



the twig

WINTER 2016

www.sycamorelandtrust.org

Hike!

Two new trails

PAGES 2 and 10

Hello!

Meet our new Development Director

PAGE 4

Lend a hand!

Many new volunteer opportunities for you

PAGES 12 - 14



Hiking past the 'good stuff'

Photo by Dave Simcox

New volunteer-built trail to open in Brown Co.

BY JOAN TEN HOOR

Have you ever seen a glacial erratic? It's a rock, often boulder-size, that was transported from far north by a glacier and then left behind after the glacier melted away. Also called dropstones, they are not showy, but are notable because they are different from the local bedrock. Want to see one? The new trail at Sycamore's Laura Hare Nature Preserve at Downey Hill in Brown County has been intentionally routed so that hikers can pass by and observe several of these erratics.

The new trail at Downey Hill is the work of the Hoosier Hikers Council (HHC) members and volunteers, along with volunteers from Sycamore. Early in 2014, Sycamore Assistant Director John Lawrence discussed with Pete Banta, then HHC president, the possibility of a trail to the north of the small gravel parking lot on Valley Branch Road. HHC took on the project, no small task. Scouting began in April 2014. HHC member and trail planner Jim Shearn says, "It took days and days to route the best way past good stuff, and the route must be sustainable." That means paying careful attention to drainage patterns to keep the trail walkable.

Work on the trail began in October 2014. In December 2015, Shearn estimated that two or three more workdays would be needed, but the 2.8 mile north loop trail is mostly done and can be hiked now. Follow the flags in the valley. The official opening is planned for April. "It's a really pretty valley," say the trail builders. "There are waterfalls, blue shale, and in some places iron deposits color the rocks orange." Because of the ups and downs of Brown County terrain, the trail is moderately challenging. Jim Ferguson, HHC member and Sycamore steward for The Laura Hare Nature Preserve at Downey Hill, comments about the trail, "It will be gorgeous in the spring. The wildflowers are amazing."

A south loop trail is also being planned that will be more rugged and advanced because of the steep terrain. Ferguson says the trail site has elevations as high as 900 ft. The "good stuff" here will include an old home site with a cistern and root cellars, and a stand of white pines that attracts migratory birds, including cerulean warblers, in the spring. And some more glacial erratics.

Volunteers are still needed for trail work at Downey Hill. No experience or exceptional strength needed. See "Upcoming Activities & Volunteer Opportunities" (p. 12) in this issue, or go to sycamore-landtrust.org and click on Events, or go to hoosierhikerscouncil.org for workday announcements.

Left: The Downey Hill trail building team on their December 19 workday. L - r: Fred Moore, Mark Stuttgen, Tony Mungovan, Patrick Eaton, Jim Ferguson, Timothy Calahan, Jim Shearn, Bryan Ball, Susannah Dragash.

Right: Russell Boulding, retired geologist and Sycamore volunteer, puts his foot on a glacial erratic he discovered while scouting The Laura Hare Nature Preserve at Downey Hill. The erratics here are the southernmost ones he has seen.

Below: The route of the new trail at The Laura Hare Nature Preserve at Downey Hill in Brown Co.



Photo by John Lawrence



Directions to The Laura Hare Nature Preserve at Downey Hill

- From the intersection of SR 46 and SR 135/Van Buren Street in Nashville, drive east on SR 46 toward Gnaw Bone for 5.5 miles until you reach Valley Branch Road.
- Turn right on Valley Branch and drive 1.5 miles.
- Turn left into a small gravel parking lot.

For more information on The Laura Hare Nature Preserve at Downey Hill, go to sycamore-landtrust.org/downey-hill.

Since 1995, the Hoosier Hikers Council (hoosierhikerscouncil.org) has been building, repairing, and maintaining hiking and running trails in the state of Indiana. HHC provides maps and information for hikers, backpackers, and runners to assist in the use and enjoyment of Indiana trails.



Ann Connors

Ann grew up in Bloomington and attended the University of Illinois. She moved back to Bloomington in 2014 as Senior Development Officer for Panthera, an organization that works to protect the big cats, including jaguars, lions, tigers, and leopards, and their habitats.

My first impressions: strong supporters, strong organization

BY ANN CONNORS

As the new Development Director, I am honored to join the dedicated team at Sycamore Land Trust. Since October, I have had the great pleasure of getting to know members and volunteers who have invested their valuable time and resources over the years.

Many people have told me that they support Sycamore because it is “run like a business” by an experienced team. Thanks to your help, our expert staff, Board of Directors, and Advisory Board have been able to:

- Grow the land that we protect from 30 acres to nearly 9,000 over Sycamore’s first 25 years.
- Build capacity so that we now have six full-time staff members.
- Ensure our long-term strength each year by not spending more than we raise.
- Bring together landowners, companies, government, and other organizations from across the political landscape to creatively complete important acquisition projects.
- Stay true to our strategic plan and mission: to protect land and connect people to nature.

Your continued support is accomplishing a lot. **In 2015, Sycamore protected \$2.2 million worth of land** and we are looking forward to another successful year.

Thank you so much for being involved with Sycamore Land Trust and ensuring that we will remain strong and productive. You’re helping us protect land forever—and forever is a long time!

Ann Connors



Where the woods enclose you Bench honors Sycamore supporter

BY KATRINA FOLSOM, COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

John Gallman, former Sycamore Board president, and award-winning local author Scott Russell Sanders are two of the most humble people you’ll ever meet. Scott and his wife Ruth recently honored John with a bench in his name at Beanblossom Bottoms Nature Preserve. Yet the first thing each of them said was that the other one deserved recognition!

“I’m very honored by Scott, but he’s done more for the environment both locally and nationally than I ever could,” John stated.

Motivated by connecting others to nature

“I knew from early on that John loves the land,” Scott said. “As evidence of this love, he published books on birds, wildflowers, and gardening, and a major work titled ‘The Natural History of Indiana.’ These books invited readers to appreciate more deeply where we live.”

When John retired as director of IU Press in 2000, he put his love of land to work as Board president for Sycamore Land Trust. One of his first priorities: “They’d been talking for years about putting a trail in at Beanblossom Bottoms, and I figured I’d try to get it done!”

And so he did. It took four years, help from many volunteers, and grants from The Laura Hare Charitable Trust and Duke Energy. If you have visited Beanblossom Bottoms, you know it’s a special place, and that you wouldn’t be able to see the bald eagle nest, the creek full of chirping frogs, or the alley of woodpeckers without that superb trail.

“I’m motivated to do this because one of the biggest problems we face as a species is we’re cut off from nature. I think if it just changes a few people to be more in tune with the environment, it will have been a success,” John mused.

A perfectly suited way to say thanks

When Scott and Ruth learned they could dedicate a bench, “Ruth and I immediately thought of John because of our friendship and his work as publisher as well as his contribution to Sycamore,” Scott said. “Sycamore is a model for other land trusts and John was president during a crucial transition.”

John himself chose a quiet place for the bench. “I’m usually so busy when I’m there that I don’t even sit down. But in this secluded place, if you just sat for 15 minutes, the woods would enclose you and you’d get a chance to see nature that has forgotten your presence.”

Learn more about naming opportunities at www.sycamorelandtrust.org/leadership-society.

Above: On a drizzly day in October, John Gallman and his wife Beth visited Beanblossom Bottoms with Scott and Ruth Sanders and Sycamore staff to place a bench honoring John. The four friends were brimming with mutual appreciation and the pleasure of being outdoors. Sitting, l – r: Scott Russell Sanders, Beth and John Gallman, Ruth Sanders. Standing, l – r: Christian Freitag, Ann Connors, John Lawrence.



