



# 2008 ANNUAL REPORT

**Seeking to preserve, protect and  
enhance land in perpetuity for the  
public benefit.**

# CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Dear Fellow Members of the Licking Land Trust,

The Board of Trustees and Officers of the Licking Land Trust are pleased to present this 2008 Annual Report. It is a bit later than in the past. The Board decided to move its distribution from November to February to provide a full calendar year report of our activities and financials. We hope you will find this change helpful.

We have also prepared this report so that it can be delivered on-line via e-mail in lieu of printing and mailing for those who prefer that method. However, do not fret if you like the paper version. Mailing of the printed report will continue to be our main method of distribution.

As you read through this 2008 Annual Report, please note all the various programs and activities carried out by the Licking Land Trust in 2008. As the property under our protection continues to grow and our activities and responsibilities increase, we depend more and more on volunteers to help accomplish all the work. Thousands of donated hours were contributed in 2008. We appreciate all those members who gave of their time and talents in 2008 and have tried to list all of them at the end of this report. We hope you will consider contributing some of your time in 2009.

The Licking Land Trust set a new milestone in 2008, exceeding 1,000 acres under its protection with the completion of the Carter family easement of about 100 acres in St. Albans Township in July. Richard Carter granted that easement in memory of his wife, Jennie. Earlier in 2008, we also received from Park Trails/MI Homes an additional 5.544 acres to protect in the Park Trails Subdivision. As we head into our 20<sup>th</sup> year, total acres under our protection stands at 1,091.

Financially, we have continued to live within our means, ending the year with a balanced budget and a sound bank account. We now have nearly \$20,000 set aside for easement stewardship and enforcement, \$16,000 for future Spring Valley projects and almost \$26,000 for operating. We depend heavily on the generosity of our members to carry out our mission and appreciate that we have a responsibility to spend every contributed dollar prudently and wisely. We hope you will agree from the detailed financial information presented later in this report that we have been good stewards of your conservation dollars.

Long-term, the Licking Land Trust intends to become accredited by the Land Trust Alliance. This new accreditation program is a way for land trusts to demonstrate their compliance with recognized standards and practices. We made steady progress on drafting and adopting the policies needed for accreditation. In further preparation for accreditation, three Board members and five Licking Land Trust members attended the Land Trust Alliance Rally 2008 in Pittsburgh and came away with valuable ideas and information that will help us as we move forward.

Looking ahead to 2009, the Licking Land Trust will celebrate its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary on October 27, another milestone. We certainly owe a debt of gratitude to our founding members for their vision in seeing the need for an organization to preserve land in Licking County. We hope you will join us in 2009 in celebrating the Land Trust's past achievements as we continue to prepare for the future.



Candi Moore,  
Chairman

## 2008 Licking Land Trust Board of Trustees

Candi Moore, Chair (2009)  
Doug Spieles, Vice Chair/  
Secretary (2008)  
Mark Roth, Treasurer (2009)

Bernie Brush (2008)  
Pat Deering (2009)  
Mary Fitch (2009)  
Tod Frolking (2010)

Linda Habig (2008)  
Mike Mickleson (2010)  
Greg Sharkey (2010)  
Don Wiper (2008)



# 2008 HIGHLIGHTS

From promoting environmental education and conservation, to meeting with potential easement donors, the Trust had many accomplishments in 2008. The all-volunteer board continued developing standards for national accreditation. Committees worked hard to promote the Trust and preservation, and our small army of volunteers provided invaluable services. Highlights include:

## Easement Donations

In February, 2008, Park Trails/MI Homes donated 5.544 acres in the Park Trails Subdivision to the Trust. This donation was in addition to the 58.8 acres given to the Trust in 2005. This new wooded parcel was eyed for condominium development but now will remain in its natural state.

In July 2008, Richard Carter granted a conservation easement to the Trust on his 100 acres in St. Albans Township. In doing so, he carried out the wishes of his late wife, Jennie, to preserve their land in its natural state.

In December 2007, after completion of the Trust's 2007 Annual Report, three land owners donated conservation easements to the Licking Land Trust. They were: Larry and Janet Neeley (53 acres); Kayla Hughes (93 acres); and Victoria and C. Bernard Brush (64 acres). The Trust would like to thank all of its recent easement donors for their commitment to land preservation.



