the twig

SPRING/SUMMER 2016
www.sycamorelandtrust.org

Protected!

100+ acres added to Patoka River NWR

PAGE 2

Expanded!

Porter West trail adds 1.5 miles

PAGE 6

Planted!

Kids nurture native seeds

PAGE 8

Now protected!

108 acres of rare grasslands added to Patoka

BY KATRINA FOLSOM, COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

Sycamore recently helped add another highly desirable piece of land to the Patoka River National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), one of just three national wildlife refuges in the state. We secured funding from the Laura Hare Charitable Trust, enabling the Refuge to purchase this 108-acre property. The property has been named the Laura Hare Tract, in gratitude for their commitment to protecting this important land.

The Refuge had been hoping to protect this tract for many years because of its location and environment. It expands a large block of excellent habitat for creatures like bobcats and American woodcocks. This tract is also adjacent to existing Refuge property and to the Columbia Mine Preserve, which we acquired in 2012.

The new acquisition features hardwood forest and grasslands. Grasslands are one of the rarest habitat types in southern Indiana and are essential for state-endangered species, like the Henslow's sparrow. Periodic prescribed burns to manage the grasslands at the Columbia Mine Preserve have already produced impressive results. Just a year after the first burn, Assistant Refuge Manager Heath Hamilton heard the "prairie hiccup," the "song" of a Henslow's sparrow. He says, "In my mind it was always the bird that would epitomize a successful grassland restoration."

The Refuge plans to connect the grasslands on the new Laura Hare Tract to those on Columbia Mine Preserve to further improve habitat for at-risk species.

This property is a wonderful addition to the Patoka River NWR. Thank you to our members for making it possible for us to save land with great partners like the Refuge and the Laura Hare Charitable Trust!

Henslow's sparrow

Above: This map shows the relationship of the recently acquired Laura Hare Tract to the Columbia Mine Preserve, acquired by Sycamore in 2012, and the Patoka River National Wildlife Refuge.

Right: The new Laura Hare Tract features large swaths of grassland, which will be managed to support threatened species–such as Henslow's sparrows–that depend on this rare habitat. Assistant Refuge Manager Heath Hamilton heard the "prairie hiccup," the "song" of a Henslow's sparrow. Says Heath Hamilton, Assistant Refuge Manager, "In my mind it was always the bird that would epitomize a successful grassland restoration."

Christian Freitag

Financial partners swell protected acres

BY CHRISTIAN FREITAG,
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

On the back cover of every issue of "The Twig" is a box labeled "The Groundswell." This feature has been on every one of our newsletters for as long as I can remember. "The Groundswell" shows the number of acres Sycamore has protected, or helped to protect, since our founding in 1990.

The third line in the box shows the number of acres for which Sycamore has been a "Financial Partner." What does that mean? It refers to land projects to which Sycamore has contributed financial resources or other support, but ultimately Sycamore may not own the land or hold the conservation easement. You can see that Sycamore has been a financial partner on over 10,000 acres! In some cases, Sycamore was one partner among many. In others, Sycamore was the main—or sometimes the only—financial contributor for protecting land that is now owned and managed by another agency or organization. Partnerships such as these are a great way to accomplish conservation goals together that might not otherwise be possible.

I realized that we've never explained this aspect of our work, and we don't even include these acres when we talk about Sycamore's accomplishments. And we should. They represent thousands of acres permanently protected and hundreds of thousands of dollars from Sycamore—and from you, our supporters—over the years. They represent significant accomplishments worth celebrating! So from now on, we intend to include these acres when we describe our successes.

One such project came up recently at Patoka River National Wildlife Refuge. You may recall that in 2012 we purchased the 1,043-acre Columbia Mine property, a keystone parcel that tied together other protected areas to create a block of 5,000 contiguous acres in the middle of the Refuge. We then sold a conservation easement to the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) so that the federal agency could manage the property for mixed grasslands and upland forest. If Sycamore had not stepped up to buy the land, Columbia Mine would have been lost to conservation forever.

Recently, the USFWS had the opportunity to purchase 108 acres adjacent to Columbia Mine (see page 2). However, the Refuge lacked the funding to complete the deal, so the future of the property was in jeopardy. Enter Sycamore Land Trust. We requested and received full funding for the purchase from our long-standing partners at the Laura Hare Charitable Trust, for which the parcel has been named. The land is now owned by the USFWS, which will include it in the restoration work already underway at Columbia Mine. A win for all involved, especially for the wildlife, and for the visitors to this amazing public resource.

This is what we do. We find ways to get things done. And this is what your support enables us to do. Together we can accomplish more than any of us can alone, and we are committed to finding the most effective, innovative, smartest outcomes for our projects. Sometimes that puts us on the front page; at other times we are completely behind the scenes. Conservation emphasizes creative solutions, not credit. We appreciate your participation in this beautiful mission, and we look forward to sharing more good news in the future!

