



News from the Creek

Friends of the Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Farm, Inc.

Volume 25 Number 1

Visit our website at: www.marjoriekinnanrawlings.org

Winter Quarterly 2022

President's Message

by Barbara Wingo

Looking Forward

Looking Back

Thanks to all who attended our “*The Yearling* Movie Celebrates 75 Years with Claude Jarman, Jr.” events. I think that I can say without fear of contradiction that the celebration was an unqualified success! Please see our photo gallery in this issue of the newsletter (page 2). More photographs will be posted in our next newsletter.



On Friday, December 11, Claude and his lovely wife Katie visited the park. He enjoyed a tour of the house and met staff, volunteers and visitors. He then went on to Silver Springs to see what the attraction looked like now, 76 years after he stayed in a motel across from the Springs during the filming of *The Yearling*. Dinner was at the Yearling Restaurant.

The next day was our reception at the Dancing Cows Ranch. The venue was perfect: many thanks to Sande and Kiefer Calkins who donated the use of the Dancing Cows Ranch for the event. The tables were appropriately decorated by our board member Kathlyne Walkup Shepherd, and we were ready to invoke old remembrances as well as to make new memories. The food was delicious: reminiscent of Rawlings' recipes in *Cross Creek Cookery*, including Swamp Cabbage, Corn Soufflé, Southern Collard Greens, Shrimp Pilau, Chicken and Rice and Sour Orange Pie. Also on the menu were a Greek Salad (paying homage to Charles Rawlings, Marjorie's first husband) and Key Lime Pie (paying homage to Marjorie's second husband, Norton Baskin). Wonderful music from the Front Porch Backsteppers accompanied the meal.

A highlight of the reception was the meeting between Claude and Bobby Randall after 75 years! Bobby had been Claude's double/stand-in in *The Yearling* those many years ago. Members of the Kinsey family and relatives of others involved in the filming also attended. Along with these special guests, the staff and volunteers at the Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings State Park were recognized. Friends Board Member Donna Green-Townsend presented a “first draft” of her documentary on the filming of *The Yearling* in Florida – full of fascinating reminiscences from participants in the filming. The event ended with a special presentation to Claude: a painting by Kate Barnes depicting a scene from *The Yearling*.



At the historic Marion Theatre on Sunday we were privileged to witness an onstage interview of Claude Jarman, Jr., by Donna Green-Townsend. (For those of you who missed it, you may view a recording of the interview on the Friends' website.) *The Yearling* motion picture followed. Prior to and following the motion picture, Claude signed copies of his autobiography and of photographs of himself as he appeared in the movie. Many wonderful memories were made then as well.

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MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Officers 2022

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Vice President:
Donna Green-Townsend
Secretary: Kathleen Pagan
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Manager's Message

By Ginger Nichols

A very Happy New Year to you all from the farm!

I am so excited about my new position as Park Manager of a longtime favorite park. I first visited the Cross Creek area as a child with my grandfather and returned numerous times over the years with my own daughter, friends and sometimes alone. I believe it to be a very special place as I know you all do.



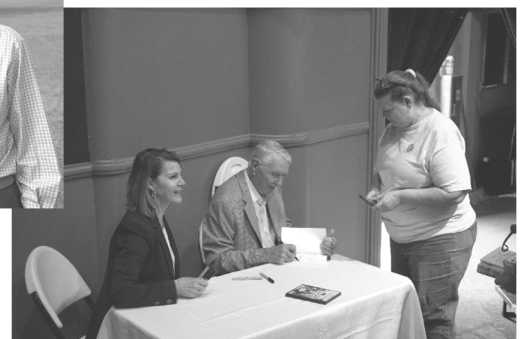
I began work here in late October during a flurry of excitement, event planning and hard work as the Friends of the Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Farm were preparing for the Claude Jarman, Jr. events in December. It was a wonderful weekend for all involved as everyone got to know "Jody" after so many years. What a gracious gentleman he is, and we are so appreciative of his and his wife Katie's time and generosity. They stopped in at the park and enjoyed a tour of the house and visited with our park staff on the Friday before the event. Claude offered to say a few words to our park visitors on the next scheduled tour, and of course they were thrilled to meet him and ask questions. What a treat!

I am most appreciative for the kindness and hospitality of the board members of the Friends of the Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Farm, volunteers and staff. You have all made me feel so welcomed and I cannot thank you enough.

I look forward to this New Year and working alongside our Friends group to promote and preserve this amazing Florida Park Service jewel.

I will hope to see you at the farm soon!

The Yearling Event Photo Gallery



Our New Park Manager Has Arrived!

