

McLean County Museum of History

Children and Elders Forest Collection

Processed by
JoAnna Mink
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Collection Information

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	1 Box
COLLECTION DATES:	2004-2010
RESTRICTIONS:	None
REPRODUCTION RIGHTS:	Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained in writing from the McLean County Museum of History
ALTERNATIVE FORMATS:	None
OTHER FINDING AIDS:	None
LOCATION:	Archives
NOTES:	

Brief History

Children and Elders Forest was formed in 2005 in Bloomington-Normal for charitable and educational purposes. The mission is to plant indigenous trees in groves; to have intergenerational teams sponsor trees; and to improve the quality of life through savings in reducing air pollution, soil erosion, storm-water run-off, health costs, and air-conditioning costs. The organization seeks to increase tree canopy in communities to maximum capacity.

In partnership with the Town of Normal's Parks and Recreation Department, Maxwell Park was identified as the site of the first grove. It was renamed Turtle Grove in honor of a nearby watershed, the Mackinaw, which means Turtle in the Algonquian language. Children and Elders recruited 95 teams of sponsors and planted 95 trees of 20 species in November 2005. The Town of Normal designed the grove and committed to maintain the grove and replace trees that die.

Subsequent groves were established as follows:

Bur Oak Grove – Ireland Grove Road, Bloomington, est. 2010

Cardinal Grove – Glenn Elementary School, Normal, est. 2009

Eagle Grove – Maxwell Park, Normal, est. 2006

Golden Grove – Bloomington High School, Bloomington, est. 2013

Prairie Grove – ISU Horticultural Center, Normal, est. 2008

Songbird Grove – M. J. Rhymer Family Nature Preserve, Normal, est. 2010

Turtle Grove -- Maxwell Park, Normal, est. 2006

Windrow Grove – M. J. Rhymer Family Nature Preserve, Normal, est. 2006 at the Interstate Center, then moved to current location in 2015

Winter Hill Grove – Ewing Park III, Bloomington, est. 2006

Scope

The collection includes meeting minutes from inception of Children and Elders Forest, news clippings, designs of the groves, and completed sponsor registration forms for many of the groves.

Box and Folder Inventory

Folder 1: History

List of groves and year established

Narrative description of Children and Elders Forest, August 2008 (2 copies)

Draft of Narrative description of Children and Elders Forest, August 2008

Children and Elders Forest – Plant a Tree – brochure (2 copies)

Application for Recognition of Exemption, IRA 2013, business card for Alan Novick Attorney, note sent to Alan March 28, 2008

Earth Cohealing (ECohealing) mission statement – July 18, 1999, 2pp

Folder 2: Grove Designs

Eagle Grove / Maxwell Park
Eagle Grove
Turtle Grove
Windrow Grove
Winter Hill Grove

Folder 3: Co-Sponsors and Supporters

List of co-sponsors, July 2006 (2 copies)
“CBEC supports tree project” by Laurie Vial in Corn Belt Energy Newslines, August 2006 (2 copies)
Copy of letter from Joe Grabill to Mike Price, Ameren, December 15, 2006, with attached copy of receipt and supporting emails and business cards
Email from Joe Grabill to Julie Romanowski thanking her for support of State Farm Community Volunteers Board, September 1, 2005

Folder 4: Speaking Engagements

Email from Joe Grabill to Art regarding Normal Rotary speaking engagement September 20, 2006
Email and notes regarding speaking at Sunrise Rotary, July 18, 2006

Folder 5: Tree Party and Appleseed Awards, 2007

Invitation to A Tree Party, September 6, 2007 (2 copies)
List of attendees
Projected Attendance
Program notes
Minutes from Subcommittee meeting, August 28, 2007
Program for A Tree Party at New Vision Church, September 6, 2007 (2 copies)
Appleseed Award Categories and Possible Names
List of qualified awardees, 5 pp, August 29, 2007
List of Award Recipients, August 2007

Folder 6: Meeting Minutes 2004-2005

Copies of minutes from meetings, related emails and notes from March 2004 – November 2005

Folder 7: Meeting Minutes 2006-2007

Copies of minutes from meetings, related emails and notes from January 2006 – December 2007

Folder 8: Meeting Minutes 2008-2010

Copies of minutes from meetings, related emails and notes from January 2008 – December 2010

Folder 9: News clippings and news releases

All from *The Pantagraph* unless noted
“Family Trees,” September 15, 2005
“Organization creates bond with Trees,” *Daily Vidette*, October 3, 2005

“Lawyer linked to Nature,” March 12, 2005
“Trees help strengthen family bond,” October 24, 2005
“Memory Trees,” November 20, 2005
“Tree Groves stand as living memorials for generations,” April 17, 2006
“Idea of memorial tree grove grows on people,” August 10, 2006
“Deadline to sponsor tree approaches,” September 20, 2006
“Plant a tree; help save environment,” October 8, 2006
“Planting for the future,” November 5, 2006
“Generations come together for tree grove,” *Bloomington-Normal Community News*,
November 8, 2006
“Tree Planting brings people together,” Letter to editor, December 20, 2006
“Branching Out: Gifts of trees help bring the generations together,” November 11, 2007
Letter to Joe Grabill from Shana of the Pantagraph, November 2007
Plant a Tree, advertisement, November 27, 2007
“Arbor Day Tribute to trees took root over 100 years ago,” April 19, 2008
“Dist. 87 looks to re-bid bus pact next year,” reference to school board announcement,
May 14, 2008
“Dist. 87 approves Golden Grove,” May 15, 2008
“Planting trees brings children and elders together,” *Daily Vidette*, October 14, 2008
“Grove of Honor,” November 16, 2008
“Leaves of Fall,” October 19, 2009
“Preserving the Future: Rhymer Family Nature Preserve making progress of late ISU
professor’s dream,” October 2, 2011
“Tree Checkups,” April 24, 2012
Media Listings
News releases: August 25, 2005; September 2005; September 26, 2005; October 11,
2005; November 15, 2005; July 18, 2006 with email; November 13, 2006; February 9,
2007

