

THE BLAZE

A publication of the Byron Forest Preserve District

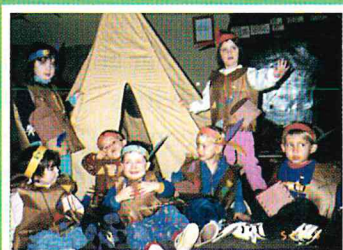
2005 Spring/Summer Issue

Meeting Our Mission...

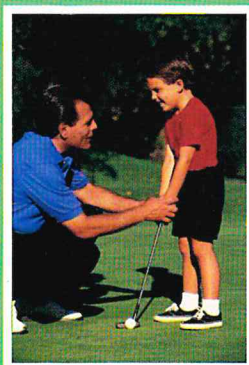
• Preservation



• Education



• Recreation



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VISIT US ONLINE:

byronforestpreserve.com • prairieviewgolf.com • stonequarrypark.com

Director's Message

From Executive Director Edward C. Clift...

Dear Citizens,

Spring is here! Now we all have a chance to enjoy the great outdoors with some warmer weather. Our education and recreation staff has planned many great activities for this spring and summer for you and your families. These programs will relieve that "cabin fever" from the past few months of winter. We again thank Byron Bank for their generosity in sponsoring *The Blaze* publication for the community.

2004 was another good year at your Forest Preserve District. Here are a few highlights:

- Agency finances in the "black"
- Bond paid off for PrairieView (Debt Free)
- Jarrett Prairie Center patrons - 25,256
- Preschool program at maximum enrollment (56)
- 4,000 hours of volunteer service
- Stone Quarry summer attendance of 40,000
- Held line on taxes (0.8% increase)
- Halloween on the Prairie - over 2,000 guests
- Earthkeepers program - 1,391 students
- Observatory - 1,250 visitors
- Field trip attendance - 2,001 students
- Restoration of 492 acres in progress
- Summer Concert Series
- Winter Kids Concert Series

It was a very positive year and we enjoyed serving your needs in 2004. We look forward to seeing you more often in 2005.

The Matt Johnson "Funship" program continues to provide funds for those youth of our community who are in need of financial assistance to participate in various Forest Preserve programs and activities. In 2004, the fund enabled eight local children to participate in one of our recreation programs. Please encourage people to contact me at 234-8535 ext. 201, if they have a need or know of citizens who may have a need for this program.

Our staff has worked hard to offer you all of the programs and special events listed in this issue of *The Blaze* and we hope you will register early for your favorite activity. If you, at any time, need any additional information or to clarify any items, please call me at 234-8535 ext. 201.

Have a great summer and we look forward to seeing you at the Forest Preserve!



Edward C. Clift
Executive Director

General Information

Byron Forest Preserve District
7993 North River Road, P O Box 1075, Byron IL 61010
815-234-8535 • byronforestpreserve.com

Jarrett Prairie Center

New Hours:

Mon., Wed., Fri.	8am-4:30pm
Tues. & Thurs.	8am-8pm
Saturday	9am-4pm
Sunday	1-4pm

Jarrett Prairie Center is closed:

Memorial Day, Independence Day,
Labor Day

Administrative Offices are closed:

Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veteran's Day

Photography Policy

Photographs and videos are periodically taken of participants during programs, special events, trips, or at the parks. Please be aware that these photographs may be used for Forest Preserve District publications and/or local newspapers.

Errors and Adjustments

While we try to be accurate in presenting information in the *Blaze*, some unavoidable errors or changes to the programs, fees, schedules, and other information may occur. The Forest Preserve District apologizes for any inconvenience that results from the necessary adjustments.

Participant Behavior

Participants are expected to exhibit appropriate behavior at all times, as follows:

1. Show respect to all participants and staff.
2. Refrain from using foul or obscene language.
3. Refrain from causing bodily harm to participants or staff.
4. Show respect for facilities, parks, equipment, and supplies.
5. Show respect for plant and animal life.

Board Meetings

The Byron Forest Preserve District Board of Commissioners meetings are held on the third Monday of each month at 6:30 pm at the Jarrett Prairie Center, 7993 North River Road, Byron.

Board of Commissioners

Jeff Huber	President
Dave Flowers	Vice President
Jeff Ludwig	Secretary
Sandy Brooks	Treasurer
Ed Stirling	Commissioner

Administrative Staff

Executive Director	Edward Clift	234-8535 ext. 201
Dep. Director/Restoration Supt.	Todd Tucker	234-8535 ext. 222
Education Superintendent	Richie Wolf	234-8535 ext. 217
Stone Quarry Rec. Park Mgr	Shonnah Flaharty	234-8900
PrairieView Golf Course Mgr	Steve Murray	234-4653 ext. 12
Golf Course Maint. Supt.	Steve Storz	234-8535 ext. 208
<i>The Blaze</i> Editor	Michelle Lipps	234-8535 ext. 224

Other important phone numbers:

Program Registration/Information	234-8535 ext. 200
Facility Rentals/Banquet/Meeting Rooms	234-8535 ext. 200
PrairieView Golf Course	234-4653 (GOLF) ext. 10
Stone Quarry Recreation Park	234-8900
Jarrett Prairie Center Museum	234-8535 ext. 200
Heritage Farm Museum	234-8535 ext. 200
Weiskopf Observatory	234-8535 ext. 216

Please Register Early

By registering early, each program, trip, and event has the best opportunity to meet the minimum number required for that activity. You may register by mail, by phone, or in person. When registering by phone/fax, you must use a credit card to secure your participation in that program.

Payment is due at the time of registration.

Our Mission



**BYRON
FOREST
PRESERVE
DISTRICT**

Mission Statement

Preservation ~ Education ~ Recreation

The mission of the Byron Forest Preserve District is to provide for Preservation of Open Space/Natural Resources, provide Education concerning our Natural Environment/Heritage, provide Recreational Opportunities and Enterprise Operations that are consistent with our Agency goals.

Matt Johnson Funship Scholarship Fundraiser

The Matt Johnson "Funship" Scholarship Fund has provided over 24 families the opportunity to participate in Forest Preserve programs since the Fund was started. Without this fund, these families would not have been able to participate. The Funship Fund is for the youth of our community who are in need of financial assistance to participate in Byron Forest Preserve activities such as golf, batting cages, skateboarding, summer camp, preschool -- just to name a few.

Where: Stone Quarry Park

When: Saturday, July 16

Time: 4 - 8 pm

Cost: \$15/person (includes one round of mini-golf & dinner at Food Factory)

Ages: All

This year, there will be a raffle at the end of the evening. Raffle tickets are \$5 for two and \$10 for five tickets. The prizes for the raffle include golfing at Poplar Creek Country Club for four, one-day admission to Hoffman Estates Seascope Family Aquatic Center for six, admission and skate rental for six at Hoffman Estates Ice Arena, golf for four at PrairieView, and Stone Quarry Recreation Park Coupons for miniature golf, batting cages, and skate park. Great prizes for the whole family to enjoy!

All profits from this fundraiser go to the Matt Johnson "Funship" Scholarship Fund. Call 234-8900 to register for this worthy fundraiser.

If you cannot make it to the event but would like to make a donation, please call Ed Clift at 234-8535 ext. 201.

Matt Johnson Funship Awards Program

In 2003, the Byron Forest Preserve District announced the establishment of the Matt Johnson Funship Awards Program by Dr. Robert and Holly Johnson of Byron. The Funship Awards program is a fund of money the Johnsons have made available for the youth of the Byron community who are in need of financial assistance to participate in the activities of the Byron Forest Preserve District, such as skateboarding, golf, and any other scheduled programs.

Matt, the son of Holly and Robert, was an avid skateboarder and was interested in golf, until his life was cut tragically short at the age of 18 in a car accident in 1997.

The Byron Forest Preserve District Board of Commissioners and staff are grateful for the Johnsons' generosity in the creation of the Matt Johnson Funship Awards Program for the children of the Byron area.

To qualify for a Funship Award, the child must be eligible for the school lunch program and reside in the Byron Forest Preserve District. The Johnsons encourage parents who feel their child would benefit from this Funship Awards Program to contact the Byron Forest Preserve Director Ed Clift at 234-8535 ext. 201 for more information.

Forest Preserve Receives Grant



The Byron Forest Preserve received a grant for \$1,290.40 from the Ogle County Solid Waste Department for the purchase of educational materials that will be used and distributed through programs like preschool, Halloween on the Prairie, and Summer Camp. The materials include stickers, books, t-shirts, and goodie bags for programs.

New Website Look

Our website is currently being re-designed. Please check in on us once in awhile to eventually see the wonderful new features. Thank you for your patience.

www.byronforestpreserve.com

Bald Eagles

Eagles Abound

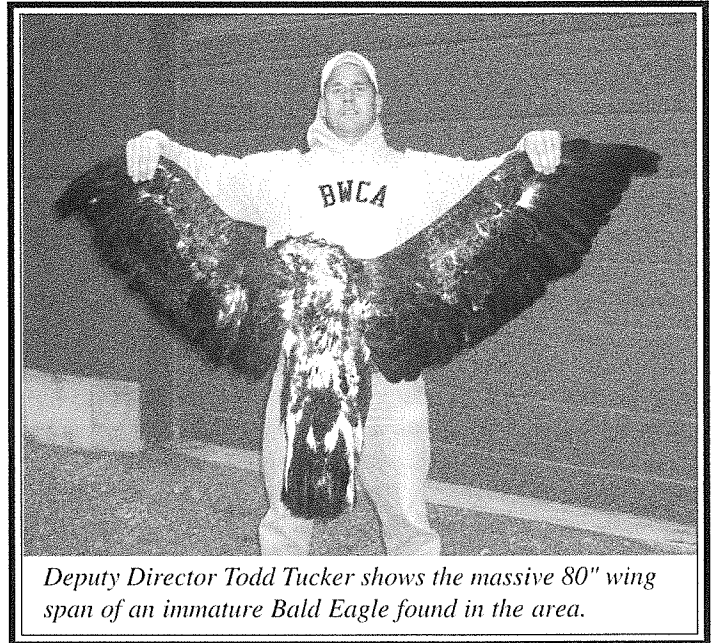
By Caleb Hardy and Russell Brunner

If you have had an eye to the sky lately, you may have witnessed one of the most awe-inspiring sights in nature, a Bald Eagle in flight. The Bald Eagle, our national bird since 1782, is again establishing nests along the Rock River, with one known nest near Byron. Historically, experts estimate that there were as many as 500,000 Bald Eagles nationwide. By the early 1960s, the population had plummeted to fewer than 400 breeding pairs. The enormous decrease in population was caused in part by unregulated shooting and loss of habitat, but mostly as a result of the agricultural insecticide DDT. DDT was developed as the first of the modern insecticides early in World War II. It was dubbed the "miracle" pesticide and saved many lives by combating malaria, typhus, and other insect-borne human diseases. The danger of DDT was that it was toxic to fish and would build up in the fatty tissues of the birds that ate them. The biggest effects were seen in the Bald Eagle populations, which feed mainly on fish. DDT causes eggshell walls to be thinner and more brittle than normal. When an eagle would try to incubate the eggs, they would end up breaking them open. This caused the reproductive rate to crash. Good news for the Bald Eagle came in 1973, when an EPA ban on DDT took effect.

