

public/private partnership, a new model for the creation of national parks. The preserve, formerly the Z Bar/Spring Hill Ranch in Chase County, is owned by the National Park Trust, National Park and Conservation Association's land acquisition arm, and managed in cooperation with the National Park Service. Proceeds from the dinner will benefit Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve.

Kassebaum Baker, Secretary of Agriculture Dan Glickman, Senator Pat Roberts made this achievement possible. Their ability to bring together diverse interests resulted in a workable compromise for the long-awaited Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve. The Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve Act establishes the framework for an innovative

Tallgrass prairie once covered nearly 400,000 square miles of North America, from Ohio to the Rocky Mountains, from Canada to Texas. Today, less than one percent of this unique ecosystem remains, much of it in the vast, untilled grasslands of Kansas known as the Flint Hills. In 1996, President Clinton signed legislation creating Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve. The leadership of Senator Nancy

The National Parks and Conservation Association (NPCA) is America's only private nonprofit citizen organization dedicated solely to protecting, preserving, and enhancing the U.S. National Park System. An association of "Citizens Protecting America's Parks," NPCA was founded in 1919 and has more than 500,000 members.



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*"All those fall afternoons
were the same, but I
never got used to them.
The whole prairie was like
the bush that burned with
fire and was not consumed.
I felt erased.
I was entirely happy."*

—Willa Cather