A recap of last year's acquisitions

Beanblossom Creek conservation—and more—takes off

BY JOHN LAWRENCE, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Our Beanblossom Creek Bicentennial Conservation Area initiative in Monroe County got off to a great start in 2015. Thanks to supporters like you and the Indiana Bicentennial Nature Trust, 400 more acres are now preserved in the project area. And that's not all. Here's a recap through the year:

OXBOW PRESERVE (FEBRUARY): This 31-acre preserve protects the scenic gateway to Bloomington at the junction of Business 37/Walnut Street and IN-37 north of town. Oxbow Preserve is named for a cut-off channel of Beanblossom Creek in the middle of the property. It also contains wet fields and forest along the creek's current route. Landowner Skip Van Cel generously sold the property below appraised value, while the Bicentennial Nature Trust and the Community Foundation of Bloomington and Monroe County provided grants towards the purchase.

What's next? Plans are in the works for a visitor structure and trails, thanks to the Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust, the Community Foundation of Bloomington and Monroe County, and Sycamore members.

FIX-STOELTING PRESERVE (MAY): This project added another 31 acres to the Beanblossom Creek conservation area. Beanblossom Creek runs along the edge of this Preserve for half a mile. The Preserve also features a tall, rocky knob. Julie Stoelting's parents owned the property for decades and she has fond memories of childhood visits there. Wanting to preserve it, Julie, her husband Kent, and son Jackson sold the property below appraised value so their donation would be matched by a Bicentennial Nature Trust grant.

**"It's a memorial for my father and a legacy for my son."
—Julie Stoelting on protecting her land.**

What's next? Located near the corner of Mt. Tabor and Bottom Roads north of Ellettsville, the Preserve has a small gravel pull-off visitors can use to explore the Preserve, although there is no trail.

STAFFORD FAMILY PRESERVE

(JUNE): Yet another family legacy was preserved when Jon Stafford donated 46 acres in Brown County to Sycamore. The property is next to both Brown County State Park and Yellowwood State Forest, adding to an important block of protected wildlife habitat. It features fields, woods, and a scenic creek.

What's next? Jon Stafford has kindly volunteered to mow trails through the fields for all to enjoy. A public parking area is being planned.

SAM SHINE FOUNDATION PRESERVE (AUGUST): At 339 acres, this Preserve north of Ellettsville is Sycamore's third largest acquisition ever. It has more than a mile of frontage on Beanblossom Creek and over 200 acres of wet fields in the creek's floodplain. This key addition to the conservation area was purchased with a generous grant from the Sam Shine Foundation along with funding from the Bicentennial Nature Trust and a bargain sale by landowner Mike Edgeworth.

What's next? Sycamore will continue to farm a portion of the property for a few years while developing plans for public access and restoration of the wetland habitat.

This was the last project finalized in 2015. More are in the works for 2016!

Left: Schooner Creek flows through the recently acquired Stafford Family Preserve in Brown Co. The Preserve is adjacent to both Brown County State Park and Yellowwood State Forest.

Above: Julie Stoelting with son Jackson and husband Kent at the dedication of the Fix-Stoelting Preserve in Monroe Co.





Weaving a web of learning

BY SHANE GIBSON, ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION DIRECTOR

In a web of life activity, the participants use string to create a literal web, connecting different elements of the natural world. With each tug or release of tension on twine, they can *feel* the interdependence.

Like connections in the natural world, our Environmental Education Program is making connections in the world of education. We have forged a partnership with Prof. Meredith Park Rogers at the IU School of Education and eight Monroe County elementary teachers.

Park Rogers deeply values using the outdoors as an extension of the classroom, so she invites outdoor education professionals to share their teaching experience with her elementary science methods classes.

PHASE ONE: During the first month of the fall semester, I taught the university students specific lessons they could use to teach elementary science outdoors. When I was a classroom teacher, I was always trying to find a way to get the students outdoors to

infuse nature into our classroom work. “Yes, Mr. Gibson, we know you are obsessed with making maple syrup,” is one comment I remember vividly. Now I do the reverse: as an outdoor education professional working in schools, I love infusing the outdoor curriculum with literature, good books, and poetry to enhance the experience.



PHASE TWO: After teaching several university classes, the next stage of the partnership commenced. Eight classroom teachers from Templeton Elementary, Rogers Elementary, and Harmony School agreed to have the elementary education students teach hands-on lessons outdoors with their first through sixth graders. It was inspiring to see the graduate students take activities they learned in September and implement them in October and November. It enriched the experience for the elementary students and teachers, who in turned helped the aspiring teachers hone their skills.

In the web of life activity, the oak tree is connected to the puddle that is connected to the mosquito that is connected to the coneflower and so forth. In our web of learning, interconnectedness is also a key feature. Bringing students and teachers at various levels together enhances the educational experience—and instills valuable lessons about the power of outdoor education.

Left: In a web of life activity, students play the role of a component of the ecosystem. Each tug of the string enables them to *feel* the interdependence of all the parts.

Above: IU students help first and second graders at Rogers Elementary School learn about the five components of a habitat—food, water, shelter, space, and air—by building a mini-habitat. Each group built a habitat for a specific animal, then toured the others while their classmates explained how the habitat they built fulfills all five essential elements.

A bluff at Trevlac.



Enjoy Trevlac Bluffs Nature Preserve from the top by hiking the historic Yellowwood Trail, or walk to the creek and gaze up from below the bluff.

Below: Patches designed by Ken Tuxhorn were available to hikers at Trail Headquarters to commemorate their hike.

Hike a bit of history

New (old) trail opens at Trevlac Bluffs

BY JOHN LAWRENCE, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
AND KATRINA FOLSOM, COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

For years people have been asking us whether they can visit Trevlac Bluffs Nature Preserve. It's easy to see why: the steep bluff protects a rare stand of eastern hemlock trees and beautiful Beanblossom Creek flows through the Preserve. However, there was no safe access to the Preserve or a trail to reach the bluff.

Now, thanks to a grant from Brown County Community Foundation and help from Sycamore's volunteers, you can explore Trevlac Bluffs Nature Preserve via two trails.

The first is the historic Yellowwood Trail created by Ken Tuxhorn in 1949. It was an 11-mile trail ending at Bear Wallow, where hikers could camp. The trailhead was near the intersection of Old SR 45 and new SR 45. That is where hikers, often Boy Scout troops, were dropped off to begin the trek. Ken operated Trail Headquarters and his nonprofit organization, Outdoor Educational Activities Inc., from his home on Bear Wallow Hill for 64 years until he passed away in 2013.

About one mile of the Yellowwood Trail that crosses Trevlac Bluffs Nature Preserve is now being maintained by Sycamore. Portions of the trail have been rerouted to minimize erosion and to provide access from Old SR 45. **Be sure to stay on the trail**, especially where it crosses private property. Please respect our neighbors.

The second access point for Trevlac Bluffs Nature Preserve is a short loop trail through the bottomland, accessed from a pull-off at the sharp curve of SR 45. Gaze up at the remarkably steep bluff from this vantage point along Beanblossom Creek.



Photo by Jeff Danielson



Photo by Jaime Sweeney

Sycamore Annual Celebration 2015

Awards given for exceptional contributions

An environmentally-minded family, a local business, and 13 avid bike riders received awards at our Annual Celebration in October 2015.

Elaine Caldwell Emmi and Ned Caldwell accepted the **Barbara Restle Lifetime Conservation Award** on behalf of their family, including parents Lynton Keith and Helen. Keith Caldwell revolutionized how we care for our environment by writing the National Environmental Policy Act of 1970. The entire Caldwell family set an example for how to live an environmentally conscious life. They also donated their home to Sycamore as a permanent headquarters.

