in 1997. It traditionally falls on the Saturday of the third full week in September. Other park amenities are open during the Festival. Visit the butterfly barn, the picnic areas and play yards. Walk the trails and look into the Cragg Cabin. Profits from all events are used for future educational programs. Sponsor is Exelon Generations Dresden Station. Located in and around the Visitor's Center.		
Natural Resource Tour	September 21 - 23	9:00 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Directed by the Grundy County Soil and Water Conservation District; (<i>Project aimed at 5th Grade School Children.</i>) This event is <u>closed to the public</u> . The Prairie Partners are responsible for the Cabin History Presentations to area schoolchildren. Activities happen in and around the Cragg Cabin and the visitor's Center.		
Annual Holiday Open House	November 12	1 p.m. - 3 p.m. http://www.gooselakeprairie.org/pioneerholidayparty.htm
We will be decorating the Christmas tree once again with homemade ornaments. If you would like to contribute to our tree, come join us. Children will make holiday ornaments in the visitor's center. Hot apple cider and homemade cookies will be served. Located in the Visitors Center.		

Desk Service on Weekends Project Begins April 1 and Ends with Holiday Open House Nov 12th

All dates are subject to change. No rain dates will be assigned.

Visit the website: <http://gooselakeprairie.org> & like us on Facebook.

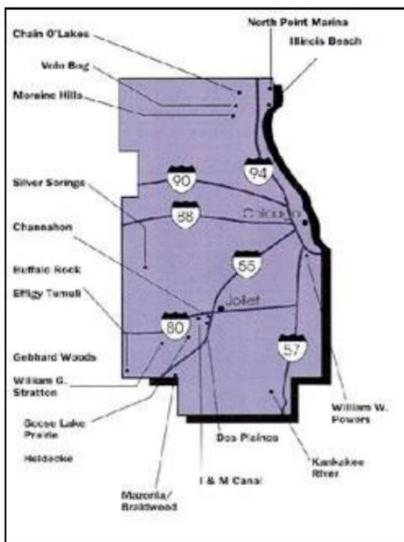
The Tallgrass Journal
 Goose Lake Prairie Partners
 5010 Jugtown Road
 Morris, IL 60450

Phone: 815-942-2899

We are on the Web.
<http://gooselakeprairie.org>



Are you Familiar with
 IDNR Region 2:



Map courtesy of the
 American Park Network

Illinois Department of
 Natural Resources
 Region II Office
 2050 W. Stearns Rd.
 Bartlett, IL 60103
 847/608-3100

Do you use Google Earth?
 Download [DNR Sites Overlay](#)
 for Google Earth.

Take Only Memories.
 Leave Only Footprints.
 Thank You Very Kindly.



- | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| Buffalo Rock State Park & Effigy Tumuli | Illinois and Michigan Canal State Trail |
| Chain O'Lakes State Park | Kankakee River State Park |
| Channahon State Park | Mazonia/Braidwood State Fish & Wildlife Area |
| Des Plaines Fish & Wildlife Area | Moraine Hills State Park |
| Gebhard Woods State Park | North Point Marina |
| Goose Lake Prairie State Natura Area | Silver Springs State Fish & Wildlife Area |
| James "Pate" Philip State Park (Tri-County) | Volo Bog State Natural Area |
| Heidecke Lake State Fish & Wildlife Area | William G Stratton State Park |
| Illinois Beach State Park | William W. Powers State Recreation Area |

Learn More
 About Nature
 In Illinois

 Visit Our
 State Parks.

Spring has arrived and the prairie is buzzing with wildlife, birds and prairie flowers.

We have a great season planned and some terrific sponsors that are supporting our events so we can bring you educational opportunities for you and your families to enjoy.

Please join us for a fun filled, and beautiful season on the Prairie. Looking forward to seeing you soon.

Jackie Martin
 Editor

We welcome hiking, photographers, naturalists, bird watching and pets on a leash. No motorized vehicles on park trails. Please stay on marked trails.