Ginger Nichols' career journey is set forth in the following announcement from Kim Tennille, Assistant Chief, Bureau of Parks, District 2:

Ginger's love for the natural world, gardening and hospitality were instilled in her from childhood growing up on a South Georgia farm. She began her career with the State of Florida in 1998 at the Florida Governor's Mansion working for the Department of Management Services supervising the staff in the management and care of the gardens and grounds. Her previous experience as a Grounds Supervisor at the Historic Pebble Hill Plantation in Thomasville, Georgia and knowledge of horticulture made for an easy transition. Two years later she accepted a full-time position as the Grounds Supervisor and continued in the supervision of the staff and care of the gardens and grounds as well as creating floral arrangements for the various functions at the mansion. Ginger was able to continue her education in horticulture while employed and attended the numerous trainings offered by the UF extension office over the next several years. In 2005, she accepted the Park Services Specialist position at Alfred B. Maclay Gardens State Park where she served as the volunteer and event coordinator for 10 years. Ginger enjoyed working with a very active Citizen's Support Organization in the planning, publicizing and implementation of numerous well attended successful events over the years at Maclay Gardens. Ginger promoted to Assistant Manager in 2015 at Maclay Gardens supervising a large staff and assisting in the care and maintenance of the historic Maclay house, gardens and property. Ginger transferred to Lafayette Blue Springs State Park in 2019 in order to gain more natural resource management skills. She has enjoyed working with a wonderful team here in District 2 and assisting in the management of the staff and resources of five parks in four counties that include five river camps along the Suwannee River. Ginger is extremely grateful for the opportunity to serve as the newest Park Manager at Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Historic State Park as this has been a personal goal of hers for several years. Back to a farm and a story she loves!

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We thank the sponsors and donors that made these events possible. And we thank all who attended.

The Writers' Talks resumed in November with Ann McCutchan's discussion of her *The Life She Wished to Live: A Biography of Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings, Author of The Yearling*. The talks will continue on Saturday, February 12, with three authors sharing their works: Wanda Duncan, Dorothy Weik Smiljanich, and Lucy Forsting. Please see the announcement on page 4 of this newsletter.

And last but certainly not least, we welcomed a new Park Manager, Ginger Nichols. As is set forth in the above article in this newsletter, Ginger brings great experience as well as enthusiasm to the position.

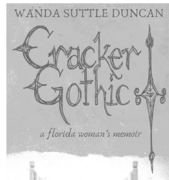
It is winter at the park – but this is hard to believe given the profusion of flowers and vegetables in the garden.

Please stay safe and stay well. And we hope we will see you at the park soon!



Joint FHS/MKR Society Conference

The 2022 Florida Historical Society Public History Forum is being held together with the 33rd Annual Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Society Conference, May 19-21, 2022, at the Hilton Conference Center in Gainesville. The combined conference will include engaging panel discussions and presentations each morning, with tours of historic sites, museums, and archives each afternoon. There will be special performances, an Awards Luncheon, a banquet dinner with keynote speaker Ann McCutchan, and more. It's an event not to be missed! Registration information will be available soon at www.myfloridahistory.org.



Writers' Talks

Writers' Talks at the Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Historic State Park, Saturday, February 12th beginning at 1:30 p.m. Two memoirs and a children's book for many ages:

- Wanda Duncan: *Cracker Gothic: A Florida Woman's Memoir.*
 Dorothy Weik Smiljanich: *Bringing Jessie Home. A Story of Canine Rescue, Human Redemption.*
 Lucy Forsting: *The Adventures of Miss Twiggs and Company.*

Meet the authors at 1:30 p.m. Writers' Talks begin at 2:00 p.m.



House Cleanup

The hard-working staff of the Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings State Park cleaned the Rawlings farmhouse from bottom to top during August and September. We often receive questions about what products are used for the cleaning process. The workers used these effective products in addition to lots of "elbow grease." We hope you will come to the Farm soon to see the results of their hard work.



Briwax was used on the Marjorie's writing table on the front porch of the Farmhouse. The product did wonders for the look of this piece of history!

Renaissance Micro-crystalline Wax/Polish has been used effectively for years on the wood furniture inside of the house.

"D/2" was used on the wooden floors inside the house and on the porches to thoroughly clean the wood. You will be amazed at the way they look. While not new, they have a very clean finish.



DVDs available:

Life and Times in Cross Creek: Memories and Reflections and
Here is Home: Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings and Cross Creek

Life and Times in Cross Creek: Memories and Reflections produced by Donna Green-Townsend. This hour long presentation features unique historic video, audio and photos of friends and neighbors of Rawlings. The DVD is available to purchase by mail for \$19.00.

Here is Home: Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings and Cross Creek, a short documentary produced by Sonya Doctorian. This 40 minute presentation is a documentary of the life and legacy of Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings. This DVD is available to purchase by mail for \$24.00.

Please make your check payable to Friends of the Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Farm and mail to P.O. Box 337, Micanopy, FL 32667-0337. Postage and handling are included in the price.

Wonderful New Benches!

Friends Board Member and Treasurer Extraordinaire Anne Pierce made a very generous donation of lumber to the park. Some of the lumber has been made into new benches for the farm and trail by our resident volunteers Andy Brightman and Tom Teets.