Richard Carter and Candi Moore

## 1,000-Acre Milestone

With the donation of Mr. Carter's easement in 2008, the Licking Land Trust reached a milestone of 1,091 acres under protection by the Trust. As board member Doug Spieles said, "One thousand acres is not our destination and our task is not finished, but we have taken our first thousand steps."

## Potential Easements

During 2008, Licking Land Trust Board Members had discussions with more than 15 land owners who were interested in permanently conserving their land. A conservation easement is a legal agreement to preserve land, and is given to qualified organizations such as the Licking Land Trust. The landowner retains ownership of the land, and the right to control access to it. Tax incentives in effect through 2009 have led to an increased interest in conserving land.

## Annual Fall Gathering

On November 18, 2008, the Trust held its annual potluck gathering. In addition to great fellowship and food, Trust members enjoyed music from the Denison University Bluegrass Band. Board Chair Candi Moore highlighted 2008 activities and programs, and Jon Bennett was recognized as the Trust's Volunteer of the Year.

## Planned Giving Program

In the fall of 2008, the Board of Trustees agreed to establish a planned giving program. This group includes donors who have named the Trust as a beneficiary in their estate plans.

## Committee Work

The Trust has several board committees that handle many responsibilities. Committee reports are presented on pages 4 - 6.

# COMMITTEE REPORTS

## Stewardship

Eighteen inspections of Licking Land Trust easements and properties were carried out during the past year. No significant human disturbances were reported on Trust properties or easements. Fourteen Trust volunteers participated in the inspections of eight properties.

Natural disturbances by ice storms and particularly last September's windstorm have taken a toll on some forested properties. The distribution of downed branches and trees tends to be spotty. Canopy openings will encourage rapid growth of understory vegetation over the next few years and may reduce visibility and accessibility in some areas. The Trust has taken no action on this issue. Forestry management plans already in place for some of our more recent acquisitions will help to guide decisions about harvesting or clean up of downed timber. As a general principle, wind and ice storms are natural processes and their impacts do not usually require action by the Trust.



## Educational Programs



The Licking Land Trust continued its work to promote land conservation through educational programs in 2008. Two major events were held at Spring Valley Nature Preserve. The first was a community picnic in celebration of Earth Day. Trust members, former Spring Valley Pool members, and volunteers shared a meal and hiked the trails of this beautiful property.

Spring Valley was also the focus of a Denison University course in the fall of 2008. Students designed and arranged for the installation of the new entrance sign, which was funded by the Granville Foundation. The course included several trail maintenance work days and culminated in a fall festival. Through these events, Spring Valley is being reintroduced to area residents as a community preserve that it is still a wonderful place, even without the pool.

We also worked to establish Spring Valley as a center for environmental education. In 2008, the first Granville Recreation after-school nature program for children was held at Spring Valley. The Trust also hosted Ohio Department of Natural Resources botanist Rick Gardner and volunteers who completed plant inventories of Spring Valley and Fryman Reserve in July. In August, we hosted an evening hike at the Denison University Biological Reserve.



# COMMITTEE REPORTS

## Membership



The Trust continued to work to increase membership through enhanced public awareness of conservation activities and a variety of education and public relations efforts. The past year was one of the strongest membership growth years within the past five years, reaching a level of 390. The membership comprised 40 individuals, 284 family members, 24 honorary members, and a small number of businesses, governmental units, and students.

The membership included an all-time record high of 22 Conservators (contributions of \$250 - \$499) and 13 Stewards (contributions of \$500 or more). These categories recognize significant financial contributions made to the Trust. Members and donors are recognized on pages 8 and 9.

## Public Relations & Outreach

The Trust ramped up its publicity substantially in 2008, starting with more press coverage. Several articles about new property and easement acquisitions, as well as tax law changes, were written by board members and sent to regional newspapers. The Trust wrote and published two newsletters, one each in June and October. Copies of the newsletters were also placed in most public libraries in Licking County.



NEWSLETTER

A major initiative, started in 2007 and continued in 2008, was the creation and volunteer staffing of an information booth at the Hartford Fair, in nearby Croton. Many fairgoers stopped by to learn about the Trust's conservation efforts, to discuss membership and possible donation of land and easements, and to take brochures and membership material. Sixteen volunteers, eight of whom are not current board members, made this effort very successful. Volunteers agreed that visitors showed more interest in the booth in 2008.