The Groundswell
THANKS TO OUR DONORS

LAND STATUS	PROJECTS	ACRES
Owned	64	5,019
Easements	36	3,974
Financial Partner	8	10,010
Total	**108**	**19,003**
Wills (known)	*11*	*2,305*

FAREWELL

In April, Sycamore said farewell to two valued staff members and our SPEA Service Corps Fellow.

Katrina Folsom, Communications Director, moved to Ann Arbor, Michigan, and accepted the Communications & Engagement position with Legacy Land Conservancy.

Jaime Sweany, Volunteer and Membership Coordinator, accepted the position of Associate Publisher of "Bloom Magazine."

Anna Archer, SPEA Fellow, graduated and moved to Pittsburgh.

Sycamore thanks each of them for their valuable service, and sends them on with all good wishes.

Photo by John D. Shearer

Anna Archer (l) and Katrina Folsom at Sycamore's Arbor Day tree giveaway.

IN MEMORIAM

Sycamore Land Trust extends sincere sympathy to the family and friends of Lucille Bertuccio, who died February 27, at the age of 80. Lucille was a fierce environmentalist, a community activist, and a teacher. Sycamore remembers her as one of our founders, and a member of the first board of directors.

Extended trail opens at Porter West Preserve

New hiking opportunities near Bloomington

BY JOHN LAWRENCE, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Visitors can now enjoy a longer hike and see more of the forest at our Porter West Preserve in western Monroe Co., thanks to the efforts of our Third Thursdays Preserve-a-Preserve Day volunteers.

Last fall, the volunteers cleared a new one-mile section of trail connecting the western portion of forest to the existing woodland loop. Heading west from the north end of the original loop, the trail crosses the power line and descends down a tall ridge past sinkholes and sandstone outcrops, passing through mature woods. Guyandotte beauty (*Synandra hispidula*), on the state watchlist of threatened plants, is one of the many wildflowers that grow here. Farther along is "Pawpaw Valley," so named by David Porter for the pawpaws (*Asimina triloba*)—"Indiana bananas"—that grow there. The trail then curves back over the toe of the ridge, skirting through younger forest and dense eastern red cedars. There are limestone outcrops under the cedars, apparently exposed by erosion when the land was an open field decades ago.

This recent extension allows hikers to follow a one-and-a-half-mile loop through the woods. Or for a longer walk, an even newer connector trail leads from the southwest corner of the woodland loop to the mowed trail that previously dead-ended at the southwestern pond. This outer loop, about two miles long, passes through open areas that used to be David Porter's Top Soil Composting.

And there's one more addition since our "Preserve Guide" was last published. A side trail has been mowed to the Preserve's historic pioneer-era cemetery, a short walk from the parking area. Known as Beaumont Cemetery for the family that owned the property before David Porter, it has four rough stones, two of which are marked. Although difficult to read, they show that Elesabeth Zin[c]k died in 1818 and Jean Zinck in 1820.

There's still more trail work to do, though. The southwest connector trail needs some additional clearing work, which we'll tackle at the June 16 Third Thursday Preserve-a-Preserve Day. Hope you can join us!

For more information and an updated trail map, go to **sycamorelandtrust.org/porter-west-preserve.**

Photos by John Lawrence

Left: The mature, hilly forest at Porter West Preserve is dotted with sinkholes, many of which you can now view from the western trail extension.

Above: A turkey nest in the undergrowth at Sycamore's Porter West Preserve in Monroe Co.

On the Cover

Students from Rogers Elementary School ready their nets for an insect sweep at Yellowwood Farm in Monroe Co. The combined first and second grade class, taught by Cindy Creek and Mike Love, was participating in an activity sponsored by Sycamore's Environmental Education program. Sycamore holds the conservation easement on Yellowwood Farm. *Photo by Cindy Creek*

As plants grow, so do relationships

Photos by Shane Gibson

BY SHANE GIBSON, ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION DIRECTOR

Native grasses, flowers, trees, and shrubs are beautiful and have great benefits for wildlife. Native plants are also an excellent way to connect people to nature all around us! The decline of milkweed (*Asclepias* spp.) and the monarch butterfly has increased awareness of the unique relationships between plants and animals. The monarch larvae only eats milkweed. No milkweed, no monarchs.

"Plant a Pocket of Prairie" by Phyllis Root highlights plant and animal interdependence. She concludes, "If you plant a pocket of prairie, and I plant a pocket of prairie, and everyone plants a pocket of prairie…one day we might see the prairie coming home." A diverse plant community supports diverse wildlife. And most school grounds are not diverse.

With this idea in mind, we recently initiated what I'm calling the "Native Plant Project." Starting in early spring, I visited seven elementary school classrooms to help the students plant seeds in trays and learn about soil layers. I'm revisiting each classroom as the plants mature to help the students transplant the seedlings outside or prepare some for students to take home.