The Bald Eagle can attain a wingspread up to eight feet wide, and may live to be 45 years old...

Now, the Eagles are on the rebound. It is estimated that Illinois has over 3,100 individuals and they winter in at least 27 counties. The best time to see eagles in Ogle County is when the icy Rock River breaks open and the eagles are again able to fish the open waters. This is generally mid February to early March. There is one known pair of Bald Eagles nesting just across the river from Byron. They can often be seen moving up and down the river corridor in our area. Eagles have also been sighted near Lowden State Park north of Oregon.

The Bald Eagle's scientific name is *Haliaeetus leucocephalus*, which means white-headed sea eagle. The adult males and females look alike with the characteristic white head and tail, and yellow eyes, talons, and beaks. The Bald Eagle can attain a wingspread up to eight feet wide, and may live to be 45 years old, but many do not survive the first year. An immature bald eagle is chocolate brown from head to tail, with some scattered white feathers, and does not take on the regal look of the adult until the bird's fifth year. Fish make up most of their diet, but they will also eat waterfowl, some mammals, and carrion. Like most birds of prey, Bald Eagles see extremely well, around eight times better than we do. Bald Eagle adults usually mate for life, and maintain their bond with impressive



Deputy Director Todd Tucker shows the massive 80" wing span of an immature Bald Eagle found in the area.

courtship displays where they lock talons in mid-air and somersault downward before releasing. Both parents sit on their eggs and care for their nestlings. The female lays between one and three eggs in their giant nest called an eyrie or aerie. The nest is made up of sturdy branches and may reach twelve feet high, eight feet wide, and weigh several hundred pounds.

When watching Bald Eagles, it is best to keep a good distance so as not to disturb them. If the Eagle notices you, you are too close. Also, one should never approach an Eagle's nest. The Bald Eagle is a protected species, listed as a federally threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. It is against the law to possess even a feather from one of these beautiful birds. Recently, a dead immature Bald Eagle was found in the area (pictured above). As the Bald Eagle becomes more plentiful in the area, this may happen again in the future. If you or someone you know comes across a dead Bald Eagle, contact the Forest Preserve. We then contact the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service. The Fish and Wildlife Service will come and retrieve the Eagle. All dead Bald Eagles found in the United States are sent to Colorado for an autopsy to determine cause of death and age. After the autopsy, the Eagles are released to Native Americans for ceremonial purposes.

In addition, if you know of a Bald Eagle nest in the area, contact the Forest Preserve at 234-8535 ext. 222 so we can notify IDNR. This is one way that citizens can help to protect this important species. So, the next time you are near the Rock River, keep an eye out for our national symbol, the majestic Bald Eagle. There may be one soaring directly overhead.

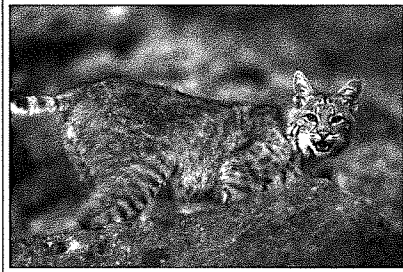
Bobcats & Prairie

Bobcats in Illinois?

By Todd Tucker

Deputy Director & Superintendent of Restoration

Bobcats (*Felis rufus*) are about twice the size of a common house cat. They stand 20-23 inches high at the shoulder and are 30-35 inches in length. They can reach weights of 40 pounds, with the females averaging about one-third smaller than males. They get their name from a short, "bobbed" tail that is about 5-6 inches in length. Small tufts of hair that extend from their ears make them look pointed. The upper body is yellowish-gray to light brown with a sprinkle of black. Their summer coats can have a reddish tinge, as indicated by their species name, *rufus*, which is Latin for red. The belly and inner legs are whitish or yellowish with black spots.



Bobcats prefer large wooded or forested areas. They also like the thick, brushy, hard-to-reach areas for hunting and safety. The bobcat populations follow the large river corridors throughout the state. Yes, there are reported bobcat sightings in Ogle and Lee Counties. Bobcats are most active during the night and the twilight hours of the morning and evening. Like most cats, the bobcat can

swim but will avoid it if possible and are great climbers. Illinois bobcats have a high survival rate once they reach a year old. Since there is no hunting or trapping bobcats, the animal's most common means of death is vehicle accidents.

Bobcats, although very quiet, do make low growls or high-pitched screams. Squalls, howls, meows, and yowls are sometimes heard during the mating season. Common foods include rabbits, squirrels, birds, and rodents. They may prey on stray domestic animals that are small enough to eat such as other cats. The mating season is in the late winter to early spring with litter sizes of 1-6 kittens. The young will be weaned at two months, but will stay with the mother until the following spring.

The bobcat population in Illinois has gone from threatened to thriving. Bobcat sightings in Northern Illinois went from 70 in 1992 to 216 in 1998 according to SIU's Cooperative Wildlife Research Laboratory. The University has been researching the bobcats and radio collaring the animals for the past ten years. The populations have been on the incline since the animal was put on the threatened species list enacted in 1972. Bobcat sightings have increased all over the State of Illinois. All in all, 71 of Illinois' 102 counties had at least 3 reports of bobcat sightings, and 92 counties had at least one report. Bobcats were removed from the state threatened species list in 1998 due to the climbing populations.

Restoring our Natural Areas

By Russell Brunner, Assistant Superintendent of Restoration

The restoration efforts at the Byron Forest Preserve District (BFPD) include prescribed fire, invasive species removal, exotic and aggressive brush control, seed collection and planting, and rare plant management. These restoration efforts are critically important to protecting the high quality natural areas owned by the BFPD and restoring degraded and once farmed fields back to a healthy natural state. Unfortunately, our natural areas here at the BFPD are not pristine. Since settlement in the 1800s, most of our natural areas here have been either fully cultivated for crop production, grazed by livestock, mowed, or tilled. In addition, many plants and animals from Europe and other parts of the world have been brought here and now grow in our natural areas. These exotic and invasive plants out compete our native plants and degrade our natural areas. The main goals of our restoration efforts here at the BFPD are to eliminate exotic and invasive species from our prairies and woodlands, and to increase the abundance and number of native species.

On the Forest Preserve's main site, the Jarrett Prairie, our restoration efforts mostly involve the pulling, mowing, and herbicide spraying of exotic species. In addition, the collecting of seeds from our native prairie plants and planting them in degraded areas is very important. This nation's natural history is centered around

fire, and the reintroduction of fire on a periodic basis is also essential to maintaining and restoring the prairie. The prescribed fires, planned and executed by trained staff, protect the prairie from tree and brush invasion, and serve as an effective tool in exotic species control.

Restoration efforts at our newly acquired Nardi Hills Preserve are currently centered around the removal of exotic and aggressive woody plants from interior fence lines, the dolomite prairie remnants, and the oak savannas. Without fire, exotic and aggressive tree and shrub species were able to invade the prairies and displace our native plants, many of which are now very rare. So, many areas that now may appear to be young woodlands were actually prairies not so long ago. In addition to the removal of these exotic and aggressive woody plants, prescribed burns are again being used on the property and will be an important part of future management there. Large scale prairie plantings are also being done, with 76 acres planted so far. We have plans for 40 more acres this fall. Overall, continued progress is being made in restoring and protecting the natural areas of the BFPD and the rare plants and animals that live here. If you have any questions regarding restoration efforts at the BFPD please contact Todd Tucker or Russell Brunner at 234-8535 ext. 222 or ext. 219.

Special Events

Customer Appreciation Day

This is our way of saying thanks to our customers! Also, a great way to treat Mom for Mother's Day.

Where: Stone Quarry Park
 When: Sunday, May 8
 Time: 11 am - 8 pm - All Day!
 Cost: FREE admission to skate park, batting cages, and miniature golf
 Ages: All
 Min/Max: none
Registration not necessary.

Doggy Dash

Get your running shoes, your dog, and your family and come on out for this non-competitive run/walk. Dogs must be on a leash at all times and controlled by the owner. Various trail distances available.

Where: Stone Quarry Park
 When: Sunday, May 15
 Time: 2 pm
 Cost: FREE
 Ages: All
 Min/Max: 5 / none
Register by May 13.



Kids' Garage Sale

Clean out your closets and get rid of those toys you don't play with anymore. This will be sure to give you some spending cash this summer! Parents are encouraged to assist their kids. Kids must price their own items and make change. Also, this is a great place to look for a few new toys and games!

Where: Stone Quarry Park
 When: Sunday, June 12
 Time: 1-4 pm
 Cost: \$2 per table
 Ages: Kindergarten-8th grade
 Min/Max: 5 / 20
Reserve tables by June 9.



Memorial Day

Weekend Special

Come out and enjoy the long weekend at Stone Quarry Recreation Park. Bring the whole family and visiting relatives for an affordable good time!

Where: Stone Quarry Park
 When: Sat-Mon, May 28, 29, 30
 Time: 11 am - 8 pm - All Day!
 Cost: For every three paid admissions to mini-golf, skate park, or batting cages, get the fourth one free!
 Ages: All
 Min/Max: none
Registration not necessary.

Summer Concerts

Come on out and enjoy a nice summer evening of music.

Where: New Stage at Heritage Farm
 When: Sundays (see dates below)
 Time: 7 pm
 Cost: FREE
 Ages: All

June 12 - Bluegrass Reunion Band
 June 26 - We're All In This Together
 July 17 - Rockford Pipe Band
 July 31 - Country Sonshine
 August 14 - Second City Chorus
 August 28 - Stan Reese Take Four



Father's Day at the Park

Every dad who comes into the park with his family gets free admission to the batting cages, mini-golf, or skate park. Also, since it's Dad's special day, he gets a free ice cream cone!

Where: Stone Quarry Park
 When: Sunday, June 19
 Time: 11 am - 10 pm
 Cost: Dads get in FREE
 Ages: All Dads
 Min/Max: none
Registration not necessary.

Fire Cracker Overnighter

Have you ever played on the playground at 1 am? Or played miniature golf at 3 am? You'll have the opportunity to do just that! Other games and activities will be provided. Don't forget your sleeping bag!