## Accreditation

Land trust accreditation is designed to help build and recognize strong land trusts, foster public confidence in land conservation, and ensure the long-term protection of land. In 2006, an accreditation commission was established, as an independent program of the national Land Trust Alliance, to assure the accountability and high ethical standards of land trusts.



Applicants for voluntary land trust accreditation must demonstrate compliance with a set of standards and practices. To date, 39 land trusts across the country have been accredited and only one, to our knowledge, has been an all-volunteer organization similar to the Licking Land Trust.

In 2008, the Board of Trustees continued creating a set of standards and practices that fit the characteristics of our organization. The board has completed 17 of the 37 required practices as part of the first step to accreditation. The process also requires a complete assessment against the full national standards. In addition, we need to document all aspects of our activities to demonstrate implementation of the practices. We still have a lot of work ahead of us as an all volunteer organization but recognize the importance of this effort.



# FINANCIAL REPORT

The financial position of the Licking Land Trust remained strong during 2008 with dues and total assets increasing during the past year. Total donations were less due to the prior year's large Spring Valley donation. We continue to have no debt or liabilities. As in the past, all liquid assets continue to be invested only in FDIC insured bank deposit accounts and CDs. Thus the recent problems with the financial markets have not impacted our financial condition except that interest income, which is a small amount of the budget, has decreased.

During 2008, total cash received of \$21,990 exceeded total expenses of \$20,056. As of December 31, 2008 total assets were \$300,621 of which \$61,561 is cash in various bank accounts. The Spring Valley Fund is dedicated for use in connection with the Spring Valley easement and currently has a balance of \$16,023 plus a 1/8 interest in a house on Spring Valley that is currently for sale.

Our Stewardship and Enforcement Fund has a balance of \$19,764. This fund is set aside to monitor protected properties and easements and to pay for the cost of enforcing conservation restrictions if needed. So far we have not had to pay for any costs to enforce conservation restrictions.

The Board reviews financial statements and transactions, including donations, dues received, interest earned and all expenses on a monthly basis and compares them to the annual budget.

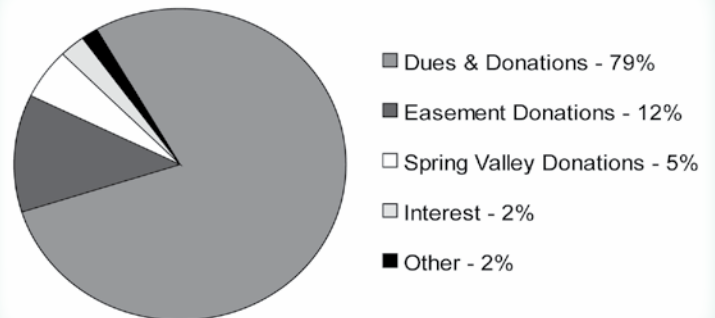
## Licking Land Trust Balance Sheet

Assets	12/31/2008
Cash and Bank Accounts	
Stewardship & Enforcement Fund	\$ 19,764
Spring Valley Fund	\$ 16,023
Operating Accounts	\$ 25,774
Total Cash and Bank Accounts	\$ 61,561
Other Assets	
Office Equipment & Computers	\$ 3,000
Books in Library (33)	\$ 660
Real Estate Tax Receivable	\$ 6,676
50 Shares Spring Valley Corporation*	*
Conservation Easements: 18 parcels (carried at \$1.00 each), 965.7 acres	\$ 18
Trust-owned Land: 8 parcels, 125.7 acres (estimated value**)	\$228,706
Total Other Assets	\$239,061
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$300,621</b>
<b>Liabilities and Equity</b>	
Other Liabilities	\$ 0
Equity	\$300,621
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	<b>\$300,621</b>

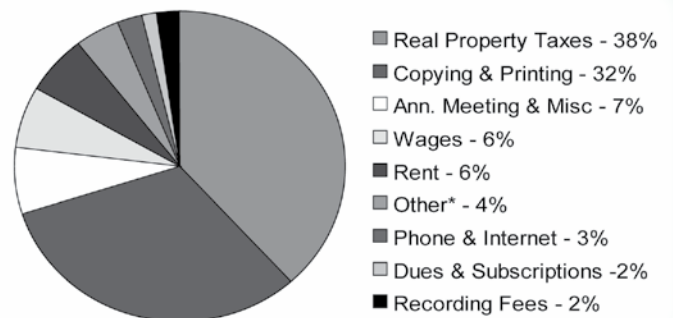
\*The 50 shares in the Spring Valley Corp. may be worth in the \$15,000 range after its house is sold.