Friends of the MKR Farm Financial Summary for FY 2021

Income:	Membership		\$6,688	
	Contributions			
		Individuals	\$14,167	*
		Park Box	\$853	
		Drawings	\$130	
		Plants	\$337	
	Interest on CDs		\$572	
	Profit on Sales		\$10,063	
	Yearling/Jarman events	Donations	\$5,200	
		Tickets & other income	\$7,689	**
		Total event income:	\$12,889	
		Total event expenses	\$8,200	**
		Final profit	\$4,689	
Expenses:	Web Site, revision, maintenance		\$3,649	
	Park programs:		\$810	
		Greater Good Video		
		MKR Birthday Event		
		Writer's Talk-Ann McCutchan		
	Park needs including:		\$6,586	
		citrus tree care		
		garden-all seasons		
		entrance kiosk		
		care of animals		
	cook/can supplies			
	Newsletter-print & mail		\$1,404	
	Support Services including membership		\$790	
Net Gain for 2021:			\$21,009	***

*In addition to these contributions, \$5200 was donated for The Yearling/Jarman events.

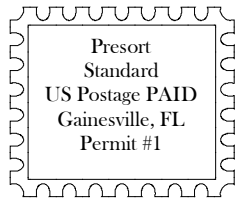
In kind donations of approximately \$2000 were also made to benefit these events.

** Some income and expenses for The Yearling/Jarman events were received or expended in 2022. They are included here for the sake of completeness.

*** Does not include the 2022 Yearling/Jarman event expenses and income.

LIFETIME MEMBERS

- Ginny and Gunter Arndt
- Judy Baker
- Sheila Barnes
- Catherine Beazley
- Diane E. Beck
- Roger and Linda Blackburn
- Robert Blauer
- Sybil Ann Brennan
- Mary W. Bridgman
- Arden Brugger
- Dan Cantliffe
- Ginger and Kevin Carter
- Norma Davis
- Patricia Ann Davis
- Sheila Dickison
- Barbara E. Dupont
- John and Balinda Ferree
- Sue Gaintner
- Ordy Greenly
- Ronald Haase
- Robert E. Haines
- J. C. Harrell
- Judith Harris
- Candace Henderson
- John and Phyllis Holmgren
- Roy Hunt
- Claude and Katie Jarman
- Deanne Clark & William H. Jeter, Jr.
- Ashley Jordan
- Brenda Keith
- Mary J. Kelly
- Shirley Kiser
- Richard Knellinger, P.A.
- Angel Kwolek-Folland
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- Shirley Lucas
- Michaelyn Luttge
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- Mary Lisa McLaughran
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- Art & Edda Ross
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- Angela Territo
- Shirley Thompson
- M. List Underwood, Jr.
- Pamela Lydick Whiting
- Colleen Whitlock
- Barbara Wingo
- Corporate Members**
- Blackadder Brewers (Life)
- Blue Highway Pizzeria
- Dancing Cows Ranch
- Mobley Pharmacy Services of Gainesville



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



IS IT TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP?

Please check your address label. The date that you see on the label is the date your dues are due. Visit www.marjoriekinnanrawlings.org to join or renew or you may fill out and send a check with the form below. If your membership is current, we thank you!

Mark Your Calendar!

- Saturday, February 12th** Writers' Talks at Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Historic State Park, beginning at 1:30pm. (See page 4 for details)
- Sunday, May 22nd** Premiere of "The Filming of *The Yearling* in Florida": at the Marion Theatre in Ocala (Please check our website for detailed information)
- Saturday, August 6th** Marjorie's Birthday Party
- Saturday, December 3rd** Friends' Annual Meeting
- Saturday, December 10th** Holiday Party at the Park

Like us on Facebook at The Friends of the Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Farm.

<i>Membership Information</i>					
Effective September 1, 2021 new membership dues are as follows					
Type	1yr	3yr	5yr	10yr	Lifetime
Individual	\$30	\$85	\$140	\$270	\$ 500
Family	\$35	\$100	\$165	\$320	\$ 600
Educational	\$35	\$100	\$165	\$320	\$ 600
Corporate	\$60	\$175	\$290	\$570	\$1,000
<small>Effective 9/1/2021</small>					
<p>Please circle type of membership and send with your check to: Friends of the MKRawlings Farm, Inc. P.O. Box 337 Micanopy, FL 32667-0337</p> <p><i>or visit our website at marjoriekinnanrawlings.org to join or renew your membership online</i></p>					

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

We invite you to join or renew your membership in the Citizen Support Organization (CSO) for the Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Historic State Park. Friends of the Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Farm, Inc., is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. All contributions are tax deductible. A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Florida Division of Consumer Services by calling 1-800-435-7352 (toll-free within Florida). Registration does not imply endorsement, approval, or recommendation by the State.

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Please Note: Our dues structure was updated September 2021