

News from the Creek

Friends of Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Farm, Inc.

Volume 7 Number 2

Website: www.marjoriekinnanrawlings.org

Winter Quarterly 2003-04



Scrub Trip March 27 2004

by Ranger Sheila Barnes

Would you like to hike the same trails that Marjorie Rawlings walked when she was writing "The Yearling"? Do you want to see where the Baxters lived, where Jody built his flutter mill, the sinkhole where they got their water, and the prairie where Ol' Slewfoot was slain?

If so, please note that staff of the MKRHSP will be conducting a day-long venture into the very locations in the Ocala National Forest that were depicted in her novel. We read excerpts from "The Yearling" throughout the program.

To participate, you must be able to walk 2+ miles in shifting sand, on uneven terrain with up and down grades, and no amenities. It is a wilderness area. You will have to hop over downed trees, take your leave in the bushes, and carry drinking water.

This is a full day program. We meet at the parking lot of the Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Historic State Park. We car pool and leave promptly at 9:00 AM. We will hike into Pat's Island, picnic and swim at Silver Glen Springs, and visit Hopkins Prairie on the route back. Arrival time back at MKRHSP is approximately 4:00 PM.

We provide a big cooler, cups, ice, and first aid supplies. You bring a packed lunch, drinking water, bug spray, bathing suit and towel, and \$4 admission fee to Silver Glen Springs. Layer your clothing and wear sturdy walking shoes.

To sign up for this program, contact the park at (352) 466-3672 and leave your name and phone number, and the number of participants in your party, on our answering machine. Just say you are joining the Scrub Trip. Hope to see you on the trails!

(more photos of last year's trip and map of trail on page 4)

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆
 ☆ **INVITATION** ☆
 ☆ **Annual Meeting** ☆
 ☆ *Saturday,* ☆
 ☆ *April 24, 2004* ☆
 ☆ *10:20 AM - 1:00 PM* ☆
 ☆ *Join us for our* ☆
 ☆ *program, presentation* ☆
 ☆ *of awards,* ☆
 ☆ *and a delicious* ☆
 ☆ *luncheon on the* ☆
 ☆ *grounds of the* ☆
 ☆ *Marjorie Kinnan* ☆
 ☆ *Rawlings Historic State* ☆
 ☆ *Park in Cross Creek* ☆
 ☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

CSO and Charity Picking a 'Tree'mendous Success

Even though 2003 presented drought conditions at the MKR Historic State Park, the grove gifted us with a bumper crop of citrus. With the assistance and diligence of park staff and CSO members, area charities were contacted to come glean the fruit. In addition to CSO members, our heartfelt gratitude is extended to members of the Neighborhood Nutrition Network, Children's Table and Gainesville Harvest for helping us donate over 11,000 pounds of tangerines, grapefruit, and a variety of oranges to those in need throughout our area.

This years "official" picking was held on December 13th. Since we had a bumper crop, the charities mentioned above continue to come out until the "golden apples" had been successfully gleaned.

As always, our visitors are always welcome to come out and experience picking their own fruit which, for many, adds to the memorable experience of visiting the historic park and interpretive groves.

Many thanks to everyone that came out on an incredibly beautiful weekend day to work!



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Cross Creek Quilters

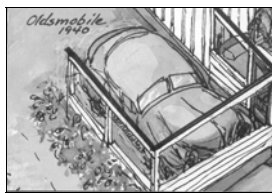
By Murray Laurie

Jacob's Ladder Quilt

When Head Ranger Sheila Barnes embarked two years ago on a project to sew a quilt made up mostly of scraps of cloth left over from the house dresses and aprons worn at the Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Historic State Park, she chose the *Jacob's Ladder* pattern. (Those familiar with the Rawlings works will recognize this as the title of one of her early literary masterpieces.) Small squares of cotton in a rainbow of colors climb up and down the top of the quilt, each hand-stitched in place. Sheila then bound the patterned top, the inner cotton batting, and solid muslin backing together in a swirling pattern of tiny, even stitches. She credits her mentor, Judy Baker, a master of traditional quilting techniques, for her guidance.

Cross Creek Quilt

Park staff member Pam Morrison's original small quilted wall hanging was the hit of the MKRHSP staff Christmas party. A view of the back porch entrance to the Rawlings house, complete with palm trees in the distance and Sheila Barnes picking tangerines from the yard tree, was stitched in a collage of cotton fabric designed to delight the eye. A tiny quilt pinned to the clothesline echoed the quilt Sheila had been working on so steadily for the past two years.



Have You Missed the Olds?

By Phyllis Hansen

Perhaps you've noticed the empty carport. There's a reason for that, the 1940 Olds is at Dave Barber's shop in Gainesville. She was really getting so rusty that it looked like she might fall into the ground at any moment.

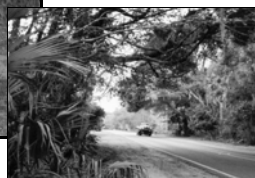
Dave had come out to the house to look at her and given us a price for preserving the poor thing that was within our means. So we'd agreed and just had to wait for Dave to get where he could put her in the stall he reserves for such jobs. Not too long after, Rachel, Dave's Office Manager, called us and gave us a date, contingent on this, that and other things.

Dave was true to his word and on Tuesday, January 13th, he arrived with Eddie, from Billy's Towing Service to haul her off to Dave's shop. There was some looking and talking among the pros to get perspective on where the towing chain should be positioned, how far back to leave the truck and other considerations. It was nerve-wracking to watch her inch up to the angled platform on the wrecker, but we shouldn't have given it a moment's thought. It was smooth and steady. Eddie hopped in the wrecker truck and backed his way out of the yard, no mean feat around the orange trees and the barn. Then out the yard and on down the road to Gainesville, where she went to Dave's shop on 6th Street. We thanked Dave and shook his hand and we all went back to what we ordinarily do on a Tuesday morning.

Some days later I popped by Dave's shop, just to look. Oh my, she's looking better already. A lot of the old paint has been removed and that bare metal looks better than the old paint job. How fat and substantial the metal is on the old girl! Certainly thicker than today's cars. Won't she look grand when they bring her home!

We hope to have a get together when she's back. Besides us regulars, we're thinking about having a group that collects old cars. Perhaps some food,and, well, what do you think?

Let us know. Phyl





Marjory is pictured here stringing popcorn garlands at the 2003 Christmas Party.

Imagine the looks on the faces of our visitors when we come to the house and call for Marjory!

Volunteer Spotlight—Marjory Kruithof

Marjory Kruithof is a native of Grand Rapids, Michigan; the widow of a Presbyterian minister; retired executive director of the American Red Cross; and for the last four years, a tour guide at the MKR Historic State Park.

Marjory has over 1,000 hours of making MKR live again to hundreds of interested tourists, giving two to three house tours each Friday.

She drives 140 miles roundtrip each Friday to Cross Creek at the young age of 82 years!

This article was written by Marjory's long-time friend and fellow volunteer, Gene Maughn

Friends of MK Rawlings Farm, Inc., 2003-2004 Board of Directors

Officers: 2003-2004

President: Nancy Dohn
Vice President: Anne Pierce
Treasurer: Phyllis Hansen
Secretary: Murray Laurie

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Pete Angell
Dan Cantliffe
Nancy Dohn
Sherry DuPree
Jim Ferguson
Phyllis Hansen
Murray Laurie
Peggy Nittel
Steve Oelrich
Michael Patrick
Anne Pierce
Liz Pooley
Lois Randolph
Valerie Rivers
Jim Stephens
Kay Williams

Resource Advisory Board

Sheila Barnes
Ed Jennings, Sr.
Michaelyn Luttge
Gene Maughn
Carl Van Ness

LIFETIME MEMBERS

- Norma Davis
- Candace Henderson
- Roy Hunt
- Brenda Keith
- Shirley J. Kiser
- Richard Knellinger, P.A.
- Michelyn and Bill Luttge
- Collene, Frank and Lana Mahoney
- Gene and Ruth Maughn
- Philip S. May, Jr.
- W.L. Miller
- Spence Perry
- A.L. Rhinehart

PARK WISH LIST

Something Old....Something New....

- An enamel coffee percolator with glass dome
- Wheelbarrow
- Stihl Chain Saw—16 inch
- 1930-40 tractor with mower
- Saws-All
- Weed Wacker with attachments

Volunteers!!!!

Many thanks to John and Belinda Ferree of North Carolina for sending us a rechargeable drill, which was listed in our last wish list!

Ranger Sheila

Membership in the Friends of Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Farm, Inc.

We invite you to join or renew your membership in the Citizen Support Organization (CSO) for the MKR Historic State Park. The Friends is a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation and enhancement of the natural and cultural resources at the Marjorie Rawlings Cross Creek farm.

Name _____

Address _____

City/State _____

Zip _____ Phone _____

Email _____

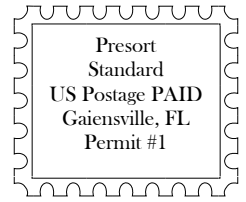
Membership Information

Type	1yr	3yr	5yr	10yr	Lifetime
Individual	\$15	\$40	\$65	\$125	\$300
Family	\$25	\$65	\$105	\$200	\$450
Educational	\$25	\$65	\$105	\$200	\$450
Corporate	\$50	\$130	\$210	\$400	\$900

Please circle type of membership and send with your check to us at:
Friends of MKRawlings Farm, Inc.
 P.O. Box 337
 Micanopy, FL 32667-0337

We recently sent out several renewal postcards. We apologize for getting some of these to you rather late. We have made changes in a number of our administrative services in an effort to streamline our communications with our devoted membership. If you have any questions concerning the status of your membership, please contact us at the address in the box above.





Friends of Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Farm, Inc.
 P.O. Box 337
 Micanopy, FL 32667-0337

2004—Calendar of Events—2004

- March 27* Annual Scrub Trip in the Ocala National Forest (see page 1)
- March 30* Friends Board Meeting
- April 24* Friends Annual Meeting (see notice on page 1)
- May 20* Deadline for submission of articles/notices for spring newsletter
- July 13* Friends Executive Board Meeting
- July 20* Friends Board Meeting
- August 7* MKR Birthday Party
- August 14* Host District CSO event
- August 19* Deadline for submission of articles/notices for summer newsletter
- October 5* Friends Executive Board Meeting
- October 12* Friends Board Meeting
- October 22* "Evening Under the Stars" Event
- November 11* Deadline for submission of articles/notices for fall newsletter
- December 14* Evening Christmas Party at MKRHSP
- December 18* CSO Fruit Picking



Join us for the Annual Scrub Trip
 in the Ocala National Forest