\*\*The estimated value of Trust-owned land does not include the value of 5.544 acres received from Park Trails/MI Homes in 2008.

## Total Income: \$21,990 January 1 - December 31, 2008



## Total Expenses: \$20,056 January 1 - December 31, 2008



\*Other: Insurance, Legal & Professional, Supplies, Online Data & Web Site

For a complete copy of financial statements, please contact the Licking Land Trust.

# LICKING LAND TRUST PROTECTED LAND

Name	Grantor	Licking County Location	Year	Ownership Acres	Easement Acres
Harnden Mill Pond Preserve	Bob and Deb Harnden	Granville Township	1991	7.500	
Raccoon Valley Park	Granville Township	Granville Township	1993		9.730
Boldon Reserve	Doug and Marilyn Boldon	Granville Township	1994	1.200	
Hartman Farms Nature Reserve	Ron Beitzel	Union Township	1995	7.400	
Hill Wetland Reserve	Cynthia Hill	Granville Township	1996	8.200	
Hankinson Road	Lee and Kathy Larson	Granville Township	1997		5.200
Goose Lane Farm	William Custer	St. Albans & Granville Townships	1997		41.200
Old Maid's Lane Farm	William Custer	City of Pataskala	1997		34.200
Mount Parnassus	Howard LeFevre and Robert and Susan Morrison	Granville	1999	0.580	
Raccoon Creek Schwartzkopf Property	Granville Township	Granville Township	2000		3.300
Raccoon Creek Pohm Property	Granville Township	Granville Township	2001		3.300
Kramer Farm	Arthur Kramer	Harrison Township	2002		81.500
Neeley Farm	Larry and Janet Neeley	Walnut Township, Fairfield County	2003		75.300
Mockingbird Hill Conservation Area	Judy Farris/Mockingbird Hill, Inc.	Granville & McKean Townships	2004		53.500
Winter Farm	Ilse Winter	Hopewell Township	2004		72.400
Bieberbach Farm	Marian Bieberbach	Franklin Township	2004		115.200
Fryman Reserve	Dick and Ann Fryman	Granville Township	2005	36.575	
Raccoon Creek Valley Reserve	Park Trails/MI Homes	Newark	2005	58.757	
James Farm	Patricia James	Union Township	2006		55.300
James/Matthews Farm	Patricia James and Jay Matthews	Union Township	2006		60.100
Spring Valley	Granville Township	Granville Township	2007		45.600
Neeley Farm - 2	Larry and Janet Neeley	Walnut Township, Fairfield County	2007		52.730
Hughes Farm	Kayla Hughes	Newton Township	2007		92.770
Brush Farm	Victoria and C. Bernard Brush	Pataskala	2007		64.400
Park Trails	Park Trails/MI Homes	Newark	2008	5.544	
Carter Farm	Richard Carter	St. Albans Township	2008		100.000
<b>Total Acres Protected: 1,091.486</b>				<b>125.756</b>	<b>965.730</b>

# LICKING LAND TRUST MEMBERS

## **Stewards (\$500 +):**

Jill and Paul Griesse  
Cynthia and Michael Menzer  
Reid & Johnson (Ben and  
Debbie Johnson)  
St. Luke's Episcopal Church  
Mark and Lori Weaver  
Clarke and Sara Jean Wilhelm  
Don and Sally Wiper

## **Conservators (\$250 - \$499):**

Patricia and Theodore Barclay  
C. Bernard and Victoria Brush  
Dave and Carol Dicks  
Dave Fryman  
Ken and Christine Hodgson  
Doug and Susan Kaiser  
Larry and Eloise Miller  
Candi Moore and Steve Mershon  
Larry and Janet Neeley  
Mark Roth  
Greg and Ginny Sharkey  
Mark and Linda Smith  
Doug and Beth Spieles