Oliver Winery received the **Conservation Business of the Year** award. The winery offered a \$25,000 match incentive to encourage others to give to Sycamore's Beanblossom Creek project area. Our donors quickly more than met the challenge, allowing us to buy sensitive wetlands along Beanblossom Creek. "Throughout its life, the winery has been the definition of good corporate citizen, and this shows it writ large," said Christian Freitag, Sycamore's executive director.

The **Volunteer of the Year** award was given to Team Sycamore, our 13 representatives in the Midwest Climate Ride. They rode 300 miles from Grand Rapids, Michigan to Chicago to raise awareness and funds for Sycamore's work. The team raised over \$54,000, more than any other team in the Midwest ride. Six Team Sycamore riders were among the Top 10 fundraisers.

Above: Team Sycamore, our Midwest Climate Ride 2015 participants won the Volunteer of the Year award. Team members, in alphabetical order, are: Pete Batule, Malcolm Dalglish, DeeDee Dayhoff, Doug Dayhoff, Jennifer Hottell, Jeff Mease, Robert Meitus, Andrea Oeding, Marcia Veldman, Jeff White, Legene White, Sheryl Woodhouse Keese, Tom Zeller.



Photo by John D. Shearer



Photo by Hugh Hazeligg

Above right: Dennis Dunham, director of winemaking at Oliver Winery, accepting Sycamore's Conservation Business of the Year award.

Left: Pauline and Ned Caldwell (I) and Elaine and Phil Emmi, winners of Sycamore's Barbara Restle Lifetime Conservation Award.

Upcoming Activities & Volunteer Opportunities

Join us for an event! Hikes are free for members; suggested donation for non-members is \$5/person or \$10/family, unless otherwise specified. See www.sycamorelandtrust.org for more details and directions.

To RSVP, visit the event page online and fill out the form, or email info@sycamorelandtrust.org, or call **812-336-5382 x100**. Provide your address, phone number, and names and ages of any children participating.



NATURE ENTHUSIAST: Guided hikes for people of all ages and experience levels. Learn something new, come for a refresher, or check out a new preserve!



LI'L HIKERS: Family outings geared toward children up to age 12. A snack will be provided.



WEEKDAY WALKERS: Naturalist-led strolls on special topics. Your input and questions are encouraged!

HOOSIER HIKERS COUNCIL WORKDAYS

The Laura Hare Nature Preserve at Downey Hill

Third Saturdays through April, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

As detailed in the cover story, the Hoosier Hikers Council is nearly done building a loop trail at this Sycamore preserve. Many Sycamore members have helped with this exciting project. Consider helping during the last few workdays, with an opening planned for April! HHC workdays are on Third Saturdays and welcome people of all ages and abilities. Lunch is provided. Meet at 9 a.m. at Country Gospel Music Church, 5181 E. SR 46, Nashville. Learn more at hoosierhikerscouncil.org.

18
FEB

THIRD THURSDAY PRESERVE-A-PRESERVE DAY

Porter Owen County Preserve

Thursday, February 18, 1 - 5 p.m.

Beautify this 15-acre little-known Sycamore property by picking up litter and debris, and getting a glimpse of this nice parcel of woods not generally open to the public. Sturdy boots and heavy work gloves are recommended. Meet at Kmart West (W. 3rd St., Bloomington) at 1 p.m. to carpool. We will return by 5 p.m. Snacks, water, and trash bags provided. RSVP by February 16.

5
MAR

LI'L HIKERS: MAKING MAPLE SYRUP



Cedar Crest, 4898 E. Heritage Woods Rd., Bloomington

Saturday, March 5, 12 - 2 p.m.

Learn all about making maple syrup, from American Indian use and lore to pioneer methods, and how to make it at home for very little money. You'll learn how to identify a maple tree, practice using maple syrup tapping tools, and taste sweet 100 percent pure maple syrup. RSVP by March 3.

8
MAR

WEEKDAY WALKERS: BACKYARD SUGARIN'



Private property in Monroe Co.

Tuesday, March 8, 12 - 4 p.m.

Join "Sugarin' Shane" to learn about making maple syrup, from identifying a maple tree to bottling the final product. You will learn about the history of maple syrup and how you can make this sweet goodness at home. Also called the "mud season," this time of year can be cold and sloppy so please dress to be outside. Meet at the Kmart parking lot on Bloomington's east side to carpool to this backyard sugaring operation. RSVP by March 3.

Need a speaker for your church, service club, or other group? Contact Communications Director Katrina Folsom at katrina@sycamorelandtrust.org or 812-336-5382 x101.

17
MAR

THIRD THURSDAY PRESERVE-A-PRESERVE DAY

Dishman Quarry (Orange Co.)

Thursday, March 17, 1 - 5 p.m.

Help care for this beautiful Preserve, which features a plethora of fossils in the rock exposures. Assistant Director John Lawrence will lead us in resurrecting an old trail that extends through this quarry. Sturdy boots and heavy work gloves are recommended. Bring handsaws and clippers if you have them. Meet at the south side Kroger (S. Walnut St., Bloomington) at 12 noon to carpool; about a 50-minute drive. We will return by 5 p.m. Snacks and water provided. RSVP by March 15.

9
APR

SYCAMORE BRANCHES WILD EDIBLES WALK

RCA Community Park, Bloomington

Saturday, April 9, 1 - 4 p.m.

Join Sycamore Branches, our young supporters group, for a walk focused on wild edibles such as ramps and—possibly!—morels. Branches committee member and forester Josh Nickelson will lead the walk, which will be followed by socializing at Cardinal Spirits. RSVP at facebook.com/groups/SycamoreBranches.

21
APR

THIRD THURSDAY PRESERVE-A-PRESERVE DAY

Trevlac Bluffs Nature Preserve (Brown Co.)

Thursday, April 21, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Our mission: to remove the invasive garlic mustard plants. This is a critical time of year to pull invasives and curtail their rapid growth. Sturdy boots and work gloves are recommended. Meet at Kmart East (E. 3rd St., Bloomington) at 8:30 a.m. to carpool, or at the Yellowwood Trail head off Old SR 45 at 9 a.m. We will enjoy a light meal at noon, returning to Kmart East by 1 p.m. Lunch and water provided. RSVP by April 19.

29
APR

SPRING ORCHID AND BIRDING ADVENTURE



Beanblossom Bottoms Nature Preserve (Monroe Co.)

Friday, April 29, 8:30 - 11 a.m.

Join friendly wildlife scientists Dawn and Ryan Slack to explore spring wildflowers, native Indiana orchids, and migratory birds at this wetland Preserve. Bring binoculars and water. Waterproof footwear is recommended. Meet at the Preserve at 8:15 a.m.; walk begins at 8:30 a.m. RSVP by April 26.

29
APR

ARBOR DAY TREE GIVEAWAY

Bloomingtons East and West

Friday, April 29, 4 - 7 p.m.

Stop by Bloomingtons East or West (E. 3rd St. or W. 6th St.) and pick up a free tree seedling from Sycamore volunteers! Volunteer to be a seedling wrapper on April 28 or a seedling distributor on April 29. RSVP by April 21 if you'd like to volunteer.

30
APR

BRANCHES GIVES BACK: GARLIC MUSTARD WORKDAY

Porter West Preserve (Monroe Co.)

Saturday, April 30, 1 - 4 p.m.

Sycamore Branches, our young supporters group, is embarking on its first stewardship service project. Enjoy time outside with like-minded folks while pulling invasive garlic mustard, followed by local brews at Upland's West Side Beer Bar. Dress for working outside—sturdy boots and work gloves are recommended—and bring water to drink. RSVP at facebook.com/groups/SycamoreBranches.