We used a grant from the Indiana Native Plant and Wildflower Society (INPAWS) to purchase seeds for 10 native grasses and forbs (herbaceous flowering plants other than grasses) from Spence Restoration Nursery in Muncie (**spencenursery.com**). Seven of the 10 kinds of seeds have a built-in mechanism to protect them from germinating too early, allowing them to winter on the cold, damp ground. In the classroom, we created a "pretend winter" by placing the seeds with damp sand in Ziploc bags, which were then refrigerated for several weeks.

Seeds that did not need a pretend winter were planted in growing trays right away. Within a week, one class was excited to see purple coneflowers sprouting. You can find detailed instructions for native seed germination on Prairie Moon Nursery's website (**prairiemoon.com**).

This Native Plant Project is designed to be a multi-lesson and multi-year program. We've found that building long-term relationships with students and teachers more effectively helps children learn about and appreciate nature. As Marlin Elementary School second-grade teacher Angela Harding says, "Multiple visits is a really important factor. It's not just a one-time thing and they forget it. Building a relationship and going out to do hands-on things throughout the year is going to build something that is dear to them." She also observes, "Conversations are happening at home because of your visits. Nature awareness is trickling to peoples' homes, not just here [at school]."

It's a pleasure to watch observational awareness of the world increase among the students I visit regularly. And we are just getting started.

Mrs. Harding says, "If a lot of time goes by, my kids are saying, 'Hey, when is Shane coming to visit again?' "

Left: Second graders from Mrs. Harding's Marlin Elementary School class plant several varieties of native seeds, under the direction of Environmental Education Director Shane Gibson.

Above: A demonstration of soil layers fascinates kindergarteners in Mrs. Lewis's Marlin Elementary class.

Eco Logic

Interested in exploring native plants?

Eco Logic (**ecologicindiana.com**) is a great resource for the Bloomington area. They're hosting a **Native Plant Sale** on **June 18** from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. where you can talk with their staff. And a portion of the proceeds on June 18 goes to Sycamore!

Photo by Chip Methvin

A bald eagle hovers dramatically over nest construction at Sycamore's Beanblossom Bottoms. This was the rebuilt nest that, unfortunately, blew down in March.

Beloved Beanblossom Bottoms eagles build again

BY CATHY MEYER, NATURALIST, MONROE COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION DEPT.

Bald eagles are well known as our national symbol and as a conservation success story. After their numbers plummeted due to habitat loss and the effects of DDT, this chemicals was banned and the birds were placed on the Endangered Species list. They have rebounded but are still protected by federal law and must not be disturbed or harmed. Natural areas protected by Sycamore Land Trust provide these magnificent birds with the habitat they need and also provide us with the opportunity to observe and admire them.

Eagles start courting, repairing their nests, and incubating eggs in late winter. Eaglets need a lot of time to grow and rely on their parents for many months after leaving the nest. It takes them time to acquire the skills they need to hunt on their own.

Bald eagles now nest throughout the state, usually along rivers and lakes. Their nests are constructed of sticks wedged into the crotch of a large tree. Each year, more sticks are added. The nest can eventually weigh as much as one ton! Some nests are known to have been used for 35 years. The same adults return to their nests each year, unless one of them dies or is driven off by another potential mate.

The huge size of the nests makes them vulnerable to being blown down, or sometimes the tree it's in collapses. Last fall, the nest at Beanblossom Bottoms blew out of the dead tree where it had been for about 10 years. The nesting pair quickly got to work over the winter and built a new nest a short distance away—which then blew down during a strong March storm this year. As of this writing, we're not sure what will happen next, but by using binoculars or a spotting scope at the eagle deck, you can watch to see if the beloved Beanblossom Bottoms eagles will make yet another attempt to rebuild their nest.

At the end of April, we did receive this update from an eagle observer: "They're rebuilding. Flying around with big sticks. Looks like the new nest won't be visible from the Eagle Deck. It's more south, barely visible from the boardwalk through the trees."

Stewardship Corps

A new outlet for volunteers interested in working outdoors

BY JAIME SWEANY, FORMER VOLUNTEER & MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR

Jaime Sweany

Sycamore is now protecting more land than ever before! As the amount of land we protect has grown, so has the need for stewardship and management of these lovely properties. Volunteers have always played an important role in helping our small staff maintain Sycamore's preserves. But recently the need for and the caliber of volunteer opportunities have increased.

Helping with stewardship tops the list of interests for many people wishing to volunteer. To accommodate this interest and our growing need for preserve maintenance, we created the Sycamore Stewardship Corps (SSC).

At the exploratory meeting in early March, many volunteers turned out for a friendly exchange of ideas on how to best organize this volunteer-powered work group. We invite you to join SSC so that you too can play a vital role in maintaining our preserves.

SSC will organize stewardship projects at various preserves on weekends and weekdays throughout the year. Anyone with any level of skill and experience is welcome. We're also seeking leadership volunteers to organize and lead workdays, with planning assistance from staff.

