
Friends of the Pecos River Foundation

August 21, 2014

“The Pecos River is older than the Mississippi!”

As you think, “Where have I heard that, before?” I will say from Roger Schamberger. If you Google Mississippi, one search will tell you the last ice age, about 10,000 years ago, left a chain of temporary lakes that as they drained, carved through the glacier sediment to form the Mississippi River system. Lake Itasca, in Minnesota, is recognized as the origin of the “modern” Mississippi. Therefore the Mississippi can be said to be only 10,000 years old.

<http://www.4rivers.com/mississippi/info.html>

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mississippi_River

Below the glacial debris covering most of the Sugar-Pecos watershed, there is revealed a second landscape. Below is revealed the 400-foot deep Pecos Bedrock Valley. A formation carved out of old rock, by erosion, long before the glaciers began creeping across what would become Stephenson County. The mighty Pecos flows, some 400 feet above.

At some time, this entire area was at the equator. It may have been during one of supercontinents, Pangaea, Rodinia, or one of the others. For a time, this area was an inland sea, and Dolomite is formed from the remains of marine creatures that piled up by the billions on the floor of the warm sea that once covered this part of the continent. This is found along Yellow Creek and the Pecos River.

Topographic maps show a mile wide valley downstream from Freeport and from the Sugar River, a three-mile wide valley. These are each much wider than what paths the current rivers can cut. These washouts were produced when glacier melt was released in torrents that scarred the land. The recurrent glaciers created dams from the material they deposited. This created Lake Silveria, a lake that would cover the Pecos valley and reach as far north as the headwaters of the Pecos, which is north of New Glarus Wisconsin. Over time the sediment reached fifteen feet deep and the water leaked out. In the end there was a lot of flat land, good for farming, but a river will never just run downhill, it meanders. That is why the Pecos River takes fifty-eight miles to go through a County 26 $\frac{3}{4}$ miles wide and 21 $\frac{5}{8}$ miles high. FPRF wants you to paddle it all.

Written from information published in “The Sugar-Pecos River Basin An Inventory of the Region’s Resources” Editor: Karen Miller, Author: James Kroche Jr. Published by the Illinois Dept. of Natural Resources.

Friends of the Pecatonica River Foundation

501 (C) (3) Website: www.pecriver.org/ Phone: 815-369-8000

Email: www.pecriver@pecriver.org fb: Friends of the Pecatonica River Foundation

August 21, 2014

FPRF Founded November 13, 08

Fish Fry Sept 12

4 P.M until 9 P.M.

**Cod-Walleye-Bluegill-Catfish
Adults \$15.00 & Children \$9.00**

Silent Auction

Advance Tickets Contact:

Rock Hollow Conservation Club (815)232-5428

**John Fritz, Fund Raising Chair
(815) 235-0064 or (815) 238-6895**

Fall Flotilla on October 4

Check with the Freeport/Stephenson County
Convention and Visitors Bureau for events and
activities in our area.

4596 U.S. 20 East, Freeport, IL 61032
1-815-233-1357 & 1-800-369-2955

If your organization wants to conduct a paddle or river
event, contact FPRF! If you have a plan that involves
the river, and want advice, information, or consultation,
contact FPRF. If you have an idea to improve
stewardship of the river, contact us! If you don't like
something we do, contact us. You can email us at

pecriver@pecriver.org

Check our website at: www.pecriver.org

Facebook: Friends of the Pecatonica River Foundation
Phone: 815-369-8000

Freeport Park District
1122 S. Burchard Ave.
Freeport, IL 61032

815-235-6114 www.freeportparkdistrict.org

Lena Community Park District
609 N. Schuler St., Lena, IL 61048
815-369-5351 www.lenaparks.org

Other web sites:

www.paddlethepec.com www.illinoispadding.org

Or write us at:

Friends of the Pecatonica River Foundation
50 W. Douglas St. Suite 1002
Freeport, IL 61032

Joe Ginger – President

Jesse Klosterboer – Vice President

Lee Butler – Secretary /Treasurer

Roger Schamberger – Governmental Liaison

John Fritz – Fund Raising Chair

Joe Green – Site Development Manager

Mickie Dittmar – Membership Chair

FPRF is a 501(c)(3) organization. All donations are tax deductible.

Make checks payable to: Community Foundation of Northern Illinois.

Current

We are incredibly busy, waiting! We are waiting to move forward on Tutty's Crossing. But that isn't all bad. We are waiting for the City of Freeport to get the bids to finish the boat launch. The City, like FPRF wants to "get it right." The goal is to have a site that promotes the area and community pride. Things are coming together. The people leading are very much devoted to the concepts I mentioned, and being financially appropriate.

Now for the good news! FPRF still have Atten's Landing to keep us busy. This week we went out and decided where to locate the picnic tables. We have been reviewing what landscape materials will survive the flood conditions that are the hallmark of the site. Since we will be restoring a wetland, we need to pay special attention to how things, such as walking paths, boat ramp, floating dock and parking, are situated. Fear not, we have very knowledgeable people working on it.

How about a short commercial? FPRF benefits from having a core group of volunteers. From time to time I send out an email asking for volunteers to work. We also have a core group that renews their membership or otherwise provide financial support. The truth is, we need both groups. If your email is getting bombarded every day, and you prefer to renew your membership and not get work requests, let me know. I can split the email list and you'll just get the newsletters.

The end of September will see FPRF submitting BAAD grant applications for Atten's Landing and for McConnell's Bobtown Landing. Freeport was successful with Tutty's and that's good. There is a plan for the entire trail.

Meeting Schedule

The, Aug. 21st, **2014** meeting is at Rafters at 7:00PM. The next meeting is, **Sept. 18th, 2014**. Everyone is invited. Bring your ideas!

Pecatonica River Scenes in Postcard Selling for \$10, \$13 mails order, still available.

Go to www.pecriver.org/projects