Folder 10: Bur Oak Grove

Kickapoo Park pamphlet (2 copies)
Email from Joe Grabill explaining connections between Friends of Kickapoo Creek and
Bur Oak Grove, April 25, 2010
Design of Bur Oak Grove (1 color, 1 black & white)
List of Bur Oak Tags, May 5, 2010
“Tree planting set for Grove,” *Pantagraph*, May 14, 2010
Program for Bur Oak Ceremony, May 15, 2010
Packet of Bur Oak Grove design, sponsorship forms, and price list
Handwritten notes regarding number of trees purchased, set ups, and miscellaneous
Completed sponsorship forms and notes for people purchasing trees in Bur Oak Grove

Folder 11: Cardinal Grove

List of trees purchased, June 3, 2009
List of trees, April 22, 2009
Sponsorship form for Cardinal Grove
Completed sponsorship forms and notes for people purchasing trees in Cardinal Grove

Growing Trees in School: The Story of Cardinal Grove at Glenn Elementary, 2009 by Joe Grabill, 32 pp.

Folder 12: Eagle Grove Stories

Typescript of stories written by people purchasing trees in Eagle Grove, November 2006,
4 pp
Copies of individual stories submitted

Folder 13: Eagle Grove Registrations 2006

List of people purchasing trees in Eagle Grove in 2006, October 2007
Design of Eagle Grove
Eagle Grove Ceremony, November 11, 2006 (2 copies)
Completed registration forms and notes for people purchasing trees in Eagle Grove in 2006

Folder 14: Eagle Grove Registrations 2007-2008

List of people purchasing trees in Eagle Grove in 2007
Registration Packet for Eagle Grove (long version)
Registration Packet for Eagle Grove (short version)
Completed registration forms and notes for people purchasing trees in Eagle Grove in 2007-2008

Folder 15: Golden Grove Registrations and Miscellaneous

Email from Nancy Miller to Joe Grabill regarding replacing dead trees, February 14, 2010
Thank you email from Joe Grabill with information on Golden Grove, June 18, 2009
Names and Phone numbers, handwritten notes
Email to David Lamb from Joe Grabill regarding update, September 30, 2008
Email from Joe Grabill to Golden Grove sponsors regarding update, September 21, 2008
Letter to Joe Grabill from Robert Nielsen regarding purchase of tree, November 26, 2008
Distribution list 2008
Email to various sponsors from Joe Grabill regarding packets, November 9, 2008
List of number of checks and number of trees, November 19, 2008
List of people purchasing trees, 2 pp, undated
List of sponsors, August 2, 2008
List of members 2008
Completed registration forms and notes for people purchasing trees in Golden Grove in 2008

Folder 16: Prairie Grove

Certificate "In Celebration of the Planting of Baldcypress #2 in Prairie Grove,"
November 8, 2008
Stories, 2 pp., November 2008
List of sponsors
List of trees and sponsors, August 3, 2008
Email from Joe Grabill to Deborah Oberg regarding checks, November 18, 2008

Email from Joe Grabill to registrants, August 20, 2008
List of people, handwritten
Completed registration forms and notes for people purchasing trees in Prairie Grove in 2008

Folder 17: Turtle Grove

Design of Turtle Grove
Eagle Grove Ceremony, November 11, 2006 (2 copies)
Completed registration forms and notes for people purchasing trees in Turtle Grove for November 2005 Planting
Five photos of teams
Turtle Grove Planting Ceremony Program, November 19, 2005
Stories, November 2005 and March 2006
Email from Joe Grabill to Aileen Blomgren regarding photos, November 19, 2005
Email from Joe Grabill to Kathleen regarding editing stories, January 18, 2006, with list of people writing stories
List of people submitting stories, November 28, 2005
Memo from Stephany Roth describing the Bloomington-Normal Junior Woman's Club, November 19, 2005

Folder 18: Windrow Grove

Design of Turtle Grove
Eagle Grove Ceremony, November 11, 2006 (2 copies)
Completed registration forms and notes for people purchasing trees in Turtle Grove for November 2005 Planting

Folder 19: Winter Hill Grove

Registration packet, long version, September 6, 2007
Registration packet, short version, September 6, 2007
Winter Hill Grove Ceremony, November 18, 2006 (2 copies—1 clean, 1 with notes)
List of available trees, June 5, 2007

Folder 20: Winter Hill Grove Registrations A-L

Completed registration forms and notes for people purchasing trees in Willow Hill Grove

Folder 21: Winter Hill Grove Registrations M-Z

Completed registration forms and notes for people purchasing trees in Willow Hill Grove

Folder 22: Winter Hill Grove Stories

List of sponsors and trees purchased, November 16, 2006
Stories, November 2006, 4pp
Stories, incomplete draft 2006, 8pp
Stories from individuals, alphabetical order