SSC members are encouraged to put forth their own good project ideas, such as clean-ups, invasive plant pulls, and trail clearing, in consultation with Sycamore staff. Assistant Director John Lawrence and the Board of Directors' Stewardship Committee will guide the development and ranking of projects.

SSC meets for an informal discussion, review of projects, and ideas for new projects every other month on second Thursdays. The gatherings are from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. at Cedar Crest, 4898 E. Heritage Woods Rd., Bloomington. Pizza and libations are provided.

Does stewardship sound like a good fit for you? If so, we hope you'll join the fun! Register online at sycamorelandtrust.org/Events/stewardship-corps-meetings or contact us at 812-336-5382 x105.

Jaime

Photo by John Day

Preserve-a-Preserve Day at Dishman Quarry

Many volunteers–including a team from the Indiana Geological Survey–spent a beautiful March afternoon cleaning up Dishman Quarry. They cleared away brush to resurrect an old trail through this Orange County preserve, which features a plethora of fossils.

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!

16 JUNE

THIRD THURSDAY PRESERVE-A-PRESERVE DAY

Porter West Preserve (western Monroe Co.)

Thursday, June 16, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Lunch included!

We'll continue working on the new trails at this popular preserve near Bloomington (see p. 6) by finishing up the west connector trail. We'll also control invasive multiflora rose in the woods nearby. Wear long pants and sturdy shoes or boots, bring work gloves and water. Bring loppers and handsaws if you have them. Meet at the Preserve entrance on Vernal Pike. RSVP by June 14.

14 JULY

WEEKDAY WALKERS: EXPLORE A CONSERVATION EASEMENT

Yellowwood Farm

Thursday, July 14, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Nestled next to state forest land on the Monroe-Brown County line, Yellowwood Farm is a private property that provides a lovely mix of meadow, creek, and upland habitats. Enjoy the beauty of these diverse habitats while learning what a conservation easement is and how Sycamore Land Trust works with private land owners to protect their property. Meet at the eastside Kmart to carpool to this private property. RSVP by July 12.

21 JULY

THIRD THURSDAY PRESERVE-A-PRESERVE DAY

Dilcher-Turner Canyon Forest (eastern Greene Co.)

Thursday, July 21, 8:45 a.m. – 1 p.m. Lunch included!

Help improve the trails at this scenic preserve. We'll also fight back multiflora rose that is creeping into the forest. Wear long pants and sturdy shoes or boots. Bring work gloves, water, and loppers if you have them. Meet at Sam's Club on SR 45 at 8:45 a.m. to carpool; parking is limited. RSVP by July 19.

23 JULY

BUTTERFLIES AND BLOSSOMS STROLL

Touch the Earth Natural Area (Bartholomew Co. near Columbus)

Saturday, July 23, 1 – 3 p.m.

Enjoy the beauty of butterflies and blossoms as you stroll the broad trails of Touch the Earth Natural Area with volunteer naturalist Doug Johnson. He will help you identify and learn about butterflies, plants, and common insects. Carpooling is available and will depart at 9:15 a.m. from Bloomington's eastside Kmart. Open to the first 25 people who respond. RSVP by July 21.

18 AUG

THIRD THURSDAY PRESERVE-A-PRESERVE DAY

Fix-Stoelting Preserve (northern Monroe Co.)

Thursday, August 18, 8:45 a.m. – 1 p.m. Lunch included!

We'll clear a trail to the top of an interesting rocky ridge overlooking Beanblossom Creek at this newer preserve in our Bicentennial project area. Wear long pants and sturdy shoes or boots. Bring work gloves, water, and loppers and handsaws if you have them. Meet at the Marsh on Kinser Pike at 8:45 a.m. to carpool. RSVP by August 16.

INDIVIDUALIZED OPPORTUNITIES

To schedule a tailored nature experience for 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.

19 AUG

DIAMONDS IN THE NIGHT SPIDER STROLL

Beanblossom Bottoms Nature Preserve

Friday, August 19, 8:30 – 10 p.m.

Join us for a nighttime stroll to look for spiders. Bring your flashlight or headlamp to light up the fascinating hidden world of spiders, whose eyes shine back like illuminated diamonds. Led by arachnid specialist Leslie Bishop. Carpooling is encouraged; parking is limited. Carpool leaves at 8 p.m. from the Marsh parking lot on Kinser Pike. Open to the first 25 people who respond. RSVP by August 17.

11 SEPT

LI'L HIKERS: INSECTS GALORE

Powell Preserve (Monroe Co.)

Sunday, September 11, 12 – 3:30 p.m.

Hiding under a leaf or in the tall grass are critters not often seen by a passerby. Using your keen observation skills and a few tools, we will discover what is hiding right under your nose. Meet at Marsh parking lot on Kinser Pike to caravan to this preserve, returning by 3:30 p.m. RSVP by September 8.