1
MAY**FROG CHORUS AND SKY DANCE HIKE** 🍁**Beanblossom Bottoms Nature Preserve (Monroe Co.)****Sunday, May 1, 7 - 9 p.m.**

Do you know which frog sounds like two metal marbles clicking together, and which one like a banjo string twang? Have you seen the American woodcock do its dance at dusk? Stroll on the boardwalk across this fascinating wetland ecosystem as Prof. Vicky Meretsky of IU-SPEA helps us identify frog songs and Assistant Director John Lawrence guides us in listening for the woodcocks. Waterproof footwear is recommended. Carpool leaves at 6:30 p.m. from the Marsh parking lot on Kinser Pike. Parking at Beanblossom Bottoms is limited so carpooling is encouraged. RSVP by April 28.

15
MAY**LI'L HIKERS: WHAT'S IN THE WATER?** 🐸**Beanblossom Bottoms Nature Preserve (Monroe Co.)****Sunday, May 15, 12 - 2 p.m.**

What is a pollywog? Where do dragonflies lay their eggs? The Beanblossom Creek floodplain provides wonderful habitat for aquatic life. We will explore the pond and puddles for animals that live in and around water. Rubber boots are highly recommended. Meet at Beanblossom Bottoms. RSVP by May 12.

19
MAY**THIRD THURSDAY PRESERVE-A-PRESERVE DAY****Touch the Earth Natural Area (Bartholomew Co.)****Thursday, May 19, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.**

Our mission: to remove the invasive garlic mustard plants. This is a critical time of year to pull invasives and curtail their rapid growth. Sturdy boots and work gloves are recommended. Meet at Cedar Crest, Sycamore headquarters, 4898 E. Heritage Woods Rd., Bloomington, at 8:30 a.m. to carpool, or at the Preserve at 9:15 a.m. We will share a light meal at noon, returning by 1:15 p.m. Lunch and water provided. RSVP by May 17.

25
MAY**WEEKDAY WALKERS: SPRING FOREST HIKE** 🌲**The Laura Hare Nature Preserve at Downey Hill (Brown Co.)****Wednesday, May 25, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.**

Just as the spring forest rejuvenates itself, spring is also a time for spiritual rejuvenation. Be inspired by the sights and sounds of these beautiful Brown County hills. If coming from Bloomington, meet at the east side Kmart parking lot at 9:15 a.m. to carpool. Or meet us at the Preserve at 10. RSVP by May 23.

4
JUNE**LI'L HIKERS: SENSORY ADVENTURE** 🐾**The Cedars Preserve (Monroe Co.)****Saturday, June 4, 9 a.m. - 12 noon**

Have your children smelled cedar and sassafras? Heard the "tea-kettle, tea-kettle, tea" of the Carolina wren? Seen the bright red feathers of a cardinal? Test your ability to identify mystery items with your eyes closed! Come observe the wonders of nature using your five senses. Meet at north-east end of the Sam's Club parking lot in Bloomington by 9 a.m. to caravan to this special hard-to-find Preserve. RSVP by June 2.

11
JUNE**MEMBER AND VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION POTLUCK** 🍷**Stafford Family Preserve, Brown Co.****Saturday, June 11, 12 - 3 p.m.**

Celebrate our land trust roots at this casual summer potluck! Enjoy the company of fellow Sycamore supporters and let us show our appreciation, all while surrounded by the beauty of one of Sycamore's newest preserves, not yet open to the public. We will provide food for the grill and beverages. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. If you're a member or have volunteered in the past two years, please join us! RSVP by June 7. Rain or shine!

INDIVIDUALIZED OPPORTUNITIES

To schedule a nature experience tailored to your group, contact Environmental Education Director Shane Gibson at shane@sycamorelandtrust.org or 812-336-5382 x107. Sycamore is dedicated to providing outdoor experiences for people of all ages and abilities.

Official bird caretaker



Photos by Jaime Sweany

Volunteer Joshua finds a unique way to learn and contribute

BY JAIME SWEANY, VOLUNTEER AND MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR

Do you enjoy watching the beautiful and entertaining birds at your bird feeders? If so, you have something in common with Joshua Siedl, the official bird caretaker at our office.

Joshua is enrolled in Community Transitions, a program of the Monroe Co. Community School Corporation for students aged 18 to 22 to help them continue building functional skills. The students volunteer to gain real-life experience as they work toward independence.

Knowing that Joshua is an avid bird and nature lover, the program coordinator contacted Sycamore to see if we might have a job for him. We were delighted to have Joshua join our team of dedicated volunteers.

Joshua visits our office on Thursdays to fill the seed feeders and keep our many woodpeckers happy by providing suet cakes. When the hummingbirds are around, Joshua also makes fresh nectar for them.

When Joshua first began, he was hesitant and wondered if he could do these new tasks, like making nectar on the stove and funneling seed into the tube feeders. He said, "I can't do it" the first day—but not once since then! He shows up with big smiles and performs his duties like a pro.

He often stays for a while afterward to watch enthusiastically and to identify the birds he is feeding. He truly is a naturalist in the making!

Above: Joshua checks the hummingbird feeder that he filled with fresh nectar with the help of Mary Ellen Thomas, the Employment Specialist who accompanies him each week.

Right: Sycamore volunteer Joshua Siedl fills a tube feeder at Sycamore headquarters.



This list includes donations received from 8/11/2015 through 12/31/2015, followed by special giving groups. Donations made near the end of this date range may appear in the next issue of “The Twig.” If you believe we have omitted your name in error, please contact Jaime Sweany at 812-336-5382 x100.

WELCOME 75 NEW MEMBERS!

Anonymous
Dawn Adams and Dale Steffey
Matt and Ben Agan
Laurie Allen
Art Rains Jewelry
Bryan Berkley
Steve and Merrill Berlincourt
Carol Bonney
Thomas Breyer
Doug and Julie Cauble
Ann Connors
Steve Cook
Steven Craig
Janet and Paul Czarnecki
Kara Dempsey
Rebecca Dilger
Linda Ebright
Jack Fields and Melissa Kevorkian
Naomi and Roger Funkhouser
Beth Gazley and Carl Weinberg
Mary Gilles
James Gladden
Wendi Goodlett
Gordy Fine Art Framing
Betty Greenwell and Julius Coe
Leigh Grundhoefer
Joanna Hall
Ellen and Mike Hayes
Nick Heinzelman
Dirk Herr-Hoyman
Todd Hodes
IU Musical Arts Center,
Jacobs School of Music
Tracy James and James Gordillo
Ashley Koop
Jesse Lacy
Yvonne Lai and Kenneth Mackie
Peyton Lengacher
Limestone Comedy Festival
William Lorton
Sally MacLeod
Kevin Marzahl
Steve Mascari & Christine Lovelace
Judy McIntosh
Lucy McKean
Penny Mole
Emily Mott
Becky and Tim Munger
Beth Myers
Andrea Oeding
Sam and Gerry Ooley
Bob and Linda Ostermeier
Angela Parker
John Pearson
Michael and Pauline Percy
Daniel and Tina Peterson
Angelo Pizzo
Seth and Rose Marie Pizzo
Ilona Richey
Theresa Ripley and Sophie Hatcher
Becky Rose
Wendy Rubin
Rosemary Saurer

Scott and Nancy Schmutzler
Kathy Starks
Mark Stoops
Dorothy and Ronald Tank
Jude Thill
Allison Tomusk
Trillium Bodywork
Rebecca Vaughn and Keith Taylor
Forrest Wade
Mary Wade
Donald and Laurel Waters
Marcy Wenzler
Michael and Gwen White
Donna and James Yates