Where: Stone Quarry Park
 When: Fri-Sat, July 1-2
 Time: 7:30 pm - 7:30 am
 Cost: \$15
 Ages: Middle School
 Min/Max: 10 / 30
Register by June 28.

Pooch, Pet, and Pedal Parade

Dress up your pets or your non-motorized vehicle. This cute event is fun for the whole family! There will also be a pet/pedal contest following the parade. Pet owners must be able to control their pet.

Where: Stone Quarry Park
 When: Saturday, August 13
 Time: 11:30 am
 Cost: \$2 per animal or non-motorized vehicle
 Ages: All
 Min/Max: 5 / 30
Register by August 11.



Athletic Activities

Quarter For A Cone!

Attention Youth Baseball/Softball Teams

Cool off at Stone Quarry Recreation Park after your next baseball or softball game. If you wear your uniform and come to the park with your coach after your game, you can get an ice cream cone for 25 cents! Regular price is \$1. This offer is only valid for organized youth baseball/softball teams.



Bring Your Game

Summer Basketball Pickup Games

Need to work on your game for next year's basketball season? Then come out to Stone Quarry Park's outdoor basketball courts. These pickup games are for middle school, high school, and post high school players. Players will call their own games. Then take advantage of the Food Factory concessions between and after the games. See you on the court!

Where: Stone Quarry Park
When: Tuesdays & Thursdays
June 7 - July 28
Time: 6 - 10 pm
Cost: Free
Ages: Middle School and up

Summer Sand Volleyball Pickup Games

Join the co-ed volleyball games at Stone Quarry Park's sand volleyball pit! These pickup games are for middle school, high school, and post high school players. Players officiate their own games. Between and after the games, cool off at the Food Factory with a drink or an ice cream cone.

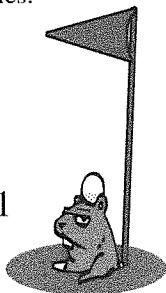
Where: Stone Quarry Park
When: Mondays
June 6 - July 27
Time: 6 - 10 pm
Cost: Free
Ages: Middle School and up

PrairieView Golf Course

Enjoy an 18-hole, championship public golf course with bent grass tees, greens, and fairways. Full service pro shop, great food, practice area, and driving range. Other golfing opportunities:

- Lessons
- Leagues
- Tournaments
- Playdays

See pages 20-21



Program Idea?

Do you have a good idea for a program that you would like Stone Quarry Recreation Park to host?

Call Shonnah
at 234-8900.



Fun & Flex for Seniors

The Byron Forest Preserve is offering classes for senior citizens that are low impact chair exercises lead by a certified instructor from the Rockford YMCA.

For only \$35, you get 12 classes which is two classes per week for six weeks and just look at all the benefits:

- Increases Energy Level
- Reduces Stress
- Slows The Aging Process
- Prevents Heart Disease
- Increases Flexibility
- Helps Prevent Osteoporosis
- Look And Feel Better
- Increases Lean Muscle Mass

Call 234-8535 ext. 200 if you're interested in participating in the next class.

Adult Leagues

Horseshoes

Compete in either the singles league consisting of 4, 6, or 8 players or get a 4-person team. Bring your own shoes or use ours!

Where: Stone Quarry Park
When: Every Wednesday
June 15-August 3
Time: 7 pm
Cost: \$7/single or \$25/team
Ages: Adults
Min/Max: 4 singles or teams /
8 singles or teams

Register by June 3.

Sand Volleyball

This non-competitive recreational league will not be officiated by referees.

Where: Stone Quarry Park
When: Every Wednesday
Aug. 31-Sept. 28
Time: 6 pm
Cost: \$25/team
Ages: Adults
Min/Max: 3 teams / 7 teams
Register by August 24.

Dances & Parties

Middle School Prom

Too young for the high school prom? Stone Quarry's having a prom just for you! Formal attire is optional. Come with a date or a group of friends.

Where: Stone Quarry Park
 When: Friday, May 20
 Time: 7 - 10 pm
 Cost: In advance
 \$3/single & \$5/couple
 At the door
 \$4/single & \$7/couple

Ages: Middle School

Min/Max: none

Registration not necessary.



8th Grade Graduation Dance

Celebrate your graduation and have Stone Quarry's Community Center all to yourselves. This dance is for incoming freshmen only!

Where: Stone Quarry Park
 When: Friday, May 27
 Time: 7 - 10 pm
 Cost: \$3/advance & \$4/door
 Ages: Graduating 8th Graders
 Min/Max: none

Registration not necessary.

PJ Dance Party

Wear your pajamas to this dance and let's have a PJ party.

Where: Stone Quarry Park
 When: Friday, June 24
 Time: 7 - 10 pm
 Cost: \$3/advance & \$4/door
 Ages: Incoming 6th, 7th, & 8th Graders

Min/Max: none

Registration not necessary.

Wacky Olympics

This fun, silly event will be featured for the Kid's Night Out Program.

Where: Stone Quarry Park
 When: Friday, July 22
 Time: 6 - 8 pm
 Cost: \$2
 Ages: Incoming K-5th Graders
 Min/Max: 5 / 30

Register by July 20.

Freedom Fest Dance

Finish the month off right by celebrating our independence! Concessions and arcade will be open.

Where: Stone Quarry Park
 When: Friday, July 29
 Time: 7 - 10 pm
 Cost: \$3/advance & \$4/door
 Ages: Incoming 6th, 7th, & 8th Graders

Min/Max: none

Registration not necessary.

Back To School Bash - 6th-8th

Celebrate going back to school!

Where: Stone Quarry Park
 When: Friday, September 9
 Time: 7 - 10 pm
 Cost: \$3/advance & \$4/door
 Ages: Middle School
 Min/Max: none

Registration not necessary.

Kid's Night Out

Movies, games, and fun on the first and third Friday of each month! The first Friday will feature Friday Night Flicks like *Monsters Inc.* on May 6, *Shrek* on June 3, *Shrek 2* on July 8, and *Finding Nemo* on August 5.

Where: Stone Quarry Park
 When: First & Third Fridays
 May 6
 June 3 & 17
 July 8 & 22
 August 5 & 19

Time: 6 - 8 pm

Cost: \$2 (for popcorn & supervision)

Ages: Incoming K-5 Graders

Min/Max: 5 / 30

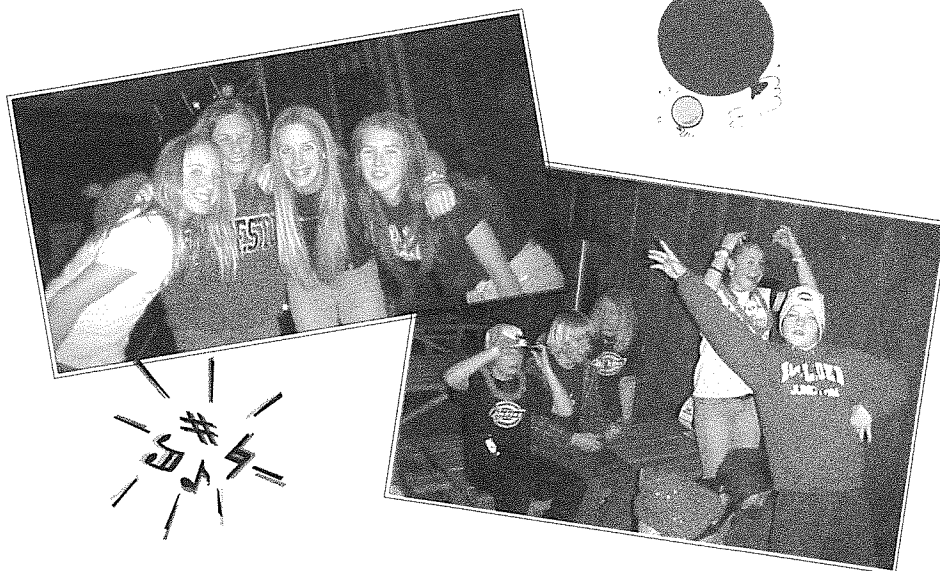
Register by the Wednesday prior to the activity date.

Back to School Party - K-5

Play games and go home with prizes! This event will be featured for the Kid's Night Out Program.

Where: Stone Quarry Park
 When: Friday, August 19
 Time: 6 - 8 pm
 Cost: \$2
 Ages: Incoming K-5th Graders
 Min/Max: 5 / 30

Register by August 17.



Outdoor Adventure

International Migratory Bird Day

We'll visit a National Wildlife Refuge to see live birds of prey and celebrate birds. Transportation included.

Where: Meet at Jarrett Prairie Ctr.
 When: Saturday, May 14
 Time: 10 am - 5 pm
 Cost: \$15 / person
 Ages: 6 and up
 Min/Max: 5 / 14

Register by noon on May 13

Catch and Release Fishing

We'll take you to a private pond for some great fishing. Bring your own equipment. Live bait provided.

Where: Meet at Jarrett Prairie Center
 When: Sundays, June 5 and August 7
 Time: 1 - 4 pm
 Cost: \$5 / person
 Ages: All
 Min/Max: 5 / 14



Register by noon on June 3 and August 5

Morel Hunts

We will travel to a secret location in search of these delicacies.

Where: Meet at Jarrett Prairie Center
 When: Sunday, May 8 and Friday, May 13
 Time: 1 - 4 pm
 Cost: \$5 / person
 Ages: All
 Min/Max: 5 / 14

Register by noon on June 3 and August 5



Apple River Fort Living History

We'll visit this replica fort from the Blackhawk War. See re-enactors depict life from the past. Transportation included.

