



The Creekside Almanac

A seasonal publication of Prescott Creeks Preservation Association

Spring 2000



Volume 6 Issue 2

Generous Donation from Prescott Lakes Helps Watson Woods Efforts

by: Paul Sneed

In February, we received one of those phone calls every non-profit looks forward to and, to a certain extent, relies on. Mr. Bill Brownlee, managing partner of the Prescott Lakes Development, called to let us know that he and his partners had decided to gift PCPA \$24,500 for the continued improvement of our Watson Woods Riparian Preserve. This very generous and welcomed donation will be applied to the on-going management, enhancement, and restoration of the aquatic and riparian habitats located in the Watson Woods Preserve.

Prescott Lakes is a 1,100 acre golf oriented residential community being developed in northeast Prescott. The Watson Woods Preserve, located to the east and across Highway 89, is a neighbor to Prescott Lakes. It is planned that trails through Watson Woods and in the Watson Lake area will eventually connect with trails being built in Prescott Lakes. Mr. Jeff Davis, another managing partner of Prescott Lakes, recently said, "Watson Woods is among the many natural amenities within walking and hiking distance of Prescott Lakes that will be attractive to our residents, and we are pleased to support the improvement of this valuable area."



We welcome involvement from the community and public enjoyment of Watson Woods. The proximity of our preserve to the Prescott Lakes development does indeed make us neighbors and we expect to be good ones. The Board of Directors and Staff of PCPA look forward to much future interaction with the homeowners of Prescott Lakes and other surrounding neighborhoods. The very beneficial and much appreciated contribution, from the partners of the Prescott Lakes Development, will go a long way towards helping us accomplish our mission of protecting and restoring riparian open spaces for the enjoyment and

PCPA President Paul Sneed (left) & Prescott Lakes' Jeff Davis tour Watson Woods Riparian Preserve.

Photo by: Bradshaw Public Relations

inside...

Creek Sign Project Enters Phase II this Summer.....	Page 2
PCPA Joins Forces with APS to Plant Trees at Watson Woods.....	Page 3

PCPA Receives Funding from the Yavapai County Community Foundation

In February this past winter I received a small brochure in the PCPA post office box from the Yavapai County Community Foundation (YCCF). It was announcing the J.A. McDougal Fund for the Environment. I was very excited to see this. Over the years Kristi Edwards, YCCF Regional Manager, and I have stayed in contact, but never been able to find a PCPA program that really fit into the YCCF format. That is no longer the case!

The J.A. McDougal Fund is a small fund (currently \$1500—but expected to grow in the future) geared towards environmental projects. PCPA could finally apply for a grant with YCCF! On top of the excitement of a new funding source for PCPA, we were one of only six Yavapai County organizations to be invited to submit applications. What an honor!

Right away PCPA set to work on our application. The obvious project for this grant was Phase II of the Creek Identification Sign project undertaken with the City of Prescott a year and a half ago. With the City, we were able to install nearly 100 signs at almost 50 creek and road crossings. That was a good start, but there are many more crossings needing signs, and many of those locations are within Yavapai County and ADOT jurisdictions.

WE GOT IT!!! On March 22nd, 2000 PCPA President Paul Sneed accepted our \$1500 award from YCCF at the Earth Day Celebration at Granite Creek Park.

Currently, PCPA is establishing a new program (the Creek Watch Program—see the Winter 2000 issue of *The Creekside Almanac* for more information) that will implement Phase II of the Creek Identification Sign project. Joel member Joel Barnes and numerous volunteers are coordinating with Yavapai County officials to determine the details of the project and to develop specific timelines for project implementation. Early meetings with the County indicate a genuine interest and commitment on their part.

Lyn Chenier, one of the volunteers, did most of the grant-writing leg-work.. PCPA sends out our sincere thanks to Lyn for all her help. It wouldn't have been possible without her!!

Watch for new Creek Signs! Maybe one will appear in your neighborhood!!