\$15,000

James F. Fielder Trust
Ropchan Foundation
Smithville Charitable Foundation

\$5,000 - 14,999

Johnson Ventures
Jay and Jane Jorgensen
Jonathan Stafford

\$1,000 - \$4,999

Anonymous
Bluespring Caverns Park
Community Foundation of
Bloomington & Monroe Co.
Roxanne Flowers
Flowers Family Foundation
Yvonne Lai and Kenneth Mackie
Rick Malad
Markey's Rental & Staging
Old National Bank
Daniel and Tina Peterson
Karen Pitkin, RE/MAX Realty
Professionals
Barbara Randall
James A. and Dark Rain Thom
Don and Betsy Whitehead
Karen and Bill Whorrall
Witzke Graphic Design

\$500 - \$999

Anonymous
Bussing-Koch Foundation
Ann Connors
Culver Family Foundation
Fowler Tree Services, Inc.
Thomas Gallagher
Harrison County Community
Foundation
The Hetrick Family
Robert and Joan Hongen
James Jenkins
John Bethell Title Company, Inc.
Jim and Jeanne Madison
Vicky Meretsky
Oliver Winery
Angela Parker
Ron Remak, Bill C. Brown Associates

Edward and Claire Robertson
Raymond and Rita Rust, Jr.
Jack and Lana Scherer
Carol Seaman
Randall Shepard & Andy MacDonell
Gordon and Judy Smith
Tom Tarzian and Cathy Steele
Judith Stewart and Michael Fulton
Andrew and Martha Thieneman
Susan and Macklin Thomas
Twin H Tree Farm and Nursery
World Arts Printing

\$250 - \$499

Anonymous
Dawn Adams
Paul and Linda Anderson
A. James Barnes
Ann Connors
Andrew Davis Clothier
Frank M. and Barbara E. Dye
Steve and Sarah Gifford
Ransom Haile
Susan Hathaway
Julia Heiman and Johan Verhulst
Dawn Hewitt
Linda and John Kahle
Dr. Charles McCalla IV & Teri Bleuel
Kathy McManus
Judge Edward W. Najam, Jr.
Jim and Sheryl Richards
Louise Schlesinger & Ralph Gaebler
Scott and Nancy Schmutzler
Mark Stoops
United Way of Monroe County
Upland Brewing Company
Martha Wailes
John and Sue West
Helen Wiesler

\$100 - \$249

Anonymous
Academic Scholarly Books
Matt and Ben Agan
Argentum Jewelry
Kathy Avers and Dan DeBard
Jason and Alyson Baer
Keith and Ruth Barnhardt
Jacqui Bauer and Tom Evans
Be Hair Now
Ingrid and David Beery
Sandy and Jeffrey Belth
Leslie Bishop and Jeff Hyman
Bloomington Brewing Company
Bloomington Hardware
Bloomington Playwrights Project
Tim Boeglin and Cynthia Reichard
William and Linda Bohlen
Tal and Betsy Bosin
Patrick Brantlinger
Joe Buehler
Peter Burkholder & Doug McKinney
John Byers
Daniel and Patricia Callison

Kelly Carson
Cairril.com Design & Marketing
Lee and Pat Casebere
Dr. Sarah Clevenger
The Comedy Attic
Chris and Teresa Craft
Ray Crittenden
Janet and Paul Czarnecki
Mary Damm
Designscape Horticultural Services
James and Roberta Diehl
Bob and Joann Dodd
Eleanore Dodge
Keith Dunlap
Michael and Sally Dunn
John and Sybil Eakin
Eco Logic LLC
Allen and Marian England
James Ferguson
Stephen Ferguson
Jack Fields and Melissa Kevorkian
John Fischer and Juan Sanchez
Flower Lane Garden Club
Jess Gwinn and Maureen Forrest
Anne Fraker
Sharon Frank and Gene Elias
Bill and Becky Freeman
Beth Gazley and Carl Weinberg
Mary Gilles
Jim and Connie Cook Glen
Spencer Goehl
Leigh Grundhoefer
Elizabeth Gwynn & Leroy Mysliwiec
Gary Hafner and Jane Clay
Charles and Sandra Hainz
Mike and Susan Harrison
Jim and Angela Hauck
Dena Hawes
Anne and Christopher Haynes
Lois Heiser
Jim and Susan Hengeveld
David A. Hillman, O.D.
Katherine Hopkins
Larry Horton
IndiGo Birding
IU Athletics/Compliance
IU Women's Golf
The Irish Lion
Laura and Jerry Jesseph
Phyllis and Sam Kazdan
Leah Ketcham
Karisha, Jack, and Keith Family
Laura and Aaron Lamb
Laughing Planet Cafe, Village Deli,
and Soma
Kriste Lindberg
Michael Litwin and Mary Blizzard
Ted and Diann Lock
Guy and Connie Loftman
Drs. Mary Mahern and Clark Brittain
Malibu Grill
Terry and Connie Marbach
Sam and Brittany Marcello
Marengo Cave Tours and Cave
Country Canoes
James and Edrie Martin
Thomas M. and Susan McGlasson
Penny Mole
Anthony Moore and Joanne Shaver
Butch and Kim Moors
Thomas and Rosalie Mosley
Kimberly Munroe and

Edward Comentale
Patrick and Glenda Murray
David and Martha Nord
Robert and Donna Ormiston
Harriet Pfister
Matt Pierce
Stephen and Jill Popolizio
Charles and Sandra Porter
David Porter and Mary Beth Wert
Quaff ON! Bloomington Tap
Linda Raymond and Michael Cain
REI Inc.
Mary Carol and Dennis Reardon
Eric and Martha Reek
Revolution Bike and Bean
Bonnie Riggins
Carroll and Martha Ritter
Mary Kay Rothert
Paul E. Rothrock
Robert Russell
David Sabbagh
Peter Schwandt and Dixie Welch
Don and Melinda Seader
Joanne Shank
Dawn and Ryan Slack
Gordon and Judy Smith
Janet and Jeff Stake
Jerry and Anne Steele
Gary and Anne Steigerwald
Paula Sunderman
Sycamore Tile Works
Tim and Ladi Terry
Jo Throckmorton and Jillian Kinzie
Dan and Karen Tuley
Uptown Café
Loretta Vinson
Donald and Laurel Waters
Kurt and Lisa Weisner
Timothy and Jana Wiley
Linda and Randy Williamson
Richard and Pamela Winegarden
Debbie Wozniak
William and Danna Wylie
Richard and Laura Weinland Young
Charlotte Zietlow

\$40 - \$99

Anonymous
Jim and Julie Akard
Claire Arbogast
Bill and Kathy Armstrong
Art Rains Jewelry
John Bacone
Donald Baker
Robert Barber
Cem and Vicki Basman
John Bassett and Susan Hollis Bassett
Steve and Merrill Berlincourt
Brian Besser
Kent Biery
Bennett and Cynthia Brabson
Thomas Breyer
Anne and Jim Bright
Billy and Jaclyn Brizzard
James Brooks and Megan Abbott
Brown County Humane Society
Martin and Barbara Burkhead
Butler Winery and Vineyards
By Hand Gallery
Edwin and Pauline Caldwell
Capriole, Inc.
Cardinal Spirits

