

Friends of the Pecatonica River Foundation

THE CURRENT

January 2022

Progress at Wes Block is the hallmark of 2021. The sign is up, and the flag flies proudly. This spring the floating dock will go in the water. The picnic tables still need to be installed, and the paths to the tables leveled. A revised plan for Wes Block includes adding two benches along the river and a porch-style swing. We want Wes Block Launch to be an exceptional experience. I am grateful to all the people who worked to make this happen!



We are a group who promotes paddling, and our area. With this launch at Wes Block, our slogan could be: "Pedal, Paddle, and Hike." These are safe activities during the Covid situation, and they also promote stewardship for the environment. This work is critical because of what it says and does for those who follow us.

The the low water level this past year didn't helped us. Some years, we have too much water; and that can be dangerous. If you have any doubts about conditions, ask on our website, or another paddler.

FPRF wants to celebrate the opening of Wes Block's Launch. We are planning a flotilla to Tutty's Crossing. Any thoughts?

Communication concerning river conditions is another concern. There should be a way to notify river users about obstructions, logjams, trees down, etc. The easiest way to do this would be to use the FPRF site on Facebook, or leave an email on our website. Now would be a good time for you to reach out and tell us what you think the Pecatonica River Water Trail needs. Thank you.

Joe Ginger, president



MEETINGS & EVENTS

Everyone is invited. Bring your ideas!

Jan.. 20	RAFTERS 6:30 P.M.
Feb. 17	Next meeting.
Mar. 5th 7 AM 10:30	Annual Kiwanis Pancake & Sausage Day St. John Church of Christ 1010 S. Park Blv
PM	Trivia Nights Monday, Big O's Wednesday, Logan's
Apr. 9 9 am 4 pm	26th Annual Stephenson County Fiber Art Fair Jane Addams Comm. Ctr. Cedarville
Feb. 11	Candyland Ball 6:00 pm-8:30 pm Masonic Temple Freeport Park District
Feb. 25	Mom & Me Masquerade 6:00-8:30 pm Masonic Temple Freeport Park District
	https://www.eventbrite.com/d/il--freeport/events/

Other Events & Activities

Freeport/Stephenson County
Visitors Center
4596 U.S. 20 East
Freeport, IL 61032



Watch Tom Lindblade's
"Illinois' Friendliest Paddle"
<http://bit.ly/paddlethepec>

FPRF Events
Stay healthy!
Valentine's Day is coming.

Freeport Park District
1122 S. Burchard Ave.
Freeport, IL 61032
1-815-235-6114
www.freeportparkdistrict.org

Lena Community Park District
609 N. Schuler St.
Lena, IL 61048
1-815-369-5351
www.lenaparks.org



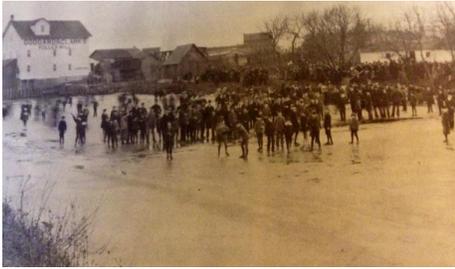
Pecatonica River Scenes in Postcard - Book 2

Pecatonica River Scenes in
Postcards \$12 +\$3 S&H
www.pecriver.org/projects

"Pecatonica River Scenes in Postcard - Book 2" \$12 + \$3 S&H

Available at: Convention & Visitors Bureau, 9 East and through the mail.

A limited number of "Pecatonica River Scenes in Postcard" are available at \$12 + \$3 S&H.



Alpheus Pierce Goddard was born in Franklin County, NY on August 29, 1833. His family came to Freeport when he was 2. He married Mary Pierce in 1866. His middle name (I assume) came from his mother, Mercy Ann Pierce.

A.P. Goddard was an alderman, mayor (1875-1876), member of the board of supervisors, in which he was on the building committee that was prominent in getting the (new) courthouse built (1870). He served in the Civil War: appointed to the rank of Captain. A.P. and his son, A.J., were in control of the Freeport electric railroad in 1901; as president and treasurer when it became a stock company in 1904 (unverified). He was on the State Bank Board of Directors. He and some other Freeporters had a joint interest in some livestock in Texas, the Freeport Cattle Company, for which he was Vice President.

In 1846, the Hydraulic and Manufacturing Company was formed, and Edward Hanchett & Charles Powell felled timber on the riverbank, which was used for the construction of a two-story sawmill. In 1847, Hanchett transformed his interest to D.A. Knowlton, who shortly afterward disposed of it to Benjamin Goddard (A.P.'s father). He operated it with Mr. Powell until 1851 when Mr. Goddard became the sole owner. In 1860 Benjamin and A.P. Goddard erected an addition. In 1864 when A.P. Goddard became more fully identified with the mill: the old sawmill was taken down. A three-story building, (36x46,) was erected. It was destroyed, by fire, on December 21, 1883. In 1885 A.P. Goddard bought a mill in Clinton, WI, which he had taken down and moved to Freeport. The new roller mill began operation in May of 1886. In September of 1886, George W. Clark bought half interest in the mill. Sometime between 1897 and 1904, it became the A.P. & A.J. (his son) Goddard Mill. Mr. Goddard died from pneumonia on February 12, 1905.

The mill was destroyed by fire on July 22, 1905, just hours after it had been re-shingled. It had been sitting idle for two years and was going to be started up again by William Dickover. The Freeport Electric Railroad Company and the Hydraulic and Manufacturing Company buildings also were destroyed. From Facebook.

If you are interested in improving river stewardship, promoting paddling, organizing river events, the history of the Pecatonica River and communities along the river, check our website and contact us.

Friends of the Pecatonica River Foundation

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www.pecriver.org

www.illinoispadding.org

email: pec@pecriver.org

*We will not share or sell your email address.

Joe Ginger – President

Mickie Dittmar – Vice President

Lee Butler -- Secretary /Treasurer

Roger Schamberger – Governmental Liaison

Mickie Dittmar & John Fritz – Fundraising Chairs

Joe Green – Site Development Manager

Betty Butler -Membership

Friends of the Pecatonica River Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization.
Dues are due in February. If you joined in July or later, you are good for 2021.

All donations are tax deductible and should be made payable to:

Friends of the Pecatonica River Foundation.

