



News from the Creek

Friends of Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Farm, Inc.

Volume 19 Number 1

Visit our website at: www.marjoriekinnanrawlings.org

Spring Quarterly 2016



President's Message April 2016

By Elaine Spencer

I want to recognize Art Wade, our friend at Dudley Farm State Park in Newberry. Art is CSO President of The Friends of Dudley Farm and also has a passion for roses. This is where the story begins. His love of roses is coming to Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings home in Cross Creek. On Sunday, May 15th we will have a ribbon-cutting ceremony for a new rose named after Marjorie. This is exciting and Art is responsible for this becoming a reality. Last year, a horticulturist at Florida Southern, Dr. Malcolm Manners attending the MKR Society Conference in Lakeland introduced the new rose to the society members. Dr. Manners, in breeding this new hybrid, asked for help naming this special petite red rose. It was then that his friend, Dr. Keith Huneycutt who teaches the writings of Marjorie Rawlings in his English classes suggested naming it after MKR. Dr. Manners had the rose registered with the National Rose Society to be officially named the Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Rose. This is when Art Wade came into the scene. Art and his wife are the owners and operators of Rose Petals Nursery and has generously offered to help design and build a rose bed that will have three MKR roses to honor her name.

On behalf of The Friends of the Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Farm, we want to thank Art for collaborating with us on this very special occasion. To find out more about this upcoming event, please read the article in this issue by our newest board member Lowell Garrett. Wouldn't Marjorie be thrilled? -Yes, I think she would be so thrilled that a beautiful new rose variety has been named after her.

See you there on May 15th!



Art Wade, CSO President @ Dudley Farms and owner of Rose Petals Nursery giving his expertise in preparation of the Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Rose Garden. Also helping is Dan Anson and Neal Spencer along with Farm Volunteer, Bob Protomaster - Valerie Rivers overseeing

Rose Event Preparation



Park Manager Valerie Rivers and Board Member Dan Anson prepare rose bed layout

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Elaine Carson Spencer

Can you Help?

Recently, the community sign in Cross Creek was destroyed and/or stolen, leaving the community without a valued source of sharing community news and information. The MKR Friends of the Farm would like to ask that you consider making a donation to the Cross Creek Volunteer Fire Department to help replace this sign. The address for the Fire Dept. is P.O. Box 183, Island Grove, FL 32654.

*Thank you for your
kind consideration!*

Yearling Trail Walk Saturday, March 5, 2016

A Day in Jody's World

By Anne Pierce

Saturday, March 5, eight of us enjoyed a lovely day on the Yearling Trail in the Ocala National Forest. No sooner than we had started on the Florida Trail portion of the Yearling Trail, we spotted a beautiful **Swallow-tailed Kite** in the blue sky above the classic scrub. We had hardly recovered from that thrill, when several **Florida Scrub Jays** were spotted in the Hidden Pond area and north of there as well as near the Rueben Long home site.

Just beside of the Yearling Trail near the Calvin Long Homestead site, there is a large mound of sand at the entrance of a **Gopher Tortoise burrow**. We saw no inhabitants, however.

Just a bit further, an animal was bounding along the ground about 100 feet off of the trail. All we could see was a very large fluffy tail. As it went up the tree, we identified a **Sherman's Fox Squirrel**. This one was a beauty. Very light in color, it had a black mask on its face. We watched it climb and jump to a neighboring tree. You will perhaps remember that this portion of the trail is long-leaf pine, wiregrass, and palmetto habitat. This is just what the fox squirrel needs to thrive.



The boils were lovely as usual, and the gingerbread was delicious. What a day!



Marjorie's Rose

By Lowell Garrett

It's clear that Marjorie Rawlings loved roses, as she was adept in growing several varieties at her Cross Creek property that thrived in the North Florida climate. According to Elizabeth Silverthorne in her Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Sojourner at Cross Creek "[Marjorie's] secret dream was to win the Nobel Prize for Literature and another was to have a rose named after her." Marjorie won the Pulitzer Prize, which is no small accomplishment for an American writer and now after all these years there is a rose dedicated to her name.

The MKR Rose is a due to the efforts of two Professors on the faculty of Florida Southern College... Dr. Keith Huneycutt and Dr. Malcolm Manners. Huneycutt is a professor of English and Manners is a professor of Citrus Science, but is well known for his work with rose viruses, which has earned him international recognition as one of the great Rosarians of the World.

It is no more fitting than to have a writer and a rosarian honor Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings with her Florida variety rose. Art and Cydney Wade are accomplishing the propagation of the MKR rose at the Rose Petals Nursery in Newberry, Florida. Art is also the President of the Friends of Dudley Farm CSO, which is a sister organization to the Friends of MKR Farm. Wade has been instrumental in assisting the Friends of MKR Farm and the Florida Park Service with the development of an irrigated rose bed located at the entrance gate to the MKR Farm State Park. He, along with park rangers and volunteers, has done a great deal of preparation for the upcoming rose ceremony ribbon cutting.