Doug and Julie Cauble
George Cesnik
Terry Clark
Ralph Cooley
Patricia Curtis
Jeff and D'arcy Danielson
Doug and Susan Davis
Allison Denny and Topher Kandik
Charles and Judy Dewey
Steve Dunbar
Tim and MaryAnn Dunfee
Andrew Durkin
Eagle Pointe Golf Resort
Earth Drops Soaps
Ben and Carol Edmonds
Camille and Ron Ennis
FARMbloomington
James and Sara Farmer
Julia Ferguson
Jacqueline Fernette and David Pesel
Brett Fisher and Lori Healey
Lee Formwalt
Prof. Patricia L. Foster
Ed Furia and Kathryn Propst
Matthew and Julia Gadlage
James Gladden
Gordy Fine Art Framing
The Green Nursery
Ed Greenebaum and Joan Caulton
Mike and Andrea Robertson Habeck
Heath and Emily Hamilton
Elsa Marston Harik
LD and Cristie Harry
Ellen and Mike Hayes
Nick Heinzelman
Todd Hodes
James Holland
Martha Hollis and Pat Ducharme
Dave and Mary Hudak
Joe and Malinda Husk
IU Musical Arts Center, Jacobs
School of Music
Tracy James and James Gordillo
Steve and Judy Jasper
Josh Kates and Jennifer Fleissner
Ervin Kattelman and Barbara Seal
Seth and Mandy Keele Family
Marsha Keith and Gene Snipes
Mike and Jan Kelley
Donald Knotts
Janine and Mehmet Kocakulah
Jesse Lacy
Jaydene and Mike Laros
Richard, Ann, and Elizabeth LeDuc
Stine Levy
Mike Lodato
William Lorton
Terry Loucks
Morton Marcus
Stephanie Martin
Tom Mayer and Ann Zurmuehlen
Patrick and Sue Medland
Amy Metzger
Cathy Meyer
Jennifer Miers
Robert Moss
Emily Mott
Craig E. Nelson and Mitzi Streepey
Greg Newland and Roberta Aylward
Aviva Orenstein
Sandy Packman
Jim and Kathy Pell

Michael and Pauline Percy
Joe Phillips
Diane and Robert Port
James Powers
Tom Rea
Kay Reglein
Relish
Frank A. Rogers
Nora Roggeveen-Sams and
Weldon Sams
Steve and Linda Rolfe
Mary Beth Roska
Wendy Rubin
Salt Creek Cycles
Brett and Nicole Satkamp
David and Jane Savage
Paul and Alice Sharp
David M. Shaw
Ruth and Dave Simcox
John Gibb Simpson
Julia and Bill Slaymaker
State Employees' Community
Campaign
R. Stephen Stroup
Tattoo Dreams
James and Nancy Terman
Textillery Weavers
Trillium Bodywork
Dorothy and Ronald Tank
James and Nancy Terman
Don and Virginia Tyte
UGO Bars
Margie and Art Van Auken
Doug and Kristin Varella
Richard and Sue Vernier
Dottie Warmbier
Anna Weiser
Wine and Canvas
Jeffrey and Dawn Whaley
Michael and Gwen White
Dorothy Wilson
Donna and James Yates
Judith Zimmerman

IN HONOR OF RAY CRITTENDEN

James Crittenden

IN HONOR OF DAVID AND SALLY CROUCH

Jason and Kate Crouch

IN HONOR OF STEVE AND JO ELLEN HAM

Richard Ham and Allison Stites

IN HONOR OF LAUREN HARLING

Beth Rudy

IN MEMORY OF HARRY HOLLIS

Janet Hollis and Ron Selby

IN MEMORY OF DAVE JONES

Lucinda Jones
Barbara V. Miller

IN HONOR OF JOHN AND ARLEEN KEELE

Sue and Howard Carver

IN MEMORY OF FREDERICK AND MARY JANE LORENZ

Helen Lorenz Holdeman, Alice Lorenz, and Linda Lorenz Norton

IN HONOR OF SAM AND BRITTANY MARCELLO

C. Cavanaugh

IN MEMORY OF JIM MITCHELL

Matthew Alano-Martin and
Jared Thompson

IN HONOR OF REBECCA VAUGHN AND KEITH TAYLOR

Elizabeth Vallance and
Jack Carpenter
Stephanie Martin
Nora Pat Small
Angie St. Clair and Brian Porter

IN HONOR OF STEVE VOLAN

Jason and Michelle Cole

IN HONOR OF JEFF AND LEGENE WHITE

Shannon Madden

LEADERSHIP SOCIETY VISIONARY (\$15,000+ ANNUALLY)

Anonymous
Namaste Foundation
Bill and Kathleen Oliver
Barbara Restle
Sam Shine Foundation, Inc.
Larry and Carol Weingartner

TRAIL BLAZER (\$5,000 - \$14,999)

Mike and Bev Baker
Malcolm Dalglish and Judith Klein
Doug and DeeDee Dayhoff
Jim and Brenda DeCoursey
Bill DeVille
David and Kathy Dilcher
Jennifer Hottell and Mike Voyles
Ellen Ketterson
Greg and Sue Meyer
Carrie Newcomer and Robert Meitus
Ann Nolan
Sam and Gerry Ooley
Scott and Ruth Sanders
Robert and Judy Wargel
Don and Wendy Wertz
Jeff and Legene White
Tom Zeller

NATURALIST (\$1,000 - \$4,999)

Anonymous (2)
Mark Adams
Matt and Eva Allen
Marian Armstrong
Peter and Amy Batule
Robert and Maryellen Bieder
Heather Blair and Craig Coley
Mary Bookwalter and Jeff Stant
Elaine Caldwell Emmi and Phil Emmi
William and Becky Campbell

Raymond and Leanne Chevalier
Dan and Debbi Conkle
Dorothy Danak
Michael and Betty Davis
William and Nancy Ditzler
Mark and Rebecca Ewing
Helen Gooch
Kenneth R.R. Gros Louis
Barbara Hanawalt and Ronald Giere
Stephen Higgs
Walter E. Hoffmann and
Ann L. Johnson
Steve and Cassie Howard
Stephen Irish
Jenny Johnson
Sheryl Woodhouse Keese and
Brian Keese
Bob Kissel
Yvonne Lai and Kenneth Mackie
Jeff Mease
Del and Letty Newkirk
Tim and Ann Niednagel
Andrea Oeding
Carol Pettys
Jim and Kathy Pickrell
Patti Pizzo
Nancy Ralston
Sweany Artworks, Jaime Sweany
Sarkes and Mary Tarzian
Foundation, Inc.
Joan ten Hoor and James Dobson
Judith and Maynard Thompson
Tim Tilton and Joann Alexander
Marcia Veldman
Maria and Paul Viterisi
Bill and Mary Weeks

SYCAMORE SUSTAINERS

Mark Adams
Lydia Barbash-Riley and
Matthew Maus
Jim and Maria Brown
Joe Collins
Carmen and Linda Felicetti
Andrea and Jim Ferguson
Bob Flynn and Yvonne Wittmann
Betty Greenwell and Julius Coe
Shelley Hahn and Greg Simon
Sandra Hernshaw
Steve and Cassie Howard
Vern and B Watt Jorck
Padraic and Izabela Kenney
Michael and Christine Koryta
William Lonnberg
George Mankowski
Steve Mascari and Christine Lovelace
Dan and Linda McNabb
Jeremy Nation and Rebecca Swanson
Nancy and David Owen
Patrick and Jenny Petro
Reza Pishgahi and
Lois Hutter-Pishgahi
Ryan and Tyler Prall
David and Beth Rupp
Joe and Paulette Ryan
Deborra Sanders and
Willowbei Eversole
James Shearn and Scott Loman
Mark and Kathy Sheehan
Marion Sinclair
Eliot and Pamela Smith
Ben Swanson
Maria and Paul Viterisi