WHAT'S THE BEST RESTORATIVE FOR BODY, SOUL, AND THE LAND?

by: Fiona Reid

Twenty volunteers working together at Watson Woods Riparian Preserve have an answer to that question, and it's the same answer that people all over the country, and indeed the world, are finding to be true. People everywhere are working outdoors putting trees back into the ground, and knowing, with a certainty that is hard to describe, that what they are doing is a good thing. At Watson Woods Riparian Preserve, northeast of Prescott, eight hundred cottonwood and willow pole-cuttings finally made it back into the ground on Saturday, June 3rd, after spending a pretty cool winter in cold storage. Riparia, Inc., a Prescott-based riparian restoration company, was contracted last fall by the Arizona Public Service Company (APS) to harvest



“poles” from the native trees lining the stretches of Miller and Granite Creek that were in the APS MGP cleanup area behind Sam Hill Warehouse (see the Summer 1999 issue of *The Creekside Almanac* for additional information on the APS project). During the APS cleanup at that site several trees had to be felled, and APS was very interested in returning some of the same genetic material back to the site during the revegetation phase of the project this spring - hence the fall harvesting.

Nature is very reliable. We depend upon the repeated refrains of nature—“the assurance that

dawn comes after the night, and spring follows the winter,” Rachel Carson said. Humans are fallible, however, and in spite of APS's sterling efforts to be ready for the revegetation phase this spring, the initial work is not yet complete, and Riparia could not return the poles - now awakening from dormancy - back into their home ground. Rather than waste all the effort and time that went into the initial harvesting and the storage of the poles, APS generously donated the eight hundred cuttings to Prescott Creeks Preservation Association for planting at Watson Woods Riparian Preserve.

At the beginning of June more than 20 volunteers spent the day out in the fresh air exercising their bodies in the work of planting trees, and thus restoring something of their own physical potential; feeding their souls with the goodness of the camaraderie of a common cause, thus restoring their mental capacity to deal with the stresses of modern life; and, ultimately, restoring the land to its former integrity and functioning condition. This small parcel of land on the outskirts of town brought corporate and community power together in a way that makes us think about and work towards the benefit of a multitude of things that exist beyond the boundaries of our human existence. A perfect way to spend the day!

Prescott Creeks Preservation Association

Officers

Paul Sneed—President
Nick Awalt—Vice Pres.
Sean Hickey—Treasurer
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The Creekside Almanac....

....is published seasonally and is available free to members.

Editor/Publisher

Michael Byrd

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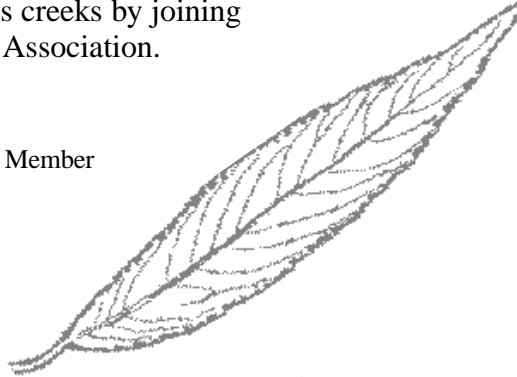
- Arizona Public Service Company—800 Cottonwood & Willow cuttings, Labor, & Photography
- Rental Service Corporation—1 week use of a Track Hoe
- Prescott Pantry—Lunch & Refreshments for 20 Volunteers
- Riparia, Inc.—Labor & Project Mgmt. Assistance
- City of Prescott—1 week use of a their Water Truck
 - Prescott Equipment
 - Double R Rentals

The Membership Page

Yes, I would like to contribute to the preservation and conservation of Prescott's creeks by joining Prescott Creeks Preservation Association.

Membership Categories

- Forest (\$1000+) Lifetime Member
- Tree (\$100+)
- Root (\$50)
- Seed (\$25)
- Soil (\$10)
- Pollen (Volunteer — 24 _____ Hours per year) Date: _____



I have donated _____ to Prescott Creeks Preservation Association.
 Name _____ Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Telephone _____ Email _____

Please send this application to: **PCPA, P.O. Box 3004, Prescott AZ 86302.** Your financial and volunteer supported is greatly appreciated. All donations are tax deductible.

Our Membership...

PCPA is a local non-profit organization that strives to bring the community of Prescott together to help preserve Prescott's riparian communities. Education and grassroots community networking is essential to our mission. Membership fees are based on a sliding scale, depending on how you can contribute. We have six groups; pollen, soil, seed, root, tree, and forest signifying different levels of support. All members will receive our seasonal newsletter The Creekside Almanac.



P.O. Box 3004
Prescott, AZ 86302

This issue...

Successful Fundraising