Beginning at noon on Sunday May 15, 2016, at the entrance to the MKR Park in Cross Creek, there will be a series of events and opportunities to be one of the first to own this rose. From noon to about 2:00 p.m. there will be drawings of chance tickets to win one of the few available MKR rose plants. If you are not lucky winning a rose there will also be jams and jellies, books and much more for sale. You may be able to order the rose when available. At 2:15 p.m. Dr. Huneycutt and Art Wade will provide a little history on the development of the rose and some pointers on keeping it happy and healthy to be followed by the ribbon cutting and refreshments. Now you don't want to miss the refreshments, as there will be an opportunity to try Marjorie's very own gingerbread (actually it was Evadne's Gingerbread), but Marjorie had noted that "even if the batter seemed incredibly thin, do not make the mistake of adding any more flour." I know that I am hoping that this delicious gingerbread will be served with a little powdered sugar and some cold lemonade.

The ribbon cutting event is free, but keep in mind that entrance to the park is \$3 per carload and house tours are available at 10a.m., 11a.m. and 1, 2, 3 and 4p.m. at a cost of \$3 per person. Make sure you buy a chance to win one of the newest and most beautiful roses in the world!



Photograph left to right: Dr. Keith Huneycutt and Dr. Malcolm Manners holding the newly named MKR Rose that was introduced at the MKR Society Conference, Florida Southern, Lakeland last year.

MKR Rose Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony Event Schedule

Sunday, May 15, 2016

- 12N-1:45pm – Drawing of Chance Tickets for MKR Roses, jellies, books and much more!
 2:00-3:00pm – Program & Ribbon-Cutting
 Refreshments to follow: Marjorie's Gingerbread & Cool refreshing lemonade & iced tea
 Winner's of Drawing of Chance announced



The Friends of Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Farm, Inc.
Cordially Invite You to the
**Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Rose Garden
Ceremonial Ribbon Cutting Event**

Sunday, May 15, 2016
12 noon - 3:00 pm

Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings County Park, Cross Creek
At the entrance to the Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Historic State Park.

Talk by grower, Art Wade, of Rose Petals Nursery
Chance Drawings for MKR Roses
Refreshments

Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings loved her fragrant "Louis Philippe" roses, which she planted between her kitchen garden and the duck pen. We think she would be so thrilled that a beautiful new rose variety has been named for her and will be planted near the entrance to her grove.

Come help us Celebrate!!

For more information contact Elaine Spencer by
email elainespencer@gmail.com

Happy Winners

Pictured right are three of the lucky winners from our chance drawings held at the recent MKR Society Meeting held at the Yacht Club in Jacksonville, April 1st 2016.

Cathy Smith - (jam)
Paul Dunn - (Commemorative Stamps)
Anne Bellissima - (jam)



Duckling Surprise

By Park Ranger Carrie Todd

Last April the farm overflowed with chickens and ducks from Murray McMurray hatchery. We strove to bolster our ranks but had to order and incubate our own chicks.



This spring, however, our bounty of babies from last year have produced their own clutches of eggs. In addition to the 26 chickens and 7 ducks, the farm has been home to six baby ducklings for the past month. They are growing well and soon will have their juvenile feathers. Furthermore, just this last week another hen decided she was ready to "set hard." In the next few weeks, we might have more ducklings. At one point Marjorie had over 70 ducks from her original clutch of eggs. *"It not only cost me as much to feed my flock of wild Mallards as to feed two mules, but it makes me ill to kill them for the table. I should never do it except that the flock so multiplies each year that I cannot afford to keep them all."* While we don't use our "excess" ducks for dinner parties, it is a constant struggle to keep them off the road. Too bad Marjorie didn't include tips for the care of ducks along with the directions for her Wild Duck Dinner.

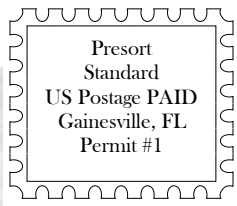


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Friends of Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Farm, Inc.
 P.O. Box 337
 Micanopy, FL 32667-0337

Website: www.marjoriekinnanrawlings.org
 Instagram: @MKRFarm
 Facebook

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. If your membership is current, we thank you!




2016 Friends of MKR Calendar

Friday-Saturday May 5-6, 2016	Cooking and Tasting Days at MKR house During all tours: 10am, 11am, 1pm-4pm
Sunday, May 7, 2016	Island Grove Blueberry Festival
Sunday, May 15, 2016	MKR Rose Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony, 12N-3pm <i>(see Newsletter pgs 3 and 4 or check website for details)</i>
Saturday, May 28, 2016	Tenant House Open, 12N-4pm
Thursday-Friday, June 16-17, 2016	Cooking and Tasting Days at MKR House <i>(During all tours: 10am, 11am, 1pm-4pm)</i>
Sunday, July 31, 2016	MKR Annual Birthday Party, 1pm-2pm <i>(Actual birthday, August 8, 1896)</i>
August-September, 2016	MKR House tours closed for Maintenance

<i>Membership Information</i>					
Effective July 1, 2014 new membership dues are as follows					
Type	1yr	3yr	5yr	10yr	Lifetime
Individual	\$25	\$70	\$105	\$200	\$ 450
Family	\$30	\$85	\$130	\$250	\$ 550
Educational	\$30	\$85	\$130	\$250	\$ 550
Corporate	\$55	\$155	\$255	\$500	\$1,000

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

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. Friends of the Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Farm, Inc., is a 501©(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.

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Comments: