



Kansas State University Libraries
New Prairie Press

Symphony in the Flint Hills Field Journal

2010 – Ranching on the Tallgrass Prairie (Marty White, Editor)

Flint Hills Night Sky ; and, Imagine

H. C. Palmer

Follow this and additional works at: <https://newprairiepress.org/sfh>

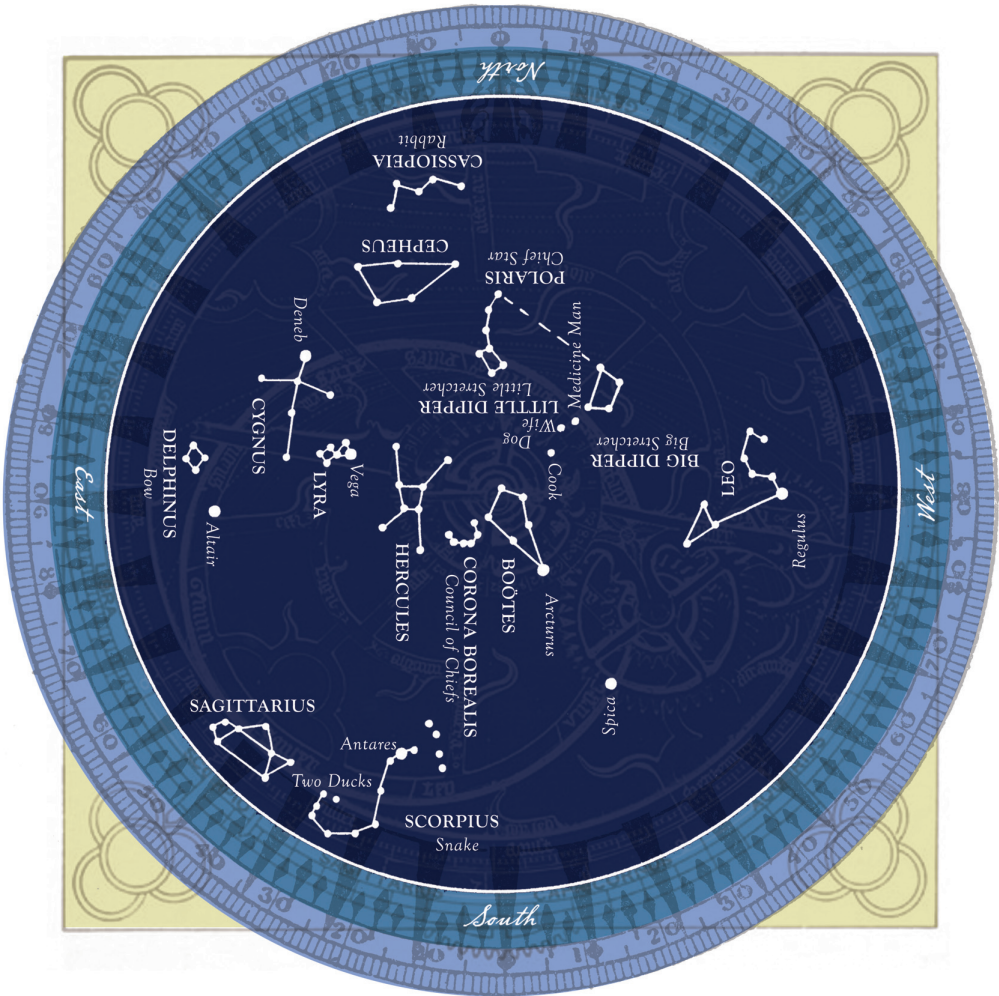
Recommended Citation

Palmer, H. C. (2010). "Flint Hills Night Sky ; and, Imagine," *Symphony in the Flint Hills Field Journal*.
<https://newprairiepress.org/sfh/2010/nature/7>

To order hard copies of the Field Journals, go to shop.symphonyintheflinthills.org.

The Field Journals are made possible in part with funding from the Fred C. and Mary R. Koch Foundation.

This is brought to you for free and open access by the Conferences at New Prairie Press. It has been accepted for inclusion in Symphony in the Flint Hills Field Journal by an authorized administrator of New Prairie Press. For more information, please contact cad@k-state.edu.



THE FLINT HILLS NIGHT SKY - EARLY SUMMER

Imagine

“...then he will gaze upon the light of the moon and stars...” -Plato



Imagine, someone finding Herefords and sycamores unnatural and uninteresting. One who lives inside caves of tall buildings, who wears dark glasses against the sunlight. Here, out of curiosity or even despair, he considers a creek bed for the first time, uneasy that shadows are diffused in timber and tall grass and unaware he has walked over a trail of wheel ruts and through the bowl of an old buffalo wallow. The spare tops of hills, set level by the bed of a Permian sea, appear the barest edges of a desolate landscape.

So you go to him, walk him through the prairie grass into the timber, to the edge of Little Cedar Creek. You name plants he hurried by-sideoats gramma grass, snow-on-the-mountain and Jerusalem artichoke. You take him to an outcropping cut on the bank of a dry oxbow. You search through a trail of flint washed clean by spring rains. He removes the glasses to look for himself and discovers a Munkers Creek point. You tell him it is his to keep-a gift. You tell him if he stays after dark, he can see clearly the constellation Pleiades, thinking he has no idea-

then you are pleased when he asks if he can see the Big Dipper too.

- H.C. PALMER



The Kansas State Historical Society