

**ParkLands Foundation
Officers**

President: Angelo Capparella
V-P: Mary Horgan
Secretary: Barry Brenneman
Treasurer: Dan Deneen
Land Steward: Jason Shoemaker



Directors

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Todd Bugg
Julie Elzanati
Guy Fraker
Matt Fraker
David Jeffries
Jim Mohr
Don Schmidt
Eric Smith

Find us on the web at:
www.parklandsfoundation.org

**Newsletter
August –
September 2009**

INTERNS GIVE PARKLANDS A HELPING HAND



For the second summer now, ParkLands has given interns some real hands-on nature experience. Anthony Gunnell (left), Jenny Spotts and Shane Boyer have helped with putting up tree

protectors, cutting and spraying exotics, mowing, and planting prairie plugs, to name a few. They share ParkLands goals and really enjoy being outdoors.

Anthony will finish IWU in December with a degree in environmental studies and a concentration in ecology. He has studied tropical ecology in Costa Rica and Tanza-

nia. He plans to attend graduate school in 2010, studying comparative ecology or evolutionary ecology/biology. He has worked as a back country ranger in the Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness.

Jenny recently graduated from Eureka College with a degree in environmental sciences and minors in chemistry and biology. Her interests include environmentalism, vegetarianism, conservation, and family and friends. She hopes to find a career in the environmental field or in biological research after graduate school.

Shane graduated from ISU with a degree in biological science. He loves music and plays the guitar a little, but is not much of a musician so he says. He is interested in philosophy, especially when dealing with the nature of reality, the mind, and our relationship with nature. Shane also enjoys learning about the world's religion and is especially partial to Buddhism and Taoism. Someday he would like to help out with rain forest conservation.

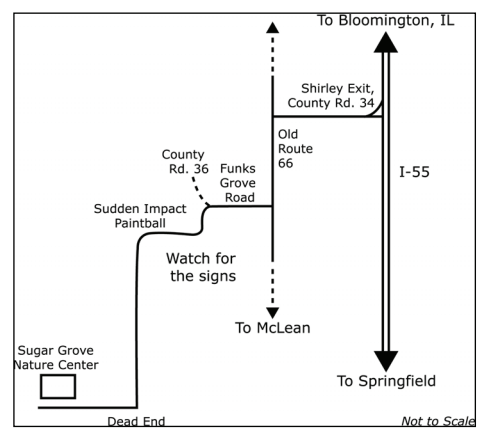
Jason Shoemaker

ParkLands 43rd Annual Meeting

The 43rd meeting of our membership has been scheduled for Sunday, September 13, at Sugar Grove Nature Center. Our meal will be served at noon. The charge is \$11, same as last year. (There is no cost for children under 12.)

ParkLands has had a very busy and successful year and we want to tell you all about it. Jason Shoemaker will show you in a slide show how the restoration projects are doing, while various board members will talk about our other accomplishments. See you on the 13th!

*Mary Horgan
President*



Sept. 13, 2009 ParkLands Foundation Annual Meeting Reservation Form

Name(s): _____

Total number of Meals: _____ Make mine/ours vegetarian: _____

Payment enclosed: _____ Will pay at the door: _____
(\$11 per meal. Make check payable to ParkLands Foundation.)

Please make your reservation with Mary Horgan by September 4th

Mail this form to Mary Horgan at 580 Fairway Drive, El Paso, IL 61738 or call Mary at 309.527.5636 or E-mail your reservation to Mary at Horgan@mcchs.org

Meet your ParkLands board member — *Dan Deneen*



Dan Deneen has been a ParkLands Foundation Board member since 2004. Dan is a Bloomington native, and his family has been in the area for well over 125 years. He graduated from Central Catholic High School in 1975 and the University of Illinois in 1979 (BS-Finance) and 1982 (JD/Law). He is married to

E. Paula Crowley Deneen, an ISU Special Education Professor, and the father of 11-year-old Patrick. Dan has been a Bloomington attorney since 1982. His practice concentrates upon probate and guardianship estates, wills and estate planning, real estate, and fiduciary fraud and consumer fraud litigation.

Dan and his family reside upon a six acre tract in SW Bloomington, which includes a small prairie area and woodlands. Dan is very familiar with Autumn Olive and Japanese Honeysuckle removal prior to joining the ParkLands Foundation Board! He spent numerous weekends on his uncle Dr. Wilbur Ball's property in Woodford County north of the Chinquapin tract. In addition to hiking, Dan also enjoys bicycling, golf, U of I and ISU sports, reading and movies.

Dan has assisted the Board of Directors on numerous legal issues over the past four years. He drafted amended By-Laws that were modified and approved in

More helping hands...*Merwin Preserve saw a considerable amount of damage to trails this spring. Because of this we have decided to make the trails usable in all seasons. In July volunteers Shane Boyer, Wayne Gustafson, Carol Lofran, Anthony Gunnell, Mary Horgan, Dale Birkenholtz and Barry Brenneman spread 20 tons of crushed white rock on the trails.*

Nominating Committee Report

The nominating committee recommends that Mary Horgan be elected for an additional 3 year term. The committee is also recommending Terry Caines, Susie Sears and Deborah Halperin for three year terms to fill open director positions.

ParkLands members may nominate candidates for director by petition filed with the secretary of the corporation (Barry Brenneman) at least 7 days prior to the annual meeting. Each petition must contain the signatures of 15 members of the corporation. No nominations may be made from the floor at the annual meeting.

Matt Fraker & Barry Brenneman

March. He has served as Treasurer the past 2 years. He spearheaded a reorganization of the financial structure of ParkLands Foundation as it expands, both in land ownership and also in its ties with grant providers and other community organizations. The finances are now segregated between administration, property acquisition, restoration and long-term stewardship, with appropriate investment of donor funds. Dan has also assisted on numerous other projects, including management of Wyatt's Ford leaseholder activities.

Dan considers it an honor to actively participate in the ParkLands Foundation stewardship activities. He considers land stewardship for future generations to be ethically and morally imperative, based upon both theological and environmental tenets. He is pleased that his legal and finance/accounting experience and expertise have been able to complement the tremendous efforts of the Stewardship Committee members who spend countless hours on the restoration, management and maintenance of the ParkLands properties.

Dan believes he has benefited far more from his participation in ParkLands activities than he has given to ParkLands, learning a great deal while knowing that he has participated in the preservation of thousands of acres for future generations.

Calendar of Events

Annual Meeting

Sunday, September 13, lunch @ noon
Sugar Grove Nature Center
309-527-5636 or Horgan@mccchs.org

Seed Collection

Saturday, Oct. 3, 9:00 a.m.
Cayuga Ridge, Pontiac
Meet @ BP Gas Station, Lexington
Jason Shoemaker, leader
309-531-7065 or shoemaj@hotmail.com

Seed Collection

Sat., Oct. 17, 9:00 a.m.
Cayuga Ridge, Pontiac
Meet @ BP Gas Station, Lexington
Leader: Jason Shoemaker
309-531-7065 or shoemaj@hotmail.com

NOTE: Dates are subject to change. For up-to-date information, check with the leader or log on to www.parklandsfoundation.org.

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Ecology Action Center



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