Where: Meet at Jarrett Prairie Ctr.
 When: Sunday, August 20
 Time: 10 am - 4 pm
 Cost: \$15 / person
 Ages: All
 Min/Max: 5 / 14

Register by noon on August 18

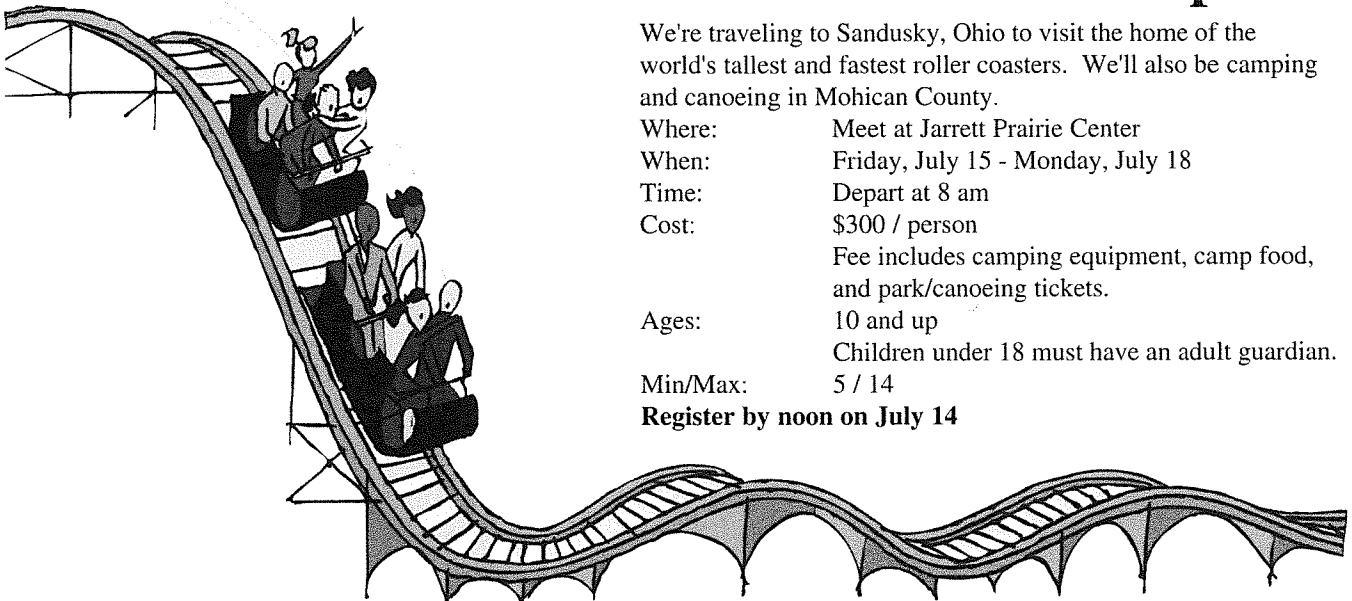
Cedar Point Trip

We're traveling to Sandusky, Ohio to visit the home of the world's tallest and fastest roller coasters. We'll also be camping and canoeing in Mohican County.

Where: Meet at Jarrett Prairie Center
 When: Friday, July 15 - Monday, July 18
 Time: Depart at 8 am
 Cost: \$300 / person
 Fee includes camping equipment, camp food, and park/canoeing tickets.
 Ages: 10 and up
 Children under 18 must have an adult guardian.

Min/Max: 5 / 14

Register by noon on July 14



Boundary Waters Trips

Ely, Minnesota

Boundary Waters Canoe/Fishing Trips to Ely, Minnesota

Learn how to portage (carry) your gear and canoe over rugged yet beautiful terrain from lake to lake. Sleep under the stars and sit around an evening campfire. Not to mention the fishing - wall-eye, small mouth bass, and northern are always one cast away.

This trip is of a moderate experience level. There will be hiking between lakes, carrying canoes, setting up tents, and waters to navigate. Please keep this in mind when arriving at your decision to participate. All times and dates are subject to change.

For more information, call Russell Brunner, Todd Tucker, or Richie Wolf at 234-8535.

- Where:** Meet at Steward Building (Maintenance Area)
7993 North River Road, Byron
- When:** Wednesday, May 25 thru Tuesday, May 31
Wednesday, July 20 thru Tuesday, July 26
Wednesday, Sept. 7 thru Tuesday, Sept. 13
- Cost:** \$400 per person.
\$100 due at registration.
\$300 balance due one week before departure date
Cost includes transportation to and from the boundary waters, canoe, paddles, packs, map, food at the boundary waters, tent, experienced guide, and permits.

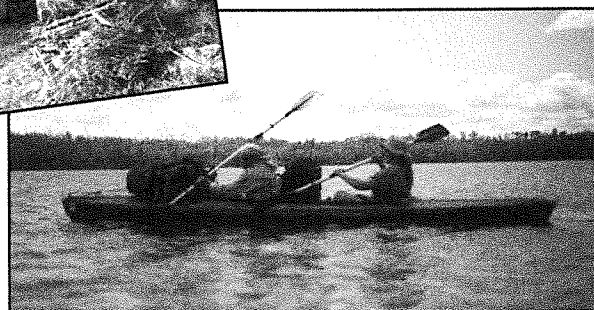
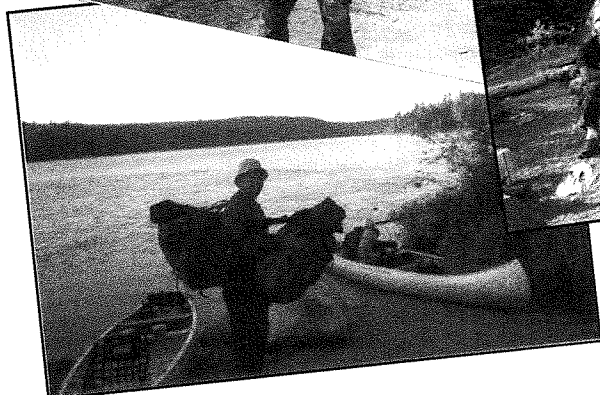
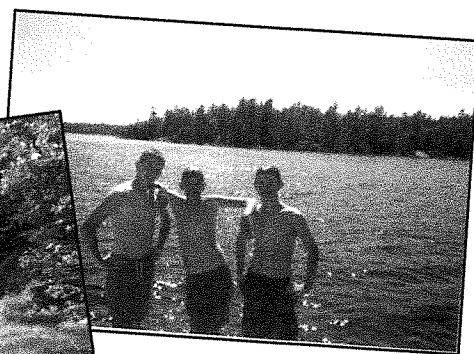
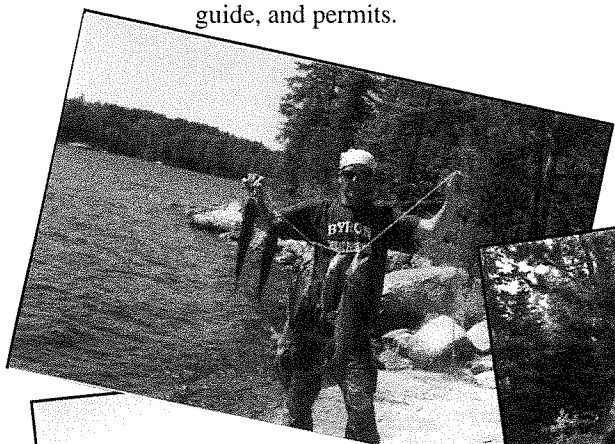
Registration & payments:

- May trip:** May 11 - \$100 due
May 18 - \$300 balance due
- July trip:** July 6 - \$100 due
July 13 - \$300 balance due
- September trip:** August 24 - \$100 due
August 31 - \$300 balance due

Min/Max: 4 / 8

Guides: Todd Tucker, Russell Brunner, Richie Wolf
All are CPR certified and trained in Wilderness First Aid by the Wilderness Medical Association

Itinerary: May 23, July 13, & September 2
Required pre-trip meeting at 7 pm at the Jarrett Prairie Center.
May 25, July 20, & September 7
Leave Byron Forest Preserve District at 7 am.
Arrive at Boundary Waters late evening.
May 26, July 21, & September 8
Canoes in the water by 9 am.
May 30/31, July 25/26, & September 12/13
Canoes out of water, return trip home.
Arrive at Forest Preserve late evening.



Outdoor Adventure

Ogle County Bird Count

We'll count the birds then report them to Ogle County.

Where: Meet at the Jarrett Prairie Center
 When: Saturday, May 21
 Time: 8 am - ?
 Cost: FREE
 Ages: 6 and up
 Min/Max: 5 / none

Register by Noon on May 20



Butterfly Count

We will count and learn to identify the butterflies in this area.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
 When: Saturday, July 9
 Time: 9 - 11 am
 Cost: Free
 Ages: All
 Min/Max: 5 / none

Register by noon on July 8

Wildflower Walkabout

Take an easy hike with an experienced guide. Learn the annual flowers that beautify the prairie and woodlands.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
 When: Thursday, June 9
 Time: 6 pm
 Cost: FREE
 Ages: All
 Min/Max: 5 / none

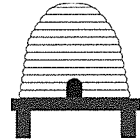
Register by Noon on June 8



Beekeeping Workshops

Learn techniques and tools of the trade. Different topics will be covered each month.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
 When: Sundays, dates and topics listed below
 Time: 2-4pm
 Cost: \$2/person
 Ages: All
 Min/Max: 5 / 30



***May 15** - Knowing when to put on supers and swarm prevention.

***June 12** - Honey extraction how-tos.

July 17 - Marketing strategies & health department updates.

***August 14** - Checking for mites and overall health of bee colonies.

***Denotes outdoor workshops, weather permitting. Bring your bee suits!**

Night Hike

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
 When: Thursday, June 9
 Time: 8 pm
 Cost: \$2 / person
 Ages: Families
 Min/Max: 5 / none

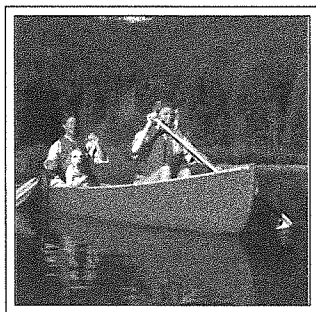
Register by noon on June 8

Canoeing the Rock

All equipment provided for this fun program.

Where: Parking lot across from Heritage Farm
 When: Saturdays, June 25, July 30, and August 27
 Time: 3 - 5 pm
 Cost: \$20 / canoe
 Ages: All
 Min/Max: 2 canoes / 6 canoes

Register by noon on June 24, July 29, & August 26



Evening Campfire

Learn how to have fun in the sunset with stories, games, and, of course, marshmallows!

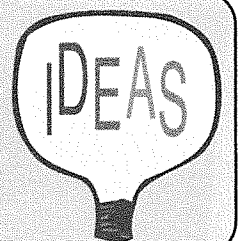
Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
 When: Fridays, June 5 and August 5
 Time: 5 - 7 pm
 Cost: \$2 / person
 Ages: All
 Min/Max: 5 / none

Register by noon on June 3 and August 5

Program Idea?

Do you have a good idea for a program that you would like the Forest Preserve to host?

Call Richie at 234-8535 ext. 217 with your ideas!



**Byron Community Revitalization's
Public Auction Fundraiser
Sunday, May 1, 2005**

Sponsored by:

**Colloton's
Auction Service**

Donations or Consignments will be taken starting April 12, 2005.
This auction will be held at Byron Forest Preserve Stone Quarry
Park.

Proceeds from the Auction will be used for Community Based
Improvements.

We will be taking: Household items, Farm Equipment, Tools,
Running Cars/Trucks, Antiques and anything else you would like
auctioned. Please no couches or clothes.