15 SEPT

THIRD THURSDAY PRESERVE-A-PRESERVE DAY

The Cedars Preserve (southwest Monroe Co.)

Thursday, September 15, 8:45 a.m. – 1 p.m. Lunch included!

Help improve the trails at a special preserve that features limestone outcrops, sinkholes, and the historic remains of an old quarry operation. Wear long pants and sturdy shoes or boots. Bring work gloves, water, and loppers and handsaws if you have them. Meet at the **southside** Kroger on Old 37/S. Walnut St. at 8:30 a.m. to carpool. RSVP by September 13.

29 SEPT

WEEKDAY WALKERS: LISTEN TO YOUR MOTHER

Pioneer Mothers Memorial Forest (Orange Co.)

Tuesday, September 27, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Just south of Paoli you'll find 88 acres of forest virtually untouched since its purchase in 1816. It is one of the last stands of old growth forests in Indiana. During this hike, marvel at the magnificent forest, learn how the forest was saved, and discover the cultural history of the area. Pack lunch and water. Meet at the eastside Kmart parking lot to carpool. RSVP by September 23.

2 OCT

LI'L HIKERS: HUG A TREE

Scarlet Oak Woods (Monroe Co.)

Sunday, October 2, 12 – 2 p.m.

Like the human body, a tree has many parts–both visible and hidden–that are essential for its survival. We will explore trees that are living and dead, observe bark, and find out what is happening on the inside. Meet at the Preserve. RSVP by September 29.

13 OCT

SECOND THURSDAY PRESERVE-A-PRESERVE DAY

Sam Shine Foundation Preserve (northern Monroe Co.)

Thursday, October 13, 12:30 – 4 p.m. Snacks included!

Get a special look at one of our newest and largest preserves, a week early due to our upcoming Annual Celebration. We'll work on controlling Asian bush honeysuckle on the Preserve's hillside that threatens to invade the Beanblossom Creek floodplain below, and we'll clean up an old trash pile. Wear long pants and sturdy shoes or boots, bring work gloves and water. Bring loppers and handsaws if you have them. Meet at the Marsh on Kinser Pike at 12:30 p.m. to carpool. RSVP by October 11.

21 OCT

ANNUAL CELEBRATION 2016

SAVE the date

Bloomington-Monroe County Convention Center

Friday, October 21, 6 – 9 p.m.

Save the date for this year's celebratory gathering of Sycamore supporters! State Botanist Michael Homoya will be the keynote speaker.

Thank You

This list includes donations received from 1/1/2016 through 4/15/2016, 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 us at 812-336-5382.

WELCOME, 31 NEW MEMBERS!

Anonymous
Barb and Alan Backler
Bledsoe Riggert Cooper James
John and Eric Branigin
Lewis Brown
Dan and Connie Clark
Nora Connors
Claire and Phillip Crooke
Michael Ginda
Gnarly Tree Sustainability Institute
Lauren Harling
Cristie Harry
Allison Hess
Danny Hofstadter
Hoosier Crossfit, LLC
Linda and Martin Iwamuro
A Little Log Cabin in the Woods
Craig and Diann McKee
Chip Methvin and
Caitlin McClelland Methvin
Ed Pease
Sarah and Abby Perfetti
Kevin and Charlotte Reitz
Jeremy Riley
Sharon Roth
Ryan and Heather Singleton
Yvonne M. Sippel
Linda B Smith
Maya Szakaly
Dmitri Vietze, rock paper scissors
Peter J. Weingartner
Donna Whitsitt

$100,000+

Indiana Department of
Natural Resources
Laura Hare Charitable Trust
D. Lawrence and
Carol A. Weingartner

$5,000-$20,000

John and Eric Branigin
Vectren Foundation, Inc.

$1,000-$4,999

Bledsoe Riggert Cooper James
Chip Methvin and
Caitlin McClelland Methvin
Macy's Foundation
Old National Bank Fund, a
component fund of the
Community Foundation of
Bloomington and Monroe County
Soma Coffeehouse and Juice Bar
St. John Associates
Peter J. Weingartner

$250-$999

Anonymous
Bloomingfoods Market & Deli
Malcolm H. Brown and
John W. Clower
CFC Properties, LLC
Heidi and Barry Gealt
Hoosier Crossfit, LLC
Bob Jacobi and Freddi Stevens-Jacobi
JL Waters and Company
Land Trust Alliance
Merck Foundation
Franklin and Brenda Prosser
Bill Ryan and Lynn Bledsoe
Richard Schutte
Penny and Dwight Stauffer
Sweany Artworks
Paula and Fred Tolle
Maria and Paul Viterisi

