

A Pottawattamie County Almanac

March 10th Introduction:

(@2 hours)

- Introduction of myself and others in attendance
- Course overview
- Classes inspired by *A Sand County Almanac* (ASCA) by Aldo Leopold
 - Who was Leopold?
 - How many of you have read ASCA?
 - Much of today's ecological understanding is rooting in ASCA & Leopold.
 - Show short power point of Aldo Leopold.
- Quote of the Day: (All sessions will begin with a Leopold quotation). We will integrate his ideas throughout the duration of the coursework.
 - *"We abuse land because we see it as a commodity belonging to us. When we see land as a community to which we belong, we may begin to use it with love and respect."*
- ASCA...February: "This Good Oak".
 - *"There are two spiritual dangers in not owning a farm. One is the danger of supposing that breakfast comes from the grocery, and the other that heat comes from the furnace."*
 - Read selected paragraphs from the book to the participants.
- Mother Nature's Calendar for February. (We will incorporate a MNC for each month of the PCA identifying the natural events that occur during the passing of each calendar page.)
- Short ramble on nature trail:
 - Sensory hike; what do you see, hear, smell, feel, etc. / animal & plant evidence etc.
 - Journaling discussion (write and sketch)
 - What is phenology? Why is it important?
- Leopold's legacy is carried on by so many naturalists, scientists and conservationists. We will take time to share a few of these remarkable individuals along the way including Sigurd Olson, Rachel Carson, Jane Goodall to name a few.)
 - Sylvan Runkel
 - Short power point on who he was and his legacy
 - Sylvens' song. (play tape of him singing?)
 - End by singing my re-write of John Denver's "I Guess He'd Rather Be In Colorado" ("I Guess He'd Rather Be in Western Iowa").
 - *"The real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new landscapes, but in having new eyes."*



— Marcel Proust
French novelist

Reminder: If you sign up for any or all of the classes, please dress appropriately for weather and weather changes, good walking shoes, journal, water container etc.