For information or questions, please contact:
Colloton's Auction Service @ 234-8751 or
Ron Millard, BCR Director @ 234-8709, ext. 242
For drop off call: 234-8535, ext. 222



**Auctioneer:
Loren Colloton
IL Lic #041000923**

**BYRON COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION
ANNUAL GOLF PLAYDAY**

DATE: Monday, May 16, 2005
LOCATION: PrairieView Golf Course
CHECK IN TIME: 11:15 am to 12:15 pm
TEE TIME: 12:30 pm Shotgun Start
SOCIAL TIME: 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm
STEAK DINNER: 6:00 pm
GOLF FORMAT: Best Ball Scramble



COST INCLUDES: Golf and Cart Fees, Lunch, and Steak Dinner
\$70.00/Golfer; \$250.00/Foursome Steak Dinner Only: \$20.00

Golf Registration Form (Please return by May 4, 2005)

Name: _____ Company Name: _____

Phone: _____ Address: _____

My Foursome is: 1. _____ 2. _____

3. _____ 4. _____

Dinner Only: _____

Sponsorship Form

If you are interested in being a sponsor of this event, please mark the items you would like to sponsor, and return this form to Byron Community Revitalization, Inc.

____ Tee or Green Sponsor \$75.00 ____ Hole Sponsor \$130.00 ____ Cash Donation

____ I would prefer to sponsor hole number: _____

____ I would be willing to donate the following prize(s): _____

____ I would be willing to donate items for gift bags for approx. 100 golfers _____

____ I will have a representative at the hole.

Please print your Company's name as you would like it to appear:

Address: _____ Phone: _____

Authorized Signature: _____

Please return this form by May 4, 2005, with payment to: Byron Community Revitalization, Inc.,
P.O. Box 397, Byron, IL. For more information, please call Clay Lindsey at (815)732-2101 or
Ron Millard at (815)234-8709 ext. 242.



Preschool Programs

13

Adventure Club

Summer Camp for Preschool Age Children

Looking for a fun summer learning experience for your preschool child? Adventure Club will offer four two-week sessions, each with a different theme. Choose one, two, or all four sessions for your 3- to 5-year-old child to explore nature and other topics that naturally appeal to that age group. We will have time for crafts, playing games and enjoying stories each day as well as spending time enjoying the outdoors here at the Byron Forest Preserve.

Adventure Club will meet two days per week for two hours and both morning and afternoon sessions are available at a cost of \$32 per session. Morning sessions meet from 9-11am and afternoon sessions are held from 1-3pm. You may choose from classes held on Monday and Wednesday or those held on Tuesday and Thursday. There is a minimum of six children and a maximum of 14 children per session.

June 13-June 23 - Author, Author!

We will spend one day each learning about four favorite children's authors, reading some of their stories, and doing crafts based on their books. Authors included will be Kevin Henkes (the "Lilly" and "Chrysanthemum" books), Leo Lionni, Paulette Bourgeois (the "Franklin" books) and Dr. Seuss.

June 27-July 7

Life in the Rainforest

No class Mon. July 4

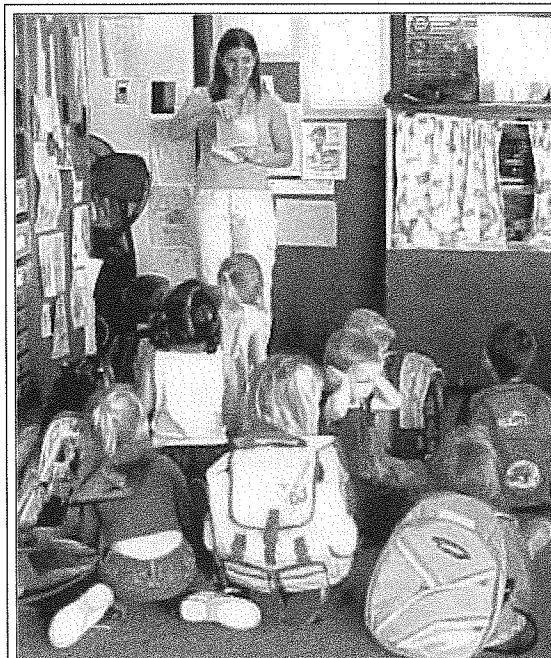
We will discover what a rainforest is, which animals live there, which plants are found there, and why rainforests are important for our entire planet.

July 11-July 21 - The Five Senses

We will learn what our five senses are and which body parts are used for each one. We will do a lot of touching, smelling, tasting, seeing and listening to discover how our senses help us learn about our world.

July 25-Aug. 4 - Prairie Life

We will learn what it was like here in Illinois in the 1800s. We will learn which animals lived here (some still do!), what native prairie plants grow here at the Forest Preserve, and how life on the prairie changed as settlers arrived.



Students shout the numbers as Mrs. Joni shows the flashcards. As you can see, it was a little too loud for one student.

Preschool

Get kids ready for kindergarten by enrolling them in our structured preschool classes. Afternoon classes are still available. All morning classes are full with waiting lists. Our program follows the Byron School District calendar year.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center

When: Mon/Wed or
Tues/Thurs

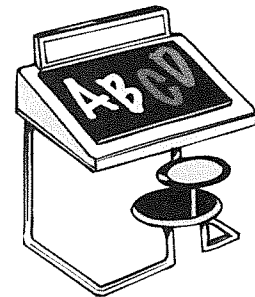
Time: 9-11:30am or 1-3:30 pm

Cost: \$58/month-Mon/Wed
\$60/month-Tues/Thurs

Ages: 3-5 years

Min/Max: 6 / 14

Register by August 31.



Mom's Day Out

Preschool parents can enjoy a couple hours to themselves on Fridays this summer. This recreational day involves crafts, stories, and outdoor adventure for 2-5 year olds.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
When: Fridays in
May, June, & August

Time: 9-11:30am or
1-3:30pm

Cost: \$15 for two classes
\$30 for the month

Ages: 2-5 years old

Min/Max: 3 / 14

Register by Noon May 5, June 2, &
August 4.

Did you know...?

Every ton of recycled office paper saves 380 gallons of oil.

Summer Day Camp

Summer Fun...

Do you want to have a great summer?

Then register for summer camp now by calling 234-8535 ext. 200! There will be lots of fun activities every day including field trips, swimming, basketball, volleyball, mini-putt, skate park, batting cages, arcade, nature-oriented games and activities, golfing, and much more! There's something for everyone, ages 6-12 years old!

All sessions are from 9am-4pm. Latchkey care is available:
7-9am - \$10 per week & 4-6pm - \$10 per week.

Session 1 June 13-24 \$150*

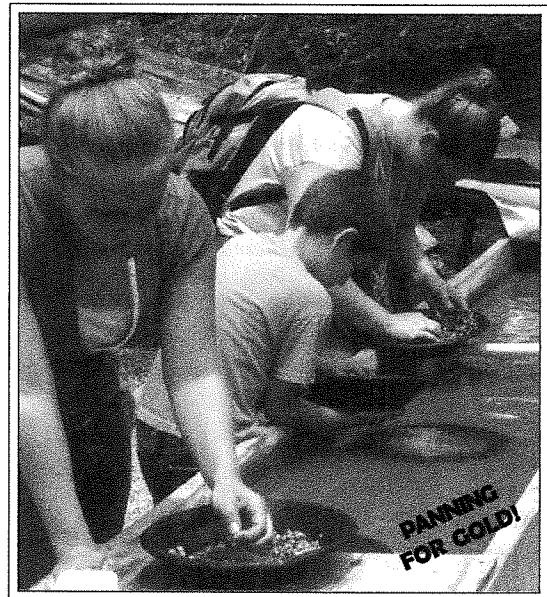
Session 2 June 27-July 8 \$135
(No camp on July 4th.)

Session 3 July 11-22 \$150

Session 4 July 25-August 5 \$150

Session 5 August 8 - 19 \$150*

*These sessions will have an optional campout for an additional \$15 fee. Tents, dinner, snacks, breakfast, and supervision included.



Mondays - Stone Quarry Recreation Park - free use of the skate park and other facilities in the morning and crafts, games, and outdoor activities in the afternoon.

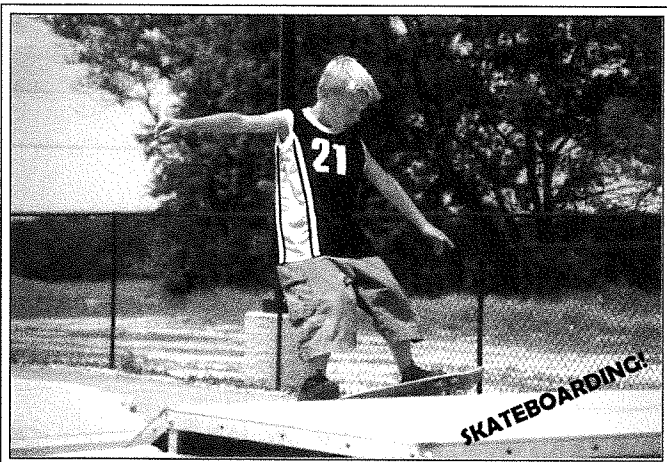
Tuesdays - Lake Louise in Byron.

Wednesdays - We will take a bus to various parks in Rockford to play and eat lunch, then go on to see an Imagination Station children's performance.

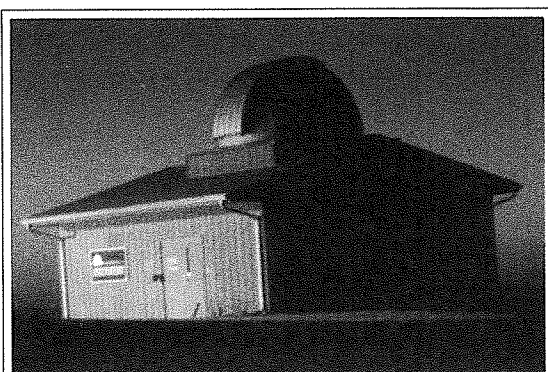
Thursdays - We will spend the day at the Byron Forest Preserve's Jarrett Prairie Center for nature hikes and large group games. We will also visit PrairieView Golf Course's driving range.

Fridays - Field Trips will include Donley's Wild West Town, Blackberry Farm, Lena Park District's Water Park, Sportscore One Complex, and other exciting destinations.

The cost per session includes a snack and drink each day, entrance fee to Lake Louise, use of Stone Quarry Recreation Park, and all field trip fees. Lunch is not included. Sibling discounts and weekly rates available, please inquire. Call 234-8535 ext. 200 for more information.



Observatory, Etc.