$100-$249

Phil and Ruthann Berck
Bonnie Bittner
Anne Butsch
Cardinal Spirits
William Clemens
Margaret Cummins-Schaefer
Michael and Marylin Day
Dan Derheimer
Jim and Kay Eagleman
Dick and Ginny Elder
Burney and Barb Fischer
Rob Fischman
Sara Frommer
John and Elizabeth Gallman
Terry and Nancy Gehlhausen
Gnarly Tree Sustainability Institute
The Green Nursery
Donna Hackney
Catharine Hoff and Richard Hvale
Larry Horton
Karen Jepson-Innes and Roger Innes
Al and Julie Kamarauskas
Peter Kloosterman
Kenyon and Amy Kopp
John Kyle III and Marcia Dunne-Kyle
Skip and Sherry Makely
Gary Morrison and Linda Ritter
Kay Murphy
Donald Nuetzman
Chad and Rebecca Nunley
Brian and Ann O'Neill
Mary Lu Orr
Marie Otteson-Jones
Gary Palmer
Mary I. Perez
Edward and Darlene Peyronnin
Jim and Lynn Renne
Paula Riggs
Mark and Debra Ryan
Deborah and James Schade
Lois and Jack Schmidt
Randy and Jeanie Scofield
Steve Seitzinger
Share Your Cloud
Nathan and Patricia Shier
Rebecca Stanze
Janet Stavropoulos and
Michael Molenda
Laura Knudson and Jason Tennessen
James and Amy Thomas
Betty Tuttle
Upland Brewing Co.
Wolfgang H. and
Judith L. von Buchler
Moira Wedekind and
Vladimir Derenchuk
Jennifer Weiss and Scott Larson
Tom and Sara Wood

$40-$99

Dede Abts
Ben and Jamie Ackerman
Charles and Kathy Aiken
Ryan and Kaitlyn Babbitt
Barb and Alan Backler
Stephen and Candace Bailey
William and Jennifer Bartek
Donald and Rosanne Batema
Carolyn G. Bennett
Kathy Boone
Charlie Bowman
Marsha Bradford
Judith Brennan
Lewis Brown
Robert Burkart
Harold and Carol Cameron
James Capshew
Jim Casey
Dan and Connie Clark
Myron and Linda Cole
Nora Connors
Jeff and Tess Cook
John and Susan Cronkhite
Craig Dalrymple
Mary Damm
Douglas and Mary Jane Darbro
Patricia Denison and Gary Arbeiter
Kevin and Martha Dogan
J. Person and J. Doskow
David and Wilma Doup
Andrew R. Durkin
David and Tyler Kate Ferguson
Lissa and Greg Fischer
Martha Fox and William Fox
Kevin Fuhs
Norman Furniss
Lori and Preston Garraghty
Barbara and Bob Garton
Don Gilbert
Caroline and Brian Gilley
Abby Gitlitz and Matt Stonecipher
Greg and Susie Gordon
Marnell Gorman and Kris Kimmell
Benjamin Graves
Stephen and Vera Grubbs
Greg Haas
Lawrie Hamilton
Russell and Constance Hanson
Jo Hargesheimer
Lauren Harling
Gillian Harris and William Cowan
Cristie Harry
Stephen Harter
Donald and Marjorie Hattin
Charles and Doris Hazel
David Heise and Elsa Lewis Heise
Allison Hess
Lowell Hobbs
John Hobson
Danny Hofstadter
Erin Hollinden
Art Hopkins and Glory Kulczycki
Rita and David Howell
John and Christina Hurlow
State Employees' Community
Campaign
Mr. Bruce Jaffee
Doug and Casey Johnson
Burton and Eleanor Jones
Robert and Mechthild Jordan
Monica F. Kindraka-Jensen and
Pennfield Jensen
Donald King
Jack and Julie King
Bob and Connie Kinkle
Kristin Konstanty and Troy Martin
Joan Lauer
Judy Lawrence
Stine Levy
A Little Log Cabin in the Woods
Alice Lorenz
Jo Lucas
Patrick K. McAleer
Cullen McCarty and
Rachel Peden McCarty
Dan McDowell
David M. Miller, DDS and
Rhonda Miller
Bob and Cheryl Musgrave
Brian and Molly O'Donnell
Nature's Way, Inc.
Michiko Owaki and Amar Flood
Patricia Parmenter
John Pearison
Sarah and Abby Perfetti
Alison and Ted Polley
Jay and Joni Powell
Rick Rains
Kevin and Charlotte Reitz
Jeremy Riley
Lyman K. Roll
Sharon Roth
Jerry and Nancy Ruff
Steve and Andrea Sacro
Judy Schroeder
Phyllis Schwitzer
Jim and Beth Silberstein
Yvonne M. Sippel
Bret and Ellee Spier
Jonathan Stafford
Donna Stanley
Rex Swing
Bud and Donna Tackett
Mark Taubensee
Carol Thornton-Anderson and John
Anderson
Vallonia State Nursery
Jill and Bryan Vance
Don Villwock
Ronald and Nancy Vitello
Marcia Walker
Davie Sue Wallace and Richard Litov
Gary Walters
Dave and Gail Weaver
Tracy Whelan
Donna Whitsitt
Karen and Bill Whorrall
Linda Willis
Kay and George Yatskievych
Katie Zukof and Eric Schedler

