

August 2017



Your donations are making a difference!

With support from a TREE Fund Arboriculture Education Grant, **Asheville GreenWorks** sought to promote interactive learning about trees and foster a greater appreciation of the role they play in community health. They created "[Tree Detective Kits](#)" filled with binoculars, leaf rubbing plates, tree cookies, leaves, seeds and educational materials and placed them in local libraries and schools to reach thousands of students and residents. The project's overwhelming success not only inspired an autumn "Tree Detectives" program, but is being used as a model to develop pollinator packs and a spring "Have a Bee-autiful Day" program for the area.

Need funding? That's our job! Apply today for research grants at treefund.org:

- [John Z. Duling Grant \(up to \\$25,000\)](#) – Application due **October 1**
- [Jack Kimmel International Grant \(up to \\$10,000\)](#) – Application due **October 1**



Free TREE Fund webinar with CEUs on September 7

["Municipal Forestry Baseline, Trends, and Dashboard"](#)

featuring *Dr. Richard Hauer, University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point (WI)*

- **September 7, 2017 at 12:00 pm CDT** (translate to *your* time zone [here](#))
- [Pre-registration](#) is highly recommended.
- 1.0 CEU available from ISA or SAF (live broadcast only)



Discover how U.S. communities are managing and funding tree care operations and how that has been changing over time. Dr. Hauer will share his findings on tree risk programs, tree diversity issues, budgets, effects of emerald ash borer on budgets, volunteers in municipal forestry, and much more. You'll definitely want to hear about his new interactive dashboard project that will allow you to evaluate your municipal forestry program and define steps to improve it!

Special thanks to webinar host [Alabama Cooperative Extension System \(ACES\)](#). Visit treefund.org/webinars to see the 2017 webinar schedule and to watch past broadcasts.

TREE Fund is pleased to announce its second round of **2017 scholarship recipients**:

- [Savannah Haines](#), University of Maine – John Wright Memorial Scholarship
- [Jennifer Halterman](#), Pennsylvania State University – Fran Ward Women in Arboriculture Scholarship
- [Timothy Lentz](#), University of Delaware – Horace M. Thayer Scholarship



Congratulations to all, and thank you to Wright Tree Service and Penn-Del Chapter ISA for funding these worthy programs. See TREE Fund's scholarship award archives at treefund.org/scholarship-archive.

Thank you to our July 2017 lead donors, those who have contributed \$2,500 or more to TREE Fund this month. See our full list of 2017 lead donors at treefund.org/about/our-donors.

- Canadian TREE Fund
- Pamela Hendricksen
- Illinois Arborist Association
- Mowbray's Tree Service, Inc.
- New York State Arborists, ISA Chapter
- Pacific Gas and Electric Company
- Southern Chapter ISA
- The Davey Tree Expert Company
- Vermeer Corporation



TREE Fund recognizes two with 2017 Ken Ottman Volunteer Award

Please join us in congratulating Louisiana State University professor **Hallie Dozier, PhD (LA)** and **Frazer Pehmoeller (NY)**, recipients of the 2017 Ken Ottman Award. This annual award honors sustained high-level volunteer commitment to TREE Fund's mission and work.

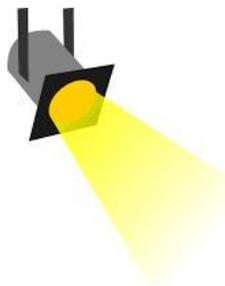


Hallie served as a TREE Fund Trustee for nine years, and as Chair of the Research and Education Committee she played a significant role in shaping the grant and scholarship programs we have today. Hallie has ridden several Tours and can always be found lending a helping hand at events like TREE Fund After Hours.

Frazer is the TREE Fund Liaison for New York State Arborists, ISA Chapter and Chair of the Tour Planning Committee. Frazer has been the driving force behind establishing and continually improving the Tour's culture of safety. He is one of the Tour's top fundraisers, and as captain of Team Bartlett in 2016, he led the group to top team fundraising honors, raising an incredible \$65,059 for TREE Fund.

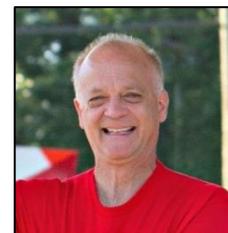


Congratulations to both on this well-deserved honor!



Volunteer Spotlight: Thom Kraak

This month, the spotlight is shining on **Thom Kraak (WI)**. Thom is the Support Team lead for the STIHL Tour des Trees, working tirelessly day and night throughout the event to make sure cyclists have the necessary food, water, and medical attention to complete the arduous ride. Thom's behind-the-scenes organization, vast knowledge, and quick problem-solving abilities keep the Tour running smoothly, and his friendly, fun-loving personality keeps things positive no matter what we might face. Thom's spent a remarkable *19 years* on the road with us – both as a rider and as support – and we can't say "thank you" enough!



To suggest someone for the Spotlight, please contact [Karen Lindell](mailto:karen@treefund.org).