Weiskopf Observatory
Free public viewing every Tuesday and Saturday.
Call 234-8535 ext. 216 for viewing conditions.

Family Night

Enjoy a campfire with hot dogs and s'mores. Storytelling and stargazing will also be part of the evening.

Where: Weiskopf Observatory

When: Sunday, June 19

Time: 8 - 9:30 pm

Cost: \$3/person

Ages: All

Min/Max: 5 / none

Register by Noon on June 17

Space Explorers

Join us as we complete hands on activities and projects. We'll also take a "planet hike".

Where: Weiskopf Observatory

When: Saturday, July 30

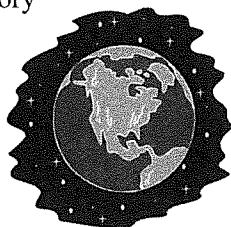
Time: 10 am - Noon

Cost: \$2/person

Ages: 6 and up

Min/Max: 5 / none

Register by Noon on July 29



Wanted: Summer Camp Staff

The Education Department of the Byron Forest Preserve is hiring summer camp staff for this summer. The positions are Monday-Friday, 40 hours per week, June-August. Applicants must be at least 18 years old and like working with children. If you are interested, please stop by to fill out an application or call Richie at 234-8535 ext. 217

There are other employment opportunities at the Byron Forest Preserve, PrairieView Golf Course, and Stone Quarry Recreation Park. Stop by for an application today!

Field Trips

to the Natural History Museum, Weiskopf Observatory, & Heritage Farm Museum

Scouts, schools, and senior groups are welcome to the Forest Preserve for an educational and fun tour of our great museums. Staff welcome and give tours for the low cost of \$1.50 per person with a minimum of \$30 per group. We offer many sessions to choose from including prairie ecology, animal encounter, and group dynamics. Call 234-8535 x217 to schedule your next outing with us.

Birthday Parties

Jarrett Prairie Center

Themes: Native Americans, Sky's the Limit, Goodness Snakes, Insects of Our World, Where Do Butterflies Go When It Rains? Call 234-8535 x217 to schedule your party.

Deluxe Party - \$60 (add'l child-\$5 each)

(program, cake, ice cream, tableware for 12, & banner)

Standard Party - \$30 (add'l child-\$5 each)

(program only for 12)

Stone Quarry Recreation Park

also offers birthday parties.

For details and costs, please call 234-8900.

Last Summer Fling

We'll count the Perseid Meteors as they fall through the night sky.

Where: Weiskopf Observatory

When: Friday, August 12

Time: 8:30 - 10 pm

Cost: Free

Ages: All

Min/Max: 5 / none

Register by Noon on August 12

Jarrett Prairie Center Gift Shop

75% Off Sale!

Awesome gift ideas! Check out the great sale items in the gift shop. Most items are 75% off. There are hummingbird feeders, birdhouses, Christmas cards, and jewelry, to name a few! Of course, there are also books for nature lovers, bird watchers, and star gazers!

We are located at 7993 N. River Rd., Byron. For more info, call 234-8535 ext. 200. Stop by and check us out! We look forward to seeing you soon!

Facilities

Jarrett Prairie Center

Habitat exhibits, dioramas, audio interpretation, and view of the prairie. Wetland, woodlands, and prairie environments are displayed pre-European settlement. You may also get a souvenir in our gift shop.

Where: 7993 N. River Rd., Byron

Time: Mon, Wed, & Fri-8am-4:30pm

When: Open Every Day

Tues & Thurs-8am-8pm

Cost: Free

Sat-9am-4pm & Sun-1-4pm

Weiskopf Observatory

View the stars and planets through our 11" Celestron telescope. Experienced staff will guide you through the skies. Call for viewing conditions at 234-8535, ext. 216. Closed if cloudy.

Where: 7993 N. River Rd., Byron

Time: Dark until 3 hours after dark

When: Tuesdays & Saturdays

Cost: Free

Heritage Farm Museum

Enjoy a guided tour of this 1800s farm and museum with audio interpretation. Includes a grout house, corn crib, wind mill, and more. Open April 1-October 31, Mon-Fri-8am-4:30pm, Sat-10am-6pm, & Sun-2-6pm. A small fee may charged for guided tours. Closed on holidays. Home of the Annual Heritage Days Festival, to be held on September 10, 2005. Call 234-8535 ext. 217 for more information.

Banquet Facilities

The Jarrett Prairie Center, PrairieView Golf Course, and Stone Quarry Recreation Park have banquet facilities available at very reasonable rates, bar service is also available at the Jarrett Prairie Center and PrairieView Golf Course. The rooms could accommodate up to 250 people.

Picnic shelters are located near the Jarrett Prairie Center and at Stone Quarry Recreation Park. The shelters are equipped with restrooms, electricity, water, and grills. The North Shelter has a playground and the South Shelter has a fireplace. Call 234-8535 x200 to schedule your next outing with us.

Recycling Station

The Byron Forest Preserve District has a mission to provide for preservation of natural resources, to provide education about natural and cultural heritage, and to provide recreation. The District developed a recycling station and is educating hundreds of students on recycling through the International Earthkeepers program. Materials from the recycling station are collected and sorted twice per month, producing up to three tons of recyclable material like cardboard, glass, newspaper, plastic, and metals. The cost of hauling is covered through a cooperative agreement with the Ogle County Solid Waste Management Department.

The station accepts glass, aluminum, plastic #1-5 & #7, tin, steel, mixed paper, cardboard, and newspaper. The bin is located in the maintenance parking lot at 7993 N. River Rd. in Byron. The station is open during daylight hours seven days per week. Please recycle responsibly by leaving the area cleaner than when you arrived.

Stone Quarry Recreation Park

Summer Hours (June 4-August 21)

Open Daily - 11 am - 10 pm

July 4th - 11 am - 6 pm

Park may close early due to weather conditions or low attendance.

Fees

Playground	FREE
Water Spray Area	FREE
Sand Volleyball Pit	FREE
Basketball Courts	FREE
Horseshoe Pits	FREE
Shelter Rental	\$25
Miniature Golf	\$4/person
(Second round ½ price)	
Skate Park	\$3/person
Arcade Games	\$1/4 tokens
Batting Cages	
\$1/1 token = 15 balls	
\$5/7 tokens = 105 balls	

(Hourly rates available for teams)

Visit us at

6845 German Church Road, Byron
(across from PrairieView Golf Course)
www.stonequarrypark.com

It's Party Time!

Is your family, organization, or corporation looking for an exciting place to hold their next corporate or social gathering? Look no further, Stone Quarry is the place for your next event. Perfect for all ages! Discounts available!!!

For room availability and reservations, please stop by 6845 German Church Road, Byron or call 234-8900.

Calendar of Events

May

3, 7, 10, 14, 17, 21, 24, 28, 31
 3, 10, 17, 24, 31
 4, 11, 18, 25
 6
 6, 13, 20, 27
 8
 8, 13
 13
 14
 15
 15
 20
 21
 25-31
 27
 28-30

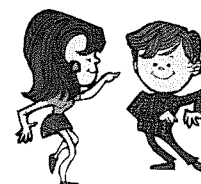
Public Skyviewing - Free - Dark-three hours after dark - Weiskopf Observatory
 Tuesday Morning Volunteers - 8:30-11:30 am - JPC
 Wednesday Morning Volunteers - 9-11 am - Maintenance Woodshop
 Kid's Night Out - K-5th grade - \$2 - 6-8pm - SQ
 Mom's Day Out - 2-5 year olds - \$15/two classes or \$30/month - 9-11:30am or 1-3:30pm - JPC
 Customer Appreciation Day - Free Admission - 11am-8pm - SQ
 Morel Hunts - \$5/person - 1-4pm - JPC
 Creative Memories - National Scrapbook Day - \$12/person includes dinner - 4-11pm - JPC
 International Migratory Bird Day Trip - \$15/person - 10am-5pm - JPC
 Doggy Dash - Free - 2pm - SQ
 Beekeeping Workshop - \$2 - 2-4pm - JPC
 Middle School Prom - 6th-8th Grade - \$3/single or \$5/couple - 7-10pm - SQ
 Ogle County Bird Count - Free - 8am - JPC
 Boundary Waters Trip to Ely, MN - \$400/person - JPC
 8th Grade Graduation Dance - \$3 - 7-10pm - SQ
 Memorial Day Weekend Special - Buy 3 Admissions, Get 1 Free - 11am-8pm - SQ



June

1, 8, 15, 22, 29
 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
 3
 3, 10, 17, 24
 3, 17
 4
 4, 7, 11, 14, 18, 21, 25, 28
 5
 5
 6, 13, 20, 27
 7, 9, 14, 16, 21, 23, 28, 30
 7, 14, 21, 28
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 13-23
 13-24
 15
 16
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 19
 19
 23
 24
 25
 26
 27-July 7
 27-July 8

Remote Control Car Racing Club - \$2/day or \$20/pass - 11 am-1 pm - SQ
 Wednesday Morning Volunteers - 9-11 am - Maintenance Woodshop
 Creative Memories - Relay for Life receives all profit - \$12/person includes dinner - 4-11pm - JPC
 Mom's Day Out - 2-5 year olds - \$15/two classes or \$30/month - 9-11:30am or 1-3:30pm - JPC
 Kid's Night Out - K-5th Grade - \$2 - 6-8pm - SQ
 Stone Quarry Recreation Park - Summer Hours Begin
 Public Skyviewing - Free - Dark-three hours after dark - Weiskopf Observatory
 Catch & Release Fishing - \$5/person - 1-4pm - JPC
 Evening Campfire - \$2/person - 5-7pm - JPC
 Summer Sand Volleyball Pickup Games - 6th Grade and up - 6-10pm - SQ
 Summer Basketball Pickup Games - 6th Grade and up - 6-10pm - SQ
 Tuesday Morning Volunteers - 8:30-11:30 am - JPC
 Dew League Begins - PVGC
 Wildflower Walkabout - Free - 6pm - JPC
 Night Hike - \$2/person - 8pm - JPC
 Kid's Garage Sale - \$2/table - 1-4 pm - SQ
 Beekeeping Workshop - \$2/person - 2-4pm - JPC
 Summer Concert - Bluegrass Reunion Band - 7 pm - New Stage at Heritage Farm
 Adventure Club - Author, Author! - 2-5 year olds - \$32/session - 9-11am or 1-3pm - JPC
 Summer Day Camp - 6-12 year olds - \$150/session - 9am-4pm - SQ
 Adult Horseshoe League Begins - \$7/single or \$25/team - 7pm - SQ
 IJGA Junior Open - PVGC
 Junior Golf Fundraiser - PVGC
 Father's Day at the Park - Dads get in Free - 11 am-10 pm - SQ
 Family Night - \$3/person - 8-9:30pm - Weiskopf Observatory
 Creative Memories - A Summer's Eve Workshop - \$12/person includes dinner - 4-11pm - JPC
 PJ Dance Party - 6th-8th Grade - \$3/person - 7-10pm - SQ
 Canoeing the Rock - \$20/canoe - 3-5pm - Parking lot across from Heritage Farm
 Summer Concert - We're All In This Together - 7pm - New Stage at Heritage Farm
 Adventure Club - Life in the Rainforest - 2-5 year olds - \$32/session - 9-11am or 1-3pm - JPC
 Summer Day Camp - 6-12 year olds - \$135/session - 9am-4pm - SQ



