

Friends of the Pecatonica River Foundation

THE CURRENT

September 2022



We removed the canoe/kayak launch at VFW on September 14. The early removal was caused by an obstruction with two trees down, one on each side of the river. A more extensive blockage is south of the Rt 20 bypass bridge. I've seen reports on Facebook of jams between McConnell and Damascus. I know the trip is open from Wes Block to Tutty's Crossing, which has the dock removed. Launching a motorboat at Tutty's is problematic. A comment about the boat launch design and location was on Facebook. It has been a tough year for boating.

We removed debris that was blocking the launch at McConnell and Wes Block. I'm happy to report that we started work on building the kiosk, another Eagle Scout project, at Wes Block.

Historians relate that the Pecatonica River carries more sediment from Wisconsin than it did in the mid-1800s. I would like to see more information on that assessment. We need a solution to the problem of too much large woody debris in certain areas restricting watercraft movement. We need knowledgeable people that know the best methods for safely removing river obstructions. We may have a lead on them. Stay tuned.

Joe Ginger, president

MEETINGS & EVENTS

Everyone is invited. Bring your ideas!

Sept. 15	RAFTERS 6:30 P.M.
Oct. 20	Next meeting.
	FPRF meetings are the third Thursday of the month. See "ALL IN. Stephenson County" for area events.
Oct 13	Wine & Witches
Oct. 29	Bootiful Saturday
Oct 2	Crop Walk 1 pm - 4 pm 815-233-5276
Nov. 19-20	Mistletoe Walk
	https://www.eventbrite.com/d/il--freeport/events/

Other Events & Activities

Freeport/Stephenson County
Visitors Center
4596 U.S. 20 East
Freeport, IL 61032
1-815-233-1357

FPRF Events

Oct. 26 Culvers Freeport Fund Raiser

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.peccriver.org/projects



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

"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.

Part two on the Jane Addams Trail and Wes Block.

On February 1st, 1888, engine number 99 was the first train to run the entire distance between Freeport and Madison, Wisconsin. It passing through the tunnel in the limestone ridge between Monticello and Belleville, across the Lynn valley and on to Madison.

On November 14, 1853, the Galena Daily Advertiser carried an article on Nora, Illinois: "This town is situated 31 miles from Galena on the Central Railroad. It is in the midst of a splendid farming country, and will ultimately make a town of considerable size. The Railroad Company is now building a depot there."

In 1835, plans were made for the establishment of a city to be located in Illinois at the confluence of the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers. From this city of Cairo, Illinois, it was proposed to build a railroad to Galena. In 1836 a charter was granted for a railroad but very little was accomplished. With the enactment of the Internal Improvement Bill of 1837, interest in the railroad was revived and it was proposed to build a railroad thru central Illinois, financed by the State. Construction was started and rapidly pushed on the "Central Railroad" until the collapse of the State's internal improvement program, when all work on the road ceased.

A charter was granted by the State of Illinois for the "Great Western Railway Company" in 1843. All lands, rights-of-way, etc., of the "Central Railroad" were to be turned over to the new company. It is these three companies, "The Illinois Central Railroad Company", "The Central Railroad", and the "Great Western Railway Company", to which the references in this bibliography for 1836-1848 relate, although these companies have no corporate relations to the present Illinois Central Railroad Company, which was incorporated February 10, 1851, under the laws of Illinois. The main line of the Illinois Central Railroad Company of 1851 extended from Cairo to the western terminus of the Illinois-Michigan Canal at LaSalle, Illinois. Branches extended from LaSalle to Dunleith (now East Dubuque) and from Branch Junction to Chicago, a total of 705.5 miles. The last of these lines opened for operation in September 1856.

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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

50 W. Douglas St. Suite 1002

Freeport, IL 61032

1-815-353-2852

www.pecriver.org

www.illinois paddling.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.