## **Honorary Members (Land or Easement Donation):**

Ron Beitzel  
Jon Bennett  
Marian Bieberbach  
Doug and Marilyn Boldon  
C. Bernard and Victoria Brush  
Richard Carter  
William and Lori Custer  
T. J. Evans Foundation  
Judy Farris  
Ann and Dick Fryman  
Granville Township  
Robert and Deborah Harnden  
Cynthia Hill  
Kayla Hughes  
Patricia James

Arthur F. Kramer  
Lee and Katherine Larson  
Howard E. LeFevre  
Jay Matthews  
Robert and Susan Morrison  
Larry and Janet Neeley  
Park Trails/MI Homes  
Ilse Winter

## **Members (\$1 - \$249):**

Emily G. Akerstrom  
Ann Albershardt  
Mary M. Albright and  
Bernard J. Lukco  
Kenneth and Carol Apacki  
Beth and Sterling Apthorp  
Lynne Ashbrook  
Linda and Barry Badertscher  
Gary and Suzanne Baker  
Ann D. Baker  
Margaret and Cyrus Banning  
Ella Mae Bard  
Constance Barsky and Steven Katz  
Norma and Andy Bastone  
Karen and Clarke Berdan  
Doug and Mary Bibee  
Laurence and Elizabeth Bicking  
Regis and Marilyn Birckbichler  
Michael and Elaine Boaz  
Keith and Lyn Boone  
Kay and Ken Bork  
Trump and Carol Bradley  
Greg and Robin Brown  
Ronald and Barbara Bruner  
Kim and Pam Carey  
Scott and Cheryl Carpenter  
Richard Carter  
Diane and Joseph Charles  
Edgar and Terry Cheaney  
Helen and Jeri Clark  
Lance and Becky Clarke  
Pamela Combs

Dominick and Susan Consolo  
Roger and Ellie Core  
Fred M. Costaschuk  
Mary Cox  
John and Joan Cox  
John Crecca  
Margie and Elliot Davidoff  
Greg and Amy Davis  
Irmagene Davis  
Pat Deering and Keith Ward  
Walter and Louise Denny  
Richard S. Donahey, Jr.  
Dick and Judy Doyle  
Jeannette Drake  
Robert and Nancy Drake  
Marilyn Dresser  
Gerald and Linda Ehram  
Ruth Elliott  
Benjamin Englefield  
Jim and Di Erickson  
Dagmar Farris  
Judy Farris  
Vic and Marian Feldmiller  
Kevin and Barbara Finley  
Aaron and Mary Fitch  
Dan and Ginny Fletcher  
Michael and Janine Flood  
Reed and Mel Fraley  
Susan and Chip Freeman  
Tod and Evelyn Frolking  
Ann and Dick Fryman  
Vanessa and Michael Fuson  
Leon and Beverly Gage  
Alex and Maryann Galbraith  
Carolyn and Trevor Gamble  
Frank and Florence Gibson  
Mark and Linda Giles  
Anne Goodge  
Paul and Betty Goodridge  
Jim and Jane Gordon  
Kenneth and Sarah Gordon  
Grace Gordon



# LICKING LAND TRUST MEMBERS

Bill and Monica Graffeo  
Granville Garden Club  
Granville Township  
William and Elizabeth Gray  
Joan and Neil Greene  
Phyllis W. Greene  
Harold and Nancy Greten  
Jim and Dottie Grove  
Dennis and Judy Guenther  
Linda and Bill Habig  
John Hankinson  
Havens Willis LLC  
Lon Herman and Anne Goodge  
Lonnie and Brenda Hill  
Paula and Bob Hinebaugh  
William and Florence Hoffman  
Keith and Gretchen Hollingsworth  
Kayla Hughes  
Lew and Betty Allen Hullinger  
INT Information Systems, Inc.  
Sandy and Dave Jackson  
Alan and Jean Jankowski  
Arnold Joseph  
Michael and Marilyn Jung  
Abram Kaplan and Carol Goland  
Zaven and Susan Karian  
Anne Kauffman  
Kelley Family Foundation Fund  
Chris and Kate Kenah  
Norman and Suzanne Kennedy  
Jean and Ed Kerle  
John D. Kessler and Eloise  
Dezwarte  
Paul and Jane King  
Lyle and Elaine King  
John and Anne Klauder  
Michael and Deborah Kocsis  
Kusmaul Gallery  
Mike Lafferty and Marlee  
Meriwether  
Lee and Katherine Larson