Calendar of Events

July

1-2	Firecracker Overnighter - 6th-8th Grade - \$15 - 7:30pm-7:30am - SQ
2, 5, 9, 12, 16, 19, 23, 26, 30	Public Skyviewing - Free - Dark-three hours after dark - Weiskopf Observatory
5, 7, 12, 14, 19, 21, 26, 28	Summer Basketball Pickup Games - 6th Grade and up - 6-10pm - SQ
5, 12, 19, 26	Tuesday Morning Volunteers - 8:30-11:30 am - JPC
5-6	Illinois PGA Pro Junior Tournament - PVGC
6, 13, 20, 27	Wednesday Morning Volunteers - 9-11 am - Maintenance Woodshop
6, 13, 20, 27	Remote Control Car Racing Club - \$2/day or \$20/pass - 11am-1pm - SQ
8, 22	Kid's Night Out - K-5th Grade - \$2 - 6-8pm - SQ
9	Butterfly Count - 9-11am - JPC
11, 18, 25	Summer Sand Volleyball Pickup Games - 6th Grade and up - 6-10pm - SQ
11-21	Adventure Club - The Five Senses - 2-5 year olds - \$32/session - 9-11am or 1-3pm - JPC
11-22	Summer Day Camp - 6-12 year olds - \$150/session - 9am-4pm - SQ
15-18	Cedar Point Trip to Sandusky, Ohio - \$300/person - Ages 10 and up - JPC
17	Beekeeping Workshop - \$2/person - 2-4pm - JPC
17	Summer Concert - Rockford Pipe Band - 7 pm - New Stage at Heritage Farm
20-26	Boundary Waters Trip to Ely, MN - \$400/person - JPC
22	Creative Memories - Firecracker Crop - \$12/person includes dinner - 4-11pm - JPC
22	Wacky Olympics - K-5th Grade - \$2 - 6-8pm - SQ
23	Parent/Junior Golf Tournament - PVGC
25-Aug. 4	Adventure Club - Prairie Life - 2-5 year olds - \$32/session - 9-11am or 1-3pm - JPC
25-Aug. 5	Summer Day Camp - 6-12 year olds - \$150/session - 9am-4pm - SQ
28	Junior Club Championship & Ogle County Junior Championship - PVGC
29	Freedom Fest Dance - 6th-8th Grade - \$3/advance & \$4/door - 7-10pm - SQ
30	Canoeing the Rock - \$20/canoe - 3-5pm - Parking lot across from Heritage Farm
30	Space Explorers - Ages 6 and up - 10am-Noon - \$2/person - Weiskopf Observatory
31	Summer Concert - Country Sonshine - 7 pm - New Stage at Heritage Farm



August

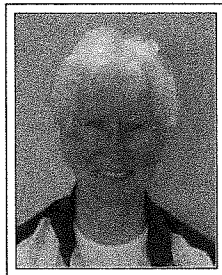
2, 6, 9, 13, 16, 20, 23, 27, 30	Public Skyviewing - Free - Dark-three hours after dark - Weiskopf Observatory
2, 9, 16, 23, 30	Tuesday Morning Volunteers - 8:30-11:30 am - JPC
3, 10, 17, 24, 31	Wednesday Morning Volunteers - 9-11 am - Maintenance Woodshop
3, 10, 17, 24, 31	Remote Control Car Racing Club - \$2/day or \$20/pass - 11am-1pm - SQ
5, 12, 19, 26	Mom's Day Out - 2-5 year olds - \$15/two classes or \$30/month - 9-11:30am or 1-3:30pm - JPC
5, 19	Kid's Night Out - K-5th Grade - \$2 - 6-8pm - SQ
5	Evening Campfire - \$2/person - 5-7pm - JPC
7	Catch & Release Fishing - \$5/person - 1-4pm - JPC
7	Stewart Cup Matches - PVGC
8-19	Summer Day Camp - 6-12 year olds - \$150/session - 9am-4pm - SQ
12	Last Summer Fling - 8:30-10pm - Weiskopf Observatory
13	Pooch, Pet, and Pedal Parade - \$2/animal or non-motorized vehicle - 11:30am - SQ
14	Beekeeping Workshop - \$2/person - 2-4pm - JPC
14	Summer Concert - Second City Chorus - 7pm - New Stage at Heritage Farm
19	Back to School Party - K-5th Grade - \$2/person - 6-8pm - SQ
19	Creative Memories - Back to School Crop - \$12/person includes dinner - 4-11pm - JPC
20	Apple River Fort Living History Trip - \$15/person - 10am-4pm - JPC
27	Canoeing the Rock - \$20/canoe - 3-5pm - Parking lot across from Heritage Farm
28	Summer Concert - Stan Reese Take Four - 7pm - New Stage at Heritage Farm
31	Creative Memories - Hump Day Crop - \$12/person includes dinner - 4-11pm - JPC
31-Sept. 28	Adult Sand Volleyball League - \$25/team - 6pm - SQ



Meet Our Volunteers



Ethel DeVore
Byron Forest Preserve Volunteer



Dorothy "Dottie" Whidby
Byron Forest Preserve Volunteer



Dana Jonakin
Byron Forest Preserve Volunteer

I grew up around Kings, Illinois. My family moved every two years. I have seven brothers and sisters. I graduated from Stillman Valley High School. I married Raymond DeVore. We had three children: Sandra, Raymond, and Deborah. I have seven grandchildren and five great grandchildren. I moved to Byron 15 years ago from Monroe Center. I have volunteered for several years at the Byron Forest Preserve, Neighbors Nursing Home, and the Yellow Bird Center, Oregon. I enjoy it very much!

I was born and raised in Tennessee. I graduated high school in 1948. I married Morris Whidby in 1948. We moved to Illinois in 1950 with our 6-month old daughter, Barbara. We had seven children. We moved to Byron 28 years ago. I have ten grandchildren and eight great grandchildren. I have volunteered for many years at the Forest Preserve. I also volunteer at Neighbors Nursing Home. I enjoy going on the gambling boat trips with the seniors and I hope to win a million!

Dana is a GRITS, "Girl Raised In The South". She was born and raised in the Atlanta area. Married her husband, Joe, in 1970. They moved to Byron in 1978. They adopted twin daughters, Sarah and Rachel, in December of 1980. Sarah graduated from Byron High School in 1997. Rachel was killed in a car accident in February, 1994. The whole family was very involved in volunteering at the Forest Preserve for several years at the time of Rachel's death. There is a memorial plaque in the Jarrett Prairie Center Museum in honor of Rachel. Dana and Joe donated a water color painting of the prairie, which is hanging in the Jarrett Prairie Center's Prairie View Room.

Dana began volunteering on Tuesday mornings at the Jarrett Prairie Center in June of 1994. She has also volunteered at Swedish American Hospital in Rockford for the past 11 years, delivering cards and flowers to the patients.

She says she was very fortunate to have been a stay-at-home mom and housewife. She likes living in a small town, but is not fond of the winters here. She loves to read, feed the birds and travel.



Pictured here, left to right: Linda Abramowicz, Volunteer Coordinator; Marjorie Schurmans, Ethel DeVore, and Dottie Whidby.

PrairieView Golf Course

PrairieView Golf Leagues

Senior Men's League

When: Wednesday Mornings
 Time: 8am (9am in Spring & Fall)
 Begins: April 27
 Cost: \$10 for the required 9-hole handicap
 \$1 or \$2 per week for weekly game
 Format: Individual play (some weeks will include team play, various games)

Ladies League

When: Tuesday Mornings and Evenings
 Time: 9am - 4:30pm
 Begins: Mid-April
 Cost: \$1 per week for weekly game
 Format: Individual play

Dew League

When: Wednesday Mornings
 Time: 6am
 Begins: June 8
 Cost: \$25 per person (includes 9-hole handicap and prize money)
 Format: 2-person teams

Wednesday Men's League

When: Wednesday Evenings
 Time: 5:30pm
 Begins: Mid-May
 Cost: \$60 per person (includes 9-hole handicap, year-end prize money)
 Format: 2-person teams

Spanky's League

When: Thursday Evenings
 Time: 4:30pm
 Begins: Late May or Early June
 Cost: For sign up, call Spanky's - 234-2962
 Format: Call Spanky's

If you would like more information regarding any of the golf leagues offered at PrairieView or would like to register for a league, please stop by the clubhouse or call 234-4653.

PrairieView Practice Center

Practice makes perfect. Spring is a perfect time to improve your golf game. The PrairieView Practice Center is the best practice facility in Ogle County and offers golfers a chance to practice all parts of their game. The practice facility is open 7 days a week sun-up to sun-down, closed only on Tuesday mornings until 10am for maintenance. Features of the facility include:

- Greens for putting and chipping
- Range cards at up to 25% off regular price
- Green side and fairway bunkers
- Group and private lessons
- Mat and grass hitting areas

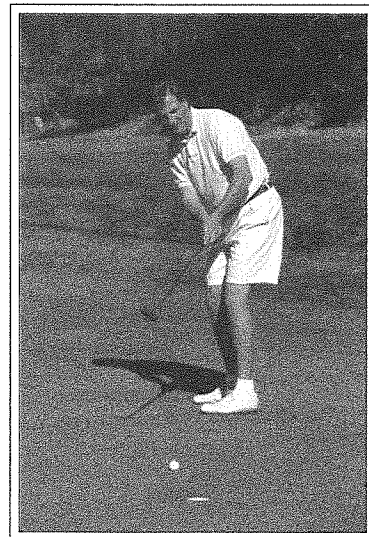
PrairieView Men's Golf Association

The PrairieView Men's Golf Association continues to grow. In 2004, this small, but growing, group increase to a record 36 members.

Association members participated in various events throughout the season that included PrairieView's Match Play Championship, Club Championship, Interclub Matches with Aldeen Golf Club and Timber Pointe Golf Club, and two road trips to other golf courses. The second road trip included a chartered bus to Hawks Landing Golf Course in Madison, Wisconsin.