LEGACY CIRCLE MEMBERS

Anonymous
Patricia Abplanalp†
Mark Adams
Janet Armstrong
Mike and Bev Baker
Susan Hollis Bassett
Phil and Ruthann Berck
Helen and Keith Caldwell†
Edward Champ†
Joseph Collins Jim and Bobbi Diehl
Bob and Joann Dodd
George Ewing†
Christian and Paige Freitag
Darlene Gerster
Henry and Alice† Gray
Stephen and Vera Grubbs
Lawrie Hamilton
Dell Harmsen and William E. Davis
Samuel P. and Barbara D. Hays
William H. Hays, III
Joyce Hendrix
Dawn E. Hewitt
Robert and Joan Hongen
George Huntington III
Reza Pishgahi and
Lois Hutter-Pishgahi
Rick and Alice Johnson
Marvin Keenan
Donald E. and Linda L. Knotts
George and Cathy Korinek
Bill Lozowski and Sarah Baumgart
Vicky Meretsky
Greg Meyer
Robert and Donna Ormiston
Patricia Murphy Pizzo
David Porter†
Charlotte Reeves†
Barbara Restle
Mary Kay Rothert
Elizabeth and Chuck Ruh
Judith A. Stewart and
Michael P. Fulton
Melinda Swenson
Joan ten Hoor and James Dobson
Maria and Paul Viterisi
Carolyn Waldron
Patricia Walnet
Bill and Mary Weeks
Myriam and Jim† Wood
Sheryl Woodhouse Keese and
Brian Keese
Tom Zeller
Deborah A. Zera

†Deceased

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS 8/11/2015 TO 12/31/2015

ART, MUSIC, PHOTOGRAPHY

Andy Cobine
Malcolm Dalglish
Jeff Danielson
Paul Engle
Andrea Ferguson
Steve Gifford
Hugh Hazelrigg
Steve Mascari
Jamie Reed
John Schearer
Dave Simcox
Marcin Zalewski

ANNUAL CELEBRATION SILENT AUCTION COMMITTEE

Jaclyn Brizzard
Austin Collins
Claire Romine
Roy and Holly Hooper

CEDAR CREST UPKEEP

Keith Barnhardt
Hugh Hazelrigg
Joshua Siedl

CLERICAL

Loretta Alonso
Martha Black
Sally Dorwin
Pris Foltz
Sally Dorwin
Ellen Goodman
Mela Hatchett
Duane and Pat Hornick
Judy and Leon McDougal
Patrick Medland
Jean Novotny
Bonnie Porter
Betty and Paul Schoonmaker
Nancy Sparks
Jean and Murl Summerville
Lisa Tinsley
Carol Wise
Jie Yan

CLIMATE RIDE 2015

Pete Batule
Malcolm Dalglish
DeeDee and Doug Dayhoff
Jennifer Hottell
Jeff Mease
Robert Meitus
Andrea Oeding
Marcia Veldman
Jeff and Legene White
Sheryl Woodhouse Keese
Tom Zeller

EVENTS

Han Bao
Lydia Barbash-Riley
Corinne Barker
Gary Boehle
Kathy Boone
Matthew Boyd
James Brooks
Jamie and Terry Clark
Kendall Demarest
Kathie Durkel
Dayana Ferrera
Allen Fulmer
Aaron Golden
Jason Goodman
Lauren Harling
Holly Hawes
Kristen Hengtgen
Gwendolyn Hickey
Emily Jackson
Marsha Keith
Pei Chin
Diana McClure
Jeffrey Meek
Cathy Meyer
Cami and Mike Nahas
Brigitt Nasby

Cindy Neidhart
Sandra Ronan
Kathy Ruesink
Adam Smith
Gene Snipes
Tom Spevak
Fiona Taggart
Jude Thill
Margaret Thomas
Tara Thomson
Allison Tomusk
Maria Viterisi
Susan Wannamaker
Dottie Warmbier
Mary Weeks
Mary White
Myriam Wood
Sheryl Woodhouse Keese and
Brian Keese
Chris Worley
Jie Yan

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

Taji, Tanner, and Sawyer Gibson
Sheryl McGlory
Max Monts
Dottie Warmbier
Mary Weeks
Myriam Wood

EDITING AND WRITING

Michael Koryta
Cathy Meyer
Joan ten Hoor
Tara Thomson

GRAPHIC DESIGN

Roy Hooper

HIKE LEADERS

Leslie Bishop
David Dilcher
Jim Ferguson
Rob McGriff

INTERNS

Anna Archer
Corinne Barker
Delaney Bolger
Kuo-Chun Ku

IT SUPPORT

Jason Goodman

ORIENTATIONS

Thea Bennetti
Hana Cleveland
Bryce Himebaugh

STEWARDSHIP

Han Bao
Steve Berlincourt
Jim Beck and ALCOA's Month
of Service volunteers
Bonnie and John Bittner
Jamie and Terry Clark
Betty and Michael Davis
Patricia Denison
Lisa Ford
Alex Gray
David Hobson

Mel Lodato
Greg Meyer
Donald Nuetzman
Renee Pieper
Liz Robb
Pam Roberts
Mark Sheehan
Dave Simcox
Marion Sinclair
Scott Stephenson
Rex Swing
Forrest Wade and
Boy Scout Troop 393
Jie Yan

YEAR-ROUND LAND STEWARDS
Matt and Eva Allen

Bob Barber
Marco Bartholomew
Bill Baus
Joe Benge
Keith Bobay
Russell Boulding
John Byers
Andrea and Jim Ferguson
Roxanne Flowers
John Gallman
Gary Grumbling and
MaryAnn Martin
Jess Gwinn
Jeff Hiland
Chris Lambdin
Kristina Lindborg
Terry and Connie Marbach

Vicky Meretsky
Cathy Meyer
Colt Miller
Chris Myers and Scott Stephenson
Karen Pacific and David Shipley
Nathan Pate
Reza Pishgahi and
Lois Hutter-Pishgahi
Liz Robb
Elizabeth and Chuck Ruh
Marion Sinclair
Liny Smits and Michael Paidle
Bryan Sosbe
Jerry Steele
Amy Thompson and Dionicio Nunez
K. Neill Vaughan
Kurt and Lisa Weisner



David Rupp

Thank you, David!

We would like to thank David Rupp for his excellent service in leading Li'l Hikers and Weekday Walkers. When we advertised for a contract position to plan and lead hikes, we couldn't have asked for a better person to fill that role. David's outings are creative, personalized, and draw people more deeply into nature. Now we have greater staff capacity thanks to our full-time Environmental Education Director and our Volunteer and Membership Director. David's connection to Sycamore will remain strong as a volunteer, and we wish him the best with his growing business, IndiGo Birding Nature Tours!

OUR WISH LIST

Birdseed

Maple syrup supplies:
buckets, sap bags, spiles,
tubing, glass bottles

Native wildflower seed

Patio furniture with delivery

Potting soil

Power washer

Reliable 4WD pickup truck

If you would like to donate
any of these items, please
contact Jaime at [info@
sycamorelandtrust.org](mailto:info@sycamorelandtrust.org)
or 812-336-5382 x100.
New or gently used
condition, please.