Sarah and Daniel Leavell  
Anthony J. and Marianne Lisska  
Gary and Anne Love  
Mary Ann and Bob Malcuit  
Dorothy Mann  
Hank and Barbara Marsh, Jr.  
Peter and Adelyn Marshall  
Warren May  
Kent Maynard and Susan Diduk  
Bill and Jane McConnell  
Bob McCulloch  
Mary Jane McDonald  
Charles and Fleur Metzger  
Michael and Diana Mickelson  
Brenda and Larry Mix  
Douglas and Joan Mock  
Jan and Lew Mollica  
Rosanna Moore  
Kyle Morgan  
Jim Murphy  
Jim and Suzy Murr  
Keith and Patty Myers  
Marjorie and Richard Neff  
Bill and Nancy Nichols  
John J. O'Neill  
Rodney and Jeanne Osborne  
Ralph and Norma Ottensmeier  
Bob and Ruth Owen  
Jurgen and Kirsten Pape  
Bob and Tara Parsley  
Philomena M. Piper  
Russell and Susan Potter  
Elizabeth and David Price  
Clara and Cal Prine  
Montel and Barbara Pursley  
Allen and Cindi Reeves  
Jessica Rettig and Geoff Smith  
Perry and Sarah Robinson  
Janet Romo  
Mollie M. Roth  
Bob and Barbara Rush

Erma Rutledge  
Gary and Diane Ryan  
Chuck and Alice Salt  
Ron and Marguerite Santoni  
Wes and Donna Sargent  
Devin and Lisa Savage  
Don Schilling  
Sandy Schirmer  
Heidi and Sam Schnaidt  
Tom and Janet Schultz  
Steve and Linda Scott  
Richard and Jane Scott  
Tom and Peggy Shafer  
Sara and Tom Sharp  
Jim and Jan Shea  
Edgar Sheffler  
Skip and Nancy Shepherd  
Bernice Siefert  
James and Nancy Siegel  
Howard Siegrist  
Randy and Sandra Mathern  
Smith  
Charles and Patricia Taylor  
Rainey and Mary Taylor  
Sam and Bobbie Thios  
Charles Thompson  
Lori Totman  
Ron and Susan Tower  
Paul and Karen Treece  
Donald and Doris Tritt  
Richard and Mary Lee Van Meter  
Jim Van Reeth and Ching-chu Hu  
Barbara S. Vockel  
George and Lorraine Wales  
Craig and Tina Washka  
Benjamin Whitehead  
Bill and Karen Wilkins  
Douglas and Fran Windeles  
Pat and Inga Windley  
Rose and Jack Wingert  
Don Yore and Melissa Green

# VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION

Volunteers are truly the life-blood of the Licking Land Trust. In 2008, volunteers donated over 2,000 hours to the Trust. The all-volunteer Board donated over 1,800 hours managing the Trust and properties, monitoring easements, providing educational and outreach programs, and working toward national accreditation. Other Trust volunteers donated about 200 hours assisting with educational programs, easement monitoring and outreach activities. Please let us know if we inadvertently failed to recognize you.

Jon Bennett was selected as the Licking Land Trust 2008 Volunteer of the Year. Mr. Bennett, a Granville High School teacher of woodworking, construction, architecture and technology, has donated his services for many years to make signs for Trust-conserved properties. Thank you Jon!

The Trust would like to thank all of its volunteers for their passion and commitment to preserving land:

Kashmira Asnani	Pat Deering	Jessica Karr	Natalia Nekrasova	Ed Sheffler
Jon Bennett	Mary Fitch	Norm Kennedy	Jurgen Pape	Nancy Shepherd
Doug Bibee	Evelyn Frolking	J.P. Lieser	Mark Roth	Skip Shepherd
Elizabeth Bicking	Tod Frolking	Steve Mershon	Mollie Roth	Randy Smith
Larry Bicking	Rick Gardner	Mike Mickelson	Wes Sargent	Doug Spieles
Bernie Brush	Bill Habig	Len Mikles	Greg Sharkey	Don Wiper
Dennis Cauchon	Linda Habig	Candi Moore		

## THANK YOU!



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