IN MEMORY OF ALFRED BOISSEVAIN

Cheryll Boissevain
Robert Brown
Ellann Johnson
Margaret and Fred Knust
John McDaniel
David and Cheryl Moeller
Jim Moore
Karin and Karl Palasz
Root and Associates

IN HONOR OF MAYAN EARTHEART

Mark Howard

IN MEMORY OF GREGORY FOOTE

Jim Jones

LEADERSHIP SOCIETY CONTRIBUTIONS FROM 4/16/2015 - 4/15/2016

VISIONARY

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
Tim and Mary Ann Dunfee
Jennifer Hottell and Mike Voyles
Rick and Alice Johnson
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
Jeff and Legene White
Tom Zeller

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

Anonymous
Mark and Rebecca Ewing
Kenneth R.R. Gros Louis
Barbara Hanawalt and Ronald Giere
Walter E. Hoffmann and
Ann L. Johnson
Steve and Cassie Howard
Jenny Johnson
Bob Kissel
Del and Letty Newkirk
Tim and Ann Niednagel
Andrea Oeding
Carol Pettys
Patricia Pizzo
Nancy Ralston
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
Sheryl Woodhouse Keese and
Brian Keese
Wylie Foundation, Inc.

SYCAMORE SUSTAINERS

Adams Arbor Care, LLC
Anonymous
Lydia Barbash-Riley and
Matthew Maus
Jim and Maria Brown
Joe Collins
Tim and Natalie Colvin
Carmen and Linda Felicetti
Jim and Andrea Ferguson
Flynn-Wittmann Family
Michael Ginda
Karen and Rich Gotshall
Betty Greenwell and Julius Coe
Shelley Hahn
Dave and Mary Hall
Sandra Hernshaw
Steve and Cassie Howard
George Huntington
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
Marsha Minton
Jeremy Nation and Rebecca Swanson
Christopher and Shauna Newman
Nancy and David Owen
Jack Wittman and Rita Paschke
Patrick and Jenny Petro
Reza Pishgahi and
Lois Hutter-Pishgahi
Ryan and Tyler Prall
Austin Roach
David and Beth Rupp
Joe Ryan
Deborra Sanders and
Willowbei Eversole
James Shearn and Scott Loman
Mark and Kathy Sheehan
Marion Sinclair
Ryan and Heather Singleton
Eliot and Pamela Smith
Linda B. Smith
Ben Swanson
Maya Szakaly
Maria and Paul Viterisi

LEGACY CIRCLE

Patricia Abplanalp†
Mark Adams
Anonymous (3)
Janet Armstrong
Mike and Bev Baker
Susan Hollis Bassett
Phil and Ruthann Berck
Helen and Keith Caldwell†
Edward Champa†
Joseph Collins
Jim and Bobbi Diehl

Thank You

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†
William H. Hays, III
Samuel P. and Barbara D. Hays
Joyce Hendrix
Dawn E. Hewitt
Stephen Higgs
Robert and Joan Hongen
George Huntington, III
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
Nathan Pate and Janet Kennedy
Lois Hutter-Pishgahi and Reza Pishgahi
Patricia 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 Walne†
Bill and Mary Weeks
D. Lawrence and Carol A. Weingartner
Myriam and Jim† Wood
Sheryl Woodhouse Keese and Brian Keese
Tom Zeller
Deborah A. Zera
†Deceased

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS
1/1/2016 – 4/15/2016

CEDAR CREST UPKEEP
Keith Barnhardt
Hugh Hazelrigg
James Shearn and Scott Loman

CLERICAL
Scott Loman
Patrick Medland
John Scully

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION
Mike and Betty Davis
Jim Ferguson
Sawyer and Tanner Gibson
Kuo-Chun Ku
Josh Nickelson
Tobin Tyree
Myriam Wood

EVENTS
Joe Bailey
Lauren Harling
Holly Hooper
Michael Waterford

GRAPHIC DESIGN
Roy Hooper

INTERN
Delaney Bolger
Kuo-Chun Ku

ORIENTATIONS
Jackie Brooks
Ella Flynn
Caroline Gilley
Shelby Hall
Daniel Layton
Scott Loman
Jessica Sherry
Tim Street
Kaci Taylor
Donna Whitsitt
Jesse Wilson
Christina Wray

PHOTOGRAPHY
Jeff Danielson
John Day
Martha Fox
Steve Gifford
Chip Methvin
Richard Vernier