FROM OUR PHOTO ALBUM, FEBRUARY 2006: Snow blankets the winter landscape at the Jeremy Keith Oakley Preserve in Lawrence County. Following the untimely loss of her son Jeremy, Kathy Oakley donated this land to Sycamore Land Trust in 2002 to preserve the woods her son cherished. For more information, go to sycamorelandtrust.org/oakley-preserve

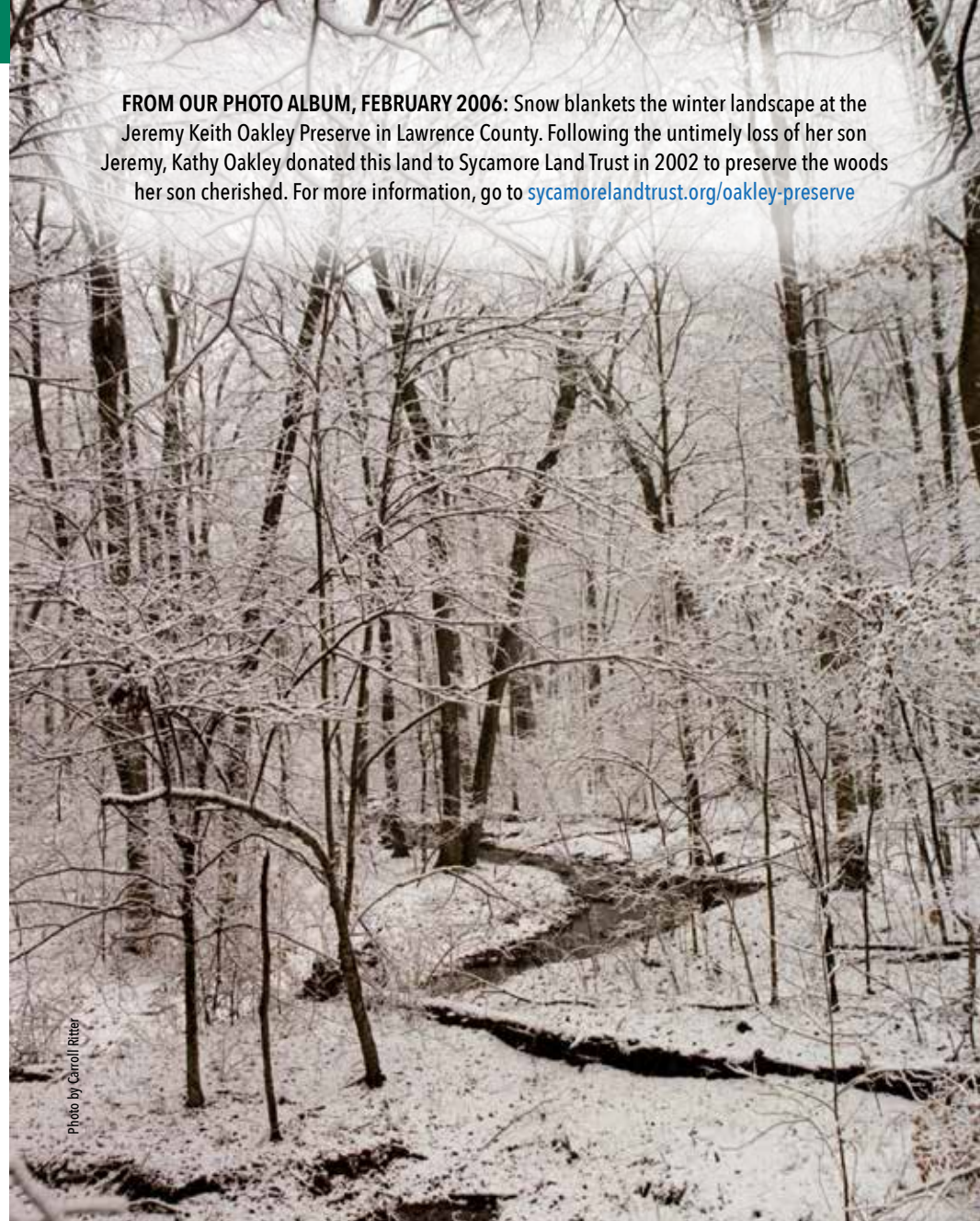


Photo by Carroll Ritter



On the Cover

From Aesop ("The Fox and the Grapes") to Wes Anderson ("The Fantastic Mr. Fox"), the fabled fox represents cunning and cleverness. This may be why we seldom get to see this illusive creature. But when fortunate enough to glimpse him, and to meet his piercing canny gaze, in an instant we know the heart of the wild. *Photo by Steve Gifford*

Business and Foundation Supporters



Sam Shine Foundation



NINA MASON PULLIAM
CHARITABLE TRUST

Building a Legacy of Community
Grantmaking since 1998



EFROYMSON
FAMILY FUND

A CICF Fund
Inspiring philanthropy



Ron Remak



Adams Arbor Care, LLC



Sarkes and Mary Tarzian Foundation



Staff & Board

Executive Director: Christian Freitag
Assistant Director: John Lawrence
Development Director: Ann Connors
Communications Director: Katrina Folsom
Environmental Education Director: Shane Gibson
Volunteer and Membership Director: Jaime Sweany
SPEA Fellow: Anna Archer

Committee Chairs

Acquisitions: W. William Weeks
Environmental Education: Shane Gibson
Finance: Terry Marbach
Fund Development: Steve Howard
Stewardship: John Lawrence

Graphic Designer of "The Twig": Jennifer L. Witzke
Editor of "The Twig": Joan ten Hoor

Headquarters

Cedar Crest
4898 E. Heritage Woods Rd., Bloomington

Mailing Address

P.O. Box 7801, Bloomington, IN 47407-7801

Visit our website: www.sycamorelandtrust.org
Email: info@sycamorelandtrust.org

If you would like one of us to speak to your group or organization, please call 812-336-5382 x101.

Board of Directors

Mark Adams
Mike Baker, Vice Chair
Doug Dayhoff
Jim DeCoursey
Steve Gifford
George Huntington
Jenny Johnson
George Korinek
Terry Marbach, Treasurer
Greg Meyer
Patricia Pizzo
Vi Simpson
Joan ten Hoor, Secretary
Maria Viterisi, Board Chair
W. William Weeks

Advisory Board

Wilfred C. Bussing III
Steve Ferguson
Burney Fischer
Kenneth R.R. Gros Louis
Baron Hill
Steve Howard
John Hurlow
Rick Johnson
Mark Kruzan
James Madison
Vicky Meretsky
Edward W. Najam, Jr.
Del Newkirk
Karen Pitkin
Ronald F. Remak
Scott Russell Sanders
Randall T. Shepard
Betsy Smith
Judith Stewart
Eric C. Stolberg
Tom Tarzian
Maryrose Wampler
Don Whitehead
Linda Williamson
Todd Young

FIND US ON



SYCAMORE SIGHTINGS

Long-time Board member Patricia Pizzo, right, enjoys the Dec. 4 Sycamore Holiday Open House with Anne and Gary Steigerwald.



We caught up with three members of Team Sycamore in Michigan during Climate Ride Midwest in September. From left: Tom Zeller, Sheryl Woodhouse Keese, and Jenn Hottell. In November, the 13-member team received Sycamore's Volunteer of the Year Award. More on p.11.



Sycamore volunteer and Bloomington newcomer Jude Thill offers delicious appetizers at the Holiday Open House.



Jim Shearn,
Hoosier Hikers
Council (HHC) trail
builder, shows off
the basic tools: a
pulaski axe (left)
and a Rogue hoe.
A new trail at The
Laura Hare Nature
Preserve at Downey
Hill in Brown Co.
is the work of HHC
members and
volunteers, along
with volunteers
from Sycamore.
See the story, p. 2.

Sycamore Land Trust
P.O. Box 7801
Bloomington, IN 47407-7801

812-336-5382

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

The Groundswell
THANKS TO OUR DONORS

LAND STATUS	PROJECTS	ACRES
Owned	58	4,545
Easements	36	3,974
Total	94	8,519
Wills (known)	11	2,257
Financial Partner	7	9,902

NONPROFIT
US POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT No. 333
Bloomington, IN



PRINTED ON RECYCLED CONTENT PAPER