The 2005 schedule of events promises to be more entertaining than ever. The Men's Association is open to all male golfers 21 years and older. All events are handicapped and include all levels of golfers.

If you are interested in joining the Men's Association please stop by the clubhouse and pick up a schedule of events.



Check out our newly re-designed website:
www.prairieviewgolf.com

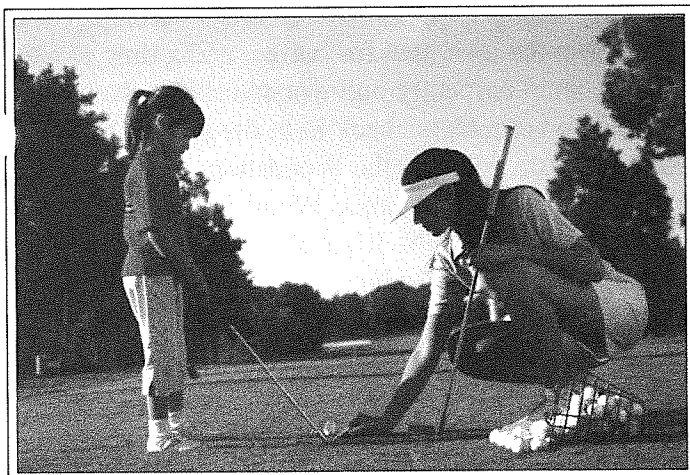
PrairieView Golf Course

Adult Golf Lessons

Both group and individual golf lessons will once again be offered at PrairieView Golf Course. Lessons will begin Mid-April and continue through October. All lessons will be taught by PGA Professional Steve Murray and Assistant Professionals Ryan Jahn and Heath Warner.

Individual lessons can be scheduled at any time by calling PrairieView Golf Course. Group golf lessons will be available for both beginning and intermediate golfers and will begin towards the end of April. Class size is limited to encourage a better student to teacher ratio.

There are a variety of classes and lesson packages to choose from to fit the needs of all golfers. If you would like more details on lesson programs or would like to schedule a lesson either stop by the clubhouse or call 234-4653.



Junior Developmental Lessons & Parent/Child Lessons

Junior Developmental Lessons are designed to teach juniors the basic skills they will need to enjoy the game of golf. Lessons will be in a group format. The teacher to student ratio will be small in order to maximize one on one instruction. Lessons will begin in Mid-May and run throughout the summer.

The junior developmental lessons will be a series of 6 lessons for children ages 5-16. Classes are separated by age. In addition to junior group lessons PrairieView will offer Parent/Child lessons. The popular parent/child lessons are designed to give parents and children a chance to take lessons together in a group format.

For a complete list of class times and costs for all junior and parent/junior lessons please stop by the PrairieView Golf Pro Shop or call 234-GOLF.

Junior Developmental League

The Junior Developmental League is designed to give juniors a chance to play golf with adult supervision. Both the professional golf staff at PrairieView and adult volunteers will help monitor play. Junior golfers aged 5-16 with some previous golfing experience are encouraged to join. The league is scheduled for Tuesday mornings, will run the entire summer, and begins June 7th. The cost of the league is \$20 for children with season golf passes and \$40 for children without season passes. We do encourage parents to attend and volunteer. Registration forms are available at the PrairieView clubhouse.

Tournaments

IJGA Junior Open	June 16th
Illinois PGA Pro Junior	July 5th (Qualifying)
	July 6th (Tournament)
Parent/Junior	July 23rd
Junior Club Championship/	July 28th
Ogle County Junior	
Stewart Cup Matches	August 7th

In addition to the junior tournaments held at PrairieView the junior golf program will provide transportation to the following other local junior tournaments. The dates for these away tournaments have not yet been posted.

Doug Martz Memorial-Indian Oaks Country Club, Shabbona
Rock River Invitational-Rock Falls Country Club, Rock Falls
The Journal Standard-Park Hills Golf Course, Freeport
Dixon Invitational-Dixon Country Club, Dixon
Wolf Hollow Classic-Lena Golf Club, Lena
Emerald Hill Junior-Emerald Hills, Sterling
Shady Oaks Open-Shady Oaks Country Club, Amboy
Rockford Pro Am-Forest Hills Country Club, Rockford

Junior Golf Fundraiser

The 10th annual junior golf fundraiser tournament has been scheduled for Saturday June 18th. Once again, 100% of the money raised for this event will help support costs associated with our junior golf program and Scholarship Fund.

PrairieView Golf Course and the Byron Forest Preserve will continue to issue college scholarships for Byron High School seniors who have participated in the junior golf program and who support the junior golf fundraiser tournament.

The cost of the tournament is \$65 per person, (\$50 for PrairieView Season Pass-Holders). The entry fee includes lunch, prizes, entry into cash contests, and two free rounds of golf at PrairieView. Help support PrairieView's Junior Golf Program and make sure to mark June 18th on your calendar.

Potpourri



Creative Memories

Creative Memories scrapbooking classes are held on the following dates at the Jarrett Prairie Center by Cindy Adams and Vicki Miller. If you're interested in signing up for one of their classes, please call Cindy at 234-7505.

National Scrapbook Day

Friday, May 13 - 4-11pm - \$12 includes dinner

Relay for Life (all profits donated)

Friday, June 3 - 4-11pm - \$12 includes dinner

A Summer's Eve Workshop

Thursday, June 23 - 4-11 pm - \$12 includes dinner

Firecracker Crop

Friday, July 22 - 4-11 pm - \$12 includes dinner

Back To School Crop

Friday, August 19 - 4-11 pm - \$12 includes dinner

Hump Day Crop

Wednesday, August 31 - 4-11pm - \$12 includes dinner

Remote Control Car Racing Club

Bring your remote control cars and trucks and race them on the ramps at the skate park. Gather your friends every week for demolition packed racing fun! Some weeks we'll meet in the quarry for off-road racing.

Where: Stone Quarry Skate Park

When: Wednesdays
June 1 - August 31

Time: 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Cost: \$2 / day or
\$20 for a club pass

Ages: All

Min/Max: none

Registration not necessary.



Join Our Community of Volunteers

*Each person who gives of themselves,
gives to themselves.*

Tuesday Morning Volunteer Group

Come join us for a time of visiting, refreshments, and fun indoor projects.

Where: Jarrett Prairie Center
7993 N. River Rd., Byron

When: Tuesdays, Year Round

Time: 8:30-11am

Cost: Free

Ages: All



Wednesday Woodshop Group

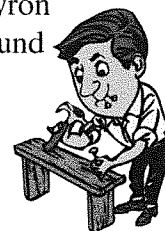
Come join the area men for coffee, and a time to use your skills in carpentry and woodworking. New woodshop volunteers check in at the Jarrett Prairie Center before going to the Woodshop.

Where: Maintenance Woodshop
7993 N. River Rd., Byron

When: Wednesdays, Year Round

Time: 9-11am

Cost: Free



Individual and Family

The Byron Forest Preserve has several volunteer opportunities for individuals and families interested in sharing their time for special events, programs of both educational and recreational orientation. These events and programs run throughout the year. For more information, call Linda at 234-8535 x200.

Organized Groups

The Byron Forest Preserve has service and volunteer opportunities. We can arrange times and specific service areas for you and your group. These areas can be related to awards, badges, or just for the benefit of learning to serve your community and others. For more information, call Linda at 234-8535 x200.

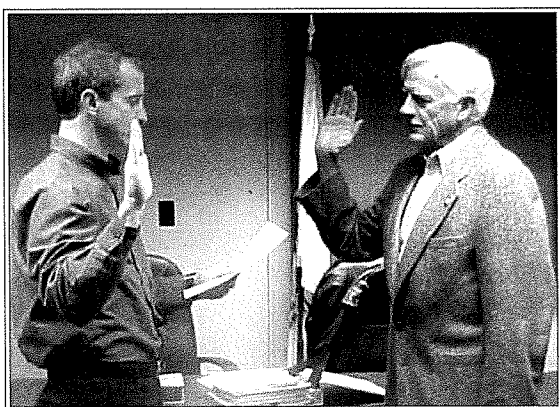
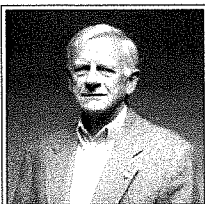
Did you know...?

Energy saved from one recycled aluminum can will operate a television set for three hours, and is the equivalent to half a can of gasoline.

Potpourri

Ed Stirling Appointed to Board

On March 21, 2005, Mr. Ed Stirling was sworn in as the newest member of the Byron Forest Preserve District Board of Commissioners. Mr. Stirling will complete an unexpired term due to the resignation of Ken Ledene. Mr. Stirling is retired and has over 25 years in conservation and natural areas preservation to contribute to the District. He has been involved with the District for several years, including donating time as the agency grant writer. He will be a good addition to the Board.



Byron Forest Preserve Board President Jeff Huber swears in newly appointed commissioner, Ed Stirling.

Byron Recreation Path

Provides Safe Routes for Children

The Byron Forest Preserve District has been a major participant and contributor with the Byron Recreation Path Citizens Committee over the past eight years. We have assisted with building the paths from the Byron Schools to north of town and from the Rock River Bridge to the Jarrett Prairie Center, PrairieView Golf Course, and Stone Quarry Recreation Park.

Our Board of Commissioners over the years has felt an obligation to assist in providing a safe route (especially for children) in our district to our various recreation facilities that are located on the south side of the Rock River. We encourage all residents to use these paths to regularly visit our facilities.

Follow The Rules

The following rules are in place at the Forest Preserve:

-Horseback Riding - No person shall bring into, unload, use, or ride any horse on District property except where allowed. At this time, there are no designated horseback riding areas.

-Bikes - No person shall ride a bicycle on any path, trail, roadway, or other area except where allowed. The only bike path at the Forest Preserve is the Don Hamer Recreation Path that leads from Sunshine Park in Byron into the Forest Preserve along the road to the Jarrett Prairie Center.

-Dogs - No person shall bring in, lead, or carry any dog that is unleashed or on a leash longer than ten feet onto District property except where allowed. Dogs are allowed on the Don Hamer Recreation Path only. Dogs are not allowed to run at large (unleashed) on District property.

-Motorized Vehicles - No person shall operate any motorized vehicle, licensed or not licensed, anywhere on District property except on the roads, drives, and parking areas provided. Vehicles not so licensed include but are not limited to snowmobiles, go-carts, trail bikes, mini-bikes, and such other all terrain off-the-road vehicles.

Nardi Hills Property Dedicated



Dedication of the Nardi Hills property was held at Stone Quarry Recreation Park. Pictured left to right: Ed Clift, Executive Director of the Byron Forest Preserve, Todd Tucker, Deputy Director, and Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Nardi.

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