STEWARDSHIP
Gary Arbeiter
Barbara and Steve Boncheck
Jackie Brooks
Terry and Jamie Clark
Mike and Betty Davis
Patricia Denison and Gary Arbeiter
Tim Dunfee
Gail Feagans
Jeff Hartenfeld and Jen Robinson
Kelly Holland
Hoosier Hikers Council
George Huntington
Daniel Layton
Drew Packman
Nathan Pate and Janet Kennedy
Richard L. Powell
Carroll Ritter
Mary Beth Roska
Dave Simcox
Marion Sinclair
Lee Sterrenburg
Polly Sturgeon
Todd Thompson
Jerry Ulrey

TESTIMONIALS
Kathy Boone
Gary Chambers
Cindy Creek
Steve Gifford
Shelby Hall
Angela Harding
Lauren Harling
Bob Kissel
Kuo-Chun Ku
Mike Love
Greg Meyer
Bill McCoy
Karen Pitkin
Melinda Swenson
Jude Thill
Kurt and Lisa Weisner
Myriam Wood

"THE TWIG" DISTRIBUTION
Anonymous
Amanda Harper
Greg Meyer
John Scully
Joan ten Hoor
Myriam Wood

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

Correction: **Patrick Eaton** is the person with the trail building tools in the photo on the back cover of the Winter 2016 issue of "The Twig." He was incorrectly identified as Jim Shearn. We apologize for the error.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT...
Our 2015 Impact Report was mailed in May. If you would like a copy, please contact us at info@sycamorelandtrust.org or 812-336-5382. You can also view it at sycamorelandtrust.org.

Leave a legacy.

Please remember
Sycamore Land Trust in your will.

Dishman Quarry Preserve, Orange Co.

Business and Foundation Supporters

Johnson Ventures, Inc.

Oliver Winery & Vineyards

Vectren Live Smart

samtec

Sam Shine Foundation

Raymond Foundation

Efroymson Family Fund
A CICF Fund
Inspiring philanthropy

Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust
Building a Legacy of Community Grantmaking since 1998

Community Foundation Bloomington • Monroe County

Upland Brewing Co

Old National Bank

Jennifer L. Witzke Graphic Design

Bill C. Brown Associates
An honored reputation. A promise to serve.
Ron Remak

worldarts inc. printing

Hoosier Energy
A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

bloomington / monroe county convention center

Designscape Horticultural Services, Inc.

Smithville Charitable Foundation, Inc.

Adams Arbor Care, LLC

BRCJ

soma coffee house & juice bar

St. John Associates
Physician Employment Specialists

Sarkes and Mary Tarzian Foundation

Karen Pitkin RE/MAX Realty Professionals

Twin H Tree Farm & Nursery

Markey's Rental & Staging

Fowler Tree Services
"a courteous tree service"

Staff & Board

Executive Director: Christian Freitag
Assistant Director: John Lawrence
Development Director: Ann Connors
Communications Director: Coming soon!
Environmental Education Director: Shane Gibson

Committee Chairs

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

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

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
Jim DeCoursey
Tim Dunfee
George Huntington
Jenny Johnson
Terry Marbach, Treasurer
Greg Meyer
Vi Simpson
Joan ten Hoor, Secretary
Maria Viterisi, Board Chair
W. William Weeks

Advisory Board

Wilfred C. Bussing III
Doug Dayhoff
Steve Ferguson
Burney Fischer
Kenneth R.R. Gros Louis
Baron Hill
Steve Howard
John Hurlow
Rick Johnson
George Korinek
Mark Kruzan
James Madison
Vicky Meretsky
Jim Murphy
Edward W. Najam, Jr.
Del Newkirk
Karen Pitkin
Patricia Pizzo
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

Photo by Katrina Folsom

Safely leashed, this curious cat accompanied Sycamore Branches, our young supporters group, on their April 9 wild edibles hike. We do not know if the cat encountered any wild edibles.

Breah LaSarre, Sycamore Branches wild edibles hike participant, had the good fortune to encounter a large morel mushroom.

Photo by Katrina Folsom

Photo by Theresa Creek

Elowen Wiltz, a Rogers Elementary School Environmental Education participant, pours pine needle tea for Shane Gibson, Environmental Education Director. The combined first and second grade class, taught by Cindy Creek and Mike Love, made the tea as part of their year-long Lewis and Clark study project.

Last year Soma Coffee House and Juice Bar decided to use their cold brew coffee to help preserve our beautiful landscape by donating to Sycamore $1 from each growler sold, until the total reached $2,500. When they reached this goal, Soma owner Bob Costello (left) stopped by our headquarters, Cedar Crest, with a check and some refreshing cold brew to raise a toast with our executive director, Christian Freitag. Their gift will help us continue protecting land right here at home in beautiful southern Indiana. Thanks, Soma and everyone who filled a growler!

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	64	5,019
Easements	36	3,974
Financial Partner	8	10,010
Total	**108**	**19,003**
Wills (known)	*11*	*2,305*

NONPROFIT
US POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT No. 333
Bloomington, IN

PRINTED ON RECYCLED CONTENT PAPER