TREE Fund celebrates success of innovative activities at 2017 ISA Conference

For the first time in its 25-year history, the STIHL Tour des Trees ran concurrently with the ISA Annual International Conference and rode daily looped routes staged from the ISA host hotel. This approach proved successful in providing unique opportunities for interaction between Tour participants and the greater tree community, not to mention the treat of not having to pack up and move every day!



66 Tour cyclists started their weeklong, 587-mile ride through Maryland, Virginia and Washington, D.C., on July 30 from National Harbor, MD. Riders received a hearty welcome at ISA's Arboriculture Celebration kickoff event that evening, followed by socializing and networking with conference attendees at the Welcome Reception on the Trade Show Floor. TREE Fund's interactive trade show booth was a big hit; attendees stopped by to chat with TREE Fund researchers and submit research questions and project ideas. The latter information will be considered by the TREE Fund Trustees as part of their Strategic Planning process.



After Monday's century ride containing one of the highlights of the Silver Anniversary Tour – dedicating a Liberty Tree on Maryland's Statehouse grounds in Annapolis – Tour riders were joined by a group of conference attendees for "Day at Night," an engaging education program with **Dr. Susan Day** (Virginia Tech) over dessert and coffee.

On Tuesday, the Tour visited monuments on the National Mall and ended the day at the TREE Fund After Hours 25th Anniversary Tour Celebration. For many, it was their first opportunity to take part in this annual TREE Fund event!

The crowded room was festive and packed with Tour des Trees memorabilia against a backdrop of photos from the 1992 ride. Six of the original riders were in attendance: **Jim Barborinas** (WA), **Jim Clark** (CA), **John Goodfellow** (WA), **Ward Peterson** (OH), **Phil Svoboda** (WA), and **Marianne Waindle** (CA). They were honored with Silver Anniversary plaques and Silver Anniversary Tour jerseys, and John shared his reflections on the pioneering ride. **Jennifer Pehmoeller** (NY) was the lucky winner of the Silver Ticket Raffle; she chose the seven-night Holland America cruise (donated by Florida Chapter ISA) for her prize.



Thursday night's Tour dinner at Wetland Studies and Solutions, Inc. celebrated veteran Tour riders. **Steve Geist** (CO) received a woodcarving created by fellow Tour rider **Sam VanMaanen** (IA) to mark his milestone 20th Tour, and original Tour riders **Ward Peterson**, **Jim Clark**, and **Phil Svoboda** were cheered for riding in 2017; Jim and Phil had not ridden the Tour since founding the event!

The 2017 STIHL Tour des Trees spent the rest of the week cycling beautiful Virginia horse country, dedicating trees, donating books to local libraries, and teaching local kids about tree biology and stewardship via **Professor Pricklethorn** events. Tour rider and team contributions, along with proceeds from TREE Fund After Hours generated over \$300,000 for tree research and education in the near term and in perpetuity (through endowment, as designated by the donor). This money sets the baseline for TREE Fund's 2018 research and education budget.

TREE Fund is grateful to Tour host Mid-Atlantic Chapter ISA, ISA for their partnership at the conference, Tour riders and the support crew, Tour rest stop hosts, event volunteers, TREE Fund Partners, the 1992 riders, event participants, our fundraisers and generous donors, and all the wonderful people throughout the Washington, D.C., Maryland and Virginia area who helped make our 2017 TREE Fund activities so successful.

See photos of this year's STIHL Tour des Trees and learn more at stihltourdestrees.org.

Kudos to the 2017 STIHL Tour des Trees top fundraisers

Please join us in congratulating **Randy Miller** (UT), **Dick Rideout** (WI), and **Steve Geist** (CO), our top individual fundraisers for the 2017 STIHL Tour des Trees. The three were recognized for their accomplishment with STIHL merchandise certificates, courtesy of TREE Fund Crown Partner STIHL, Inc. All consistently rank in the top echelon of Tour fundraisers; we are awed and amazed by their passion and commitment to the cause. Thank you, Randy, Dick, and Steve!



Miller: \$ 16,250



Rideout: \$ 13,770



Geist: \$ 7,785

Congratulations are also in order for **Team Ohio**, our top fundraising team in 2017. Led by captain Beth Buchanan, Team Ohio raised an impressive **\$42,165** for TREE Fund, and they're not done yet. Their biggest fundraiser, the BBQ picnic (formerly a pig roast), is still to come. Team Ohio is a powerhouse fundraising unit, setting a high bar for how to work effectively as a team to solicit support for tree research and education. We are grateful for all you do, Team Ohio!



L to R: Susan Paul, Beth Buchanan, Ward Peterson, Laurie Skul, Dave Staats, Kevin Jones, Jeff McMullen, Barbara Ballard, Joe Volchko, Alexandra Kluczarov

Tour fundraising continues through December 31, 2017 at stihltourdestrees.org.

Like what you've read? Help us do more!

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