

in perpetuity for the public benefit.

## Chair's Report

If you are an observant reader you may have noticed a new symbol on publications of the Licking Land Trust. This is the Accreditation Seal—a mark of distinction awarded to land trusts that have met the national standards of the Land Trust Accreditation Commission. After many years of planning and work, we earned this seal in 2016. The Seal comes with words of honor. It means that our organization has demonstrated sound finances, strong transactions, excellent stewardship and effective governance. But the Seal also comes with responsibility, and as I look at it again I am reminded that it depicts the symbol of infinity. We protect land in perpetuity, and perpetuity is a long time.



The Licking Land Trust took some important steps toward perpetuity in 2016. The most noticeable change is that we have a new home. Having outgrown our office on South Main in Granville, we have moved to a larger space on the second floor of the Art Center on the grounds of the Bryn Du mansion. This will be a fantastic location for our organization, and we hope that other nonprofit organizations will join us in making use of the wonderful Bryn Du facilities. We'd be proud to show you around—just give us a call and we'll arrange a time!

We held the second annual Farm to Fork celebration in 2016. This event is so popular and so much fun that we have already planned it for 2017 (mark your calendar for August 18!). Farm to Fork engenders such an amazing outpouring of generosity and good will from people who love this community and love this land. It is one of the highlights of our year, along with our annual banquet, which hosted Heather Taylor-Miesle in 2016. Heather is the director of the Ohio Environmental Council and a real supporter of land conservation efforts. We are lucky to have her working for such an important cause.

Stewarding the land that we protect is part of our mission, and in 2016 we took on a major management project. The Fryman Reserve, generously donated to the Trust by Dick and Ann Fryman in 2005, is valued by the Licking County Auditor as agricultural land. In order to maintain this beneficial status we conducted a limited, selective tree harvest at the end of last summer in accordance with our forestry management plan for this property. The proceeds from this harvest have gone right back into our efforts to conserve and protect greenspace in our region.

Finally, we made excellent progress toward meeting our financial goals last year, in part because of the generosity of a member who left a bequest to the Trust. This is the second time that a bequest has made a truly significant and inspiring difference for this organization. We are grateful for the support.

Stories like these make me think that perpetuity will not be so hard to achieve. When you are surrounded by people who care about one another and care for the place they live, planning for the distant future is as much a pleasure as it is a duty. With your help we will get to perpetuity—one day at a time.

Doug Spieles - Board Chair



A rural vista seen by visitors to the protected Stair-Hughes Family Farm. (photo courtesy of Pat Deering)

Trust board members Tom Henshaw, Mike Mickelson, and Shana Byrd study the Farm to Fork menu.

The mission of the
Licking Land Trust is the
preservation and permanent
protection of central Ohio
green spaces – wetlands,
woods, farmlands, riparian
corridors, and scenic vistas
– and education about the
importance of green spaces
and their conservation, all
for the
public benefit.



### 2016 Licking Land Trust Board of Trustees & Staff

Doug Spieles, *Chair* (2017) Mike Mickelson, *Vice Chair* (2016) Lyn Boone, *Treasurer* (2018) Jim Bidigare (2018) Shana Byrd (2018) Mary Fitch (2018) Lori Fuhrer (2016) Linda Habig (2017) Tom Henshaw (2018) Jeremy King (2017) Candi Moore (2018)
Randall Ripley (2018)
Rebecca Swab (2018)
Mike Whitehead (2018)
Janet Gregory, Student Member (2017)
Amy Mock, Office Administrator

### **Education & Outreach**



Michael McNutt explains to visitors at the Stair-Hughes Family Farm how to work sheep with dogs. Photo courtesy of Pat Deering.

In 2016 the Trust continued to promote land conservation and education in a number of interesting ways. The highlight of the year was again our annual (now second) Farm to Fork Dinner held in August at the Granville Inn. Excellent conversation, wonderful local foods, and an interesting array of silent auction items highlighted an evening that entertained over 100 guests. In total the event not only served as an excellent promotional opportunity for the Trust, it raised more than \$8000 in support of the Trust's activities.

A second highlight event for the year took place in mid-September, when Trust- protected property owner Kalya Hughes hosted professional stock dog trainer Michael McNutt. The event, co-sponsored by the Trust, Licking County Soil and Water, and the Licking County Farm Bureau, celebrated the fifteenth anniversary of the protected land in Licking County. Some fifty people watched Mr. McNutt artfully manage his border collies through whistle and growl as they herded sheep across the picturesque hill side of the Stair-Hughes Farm.

The Trust continued to support a number of local outreach activities in promoting our educational mission this year, including a continued presence at the Dawes Arboretum Arbor Day Festival. The 2nd Annual Granville 'Turn Your Screen Off Week", a national effort dedicated to getting children outdoors, saw the Trust's Board Chair Doug Spieles lead a hike through the Spring Valley Nature Preserve.



Michael McNutt and his dog bring home the sheep at the Stair-Hughes Family Farm. Photo courtesy of Pat Deering.



Some of the wood selectively timbered at the Fryman Reserve.

The Trust continued to widely distribute its self-published annual report and spring and fall newsletters. Over 500 copies of each were distributed to Trust members and Licking County public officials and made available at local public libraries.

The Trust continues to have a significant online e-presence, averaging more than 200 unique visitors per month. This element of our public presence has grown consistently since the launch of the website in 2009.

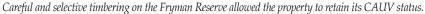
In total the outreach and education activities of the Trust have reached thousands of individuals, both informing those already interested in the mission about the nuances of preservation and growing the ranks of persons taking a new interest in the land preservation movement.

# Stewardship & Prospective Properties

The Licking Land Trust saw another busy year of stewardship activity in 2016. In addition to visiting all 23 Licking Land Trust protected properties, we conducted our first ever selective timber harvest at the Fryman Woods property we own on Goose Lane in Granville.

In 2005, Dick and Ann Fryman donated their scenic 36.6-acre forested property with lush woodland and watershed areas to the Trust to preserve and protect forever. At that time, and currently, the land was, and is, taxed under the State of Ohio's Current Agriculture Use

Value classification (CAUV), which means that the land must be working land providing income to the owner. Some 15 years ago, this wooded property was timbered through a selective timber harvest.





### **Volunteers and Community Activity**

The following volunteers helped the Trust with many of its activities and initiatives through 2016, and the Trust is very appreciative!

Tom Shafer Jeff Darbee Jodi Melfi Nancy Recchie

Since the Trust acquired the property and consistent with that CAUV classification, the Trust has maintained and updated a Forestry Management Plan in effect for Fryman Woods which calls for a timber harvest every 10 to 15 years. After much discussion, the Board determined that another timber harvest was not only appropriate, but also in line with the original intent of the gift of the property.

In October, the Trust conducted a limited and selective timber harvest, overseen by a number of Board members. In the coming years, we will be focused on active stewardship in Fryman Woods to ensure that invasive species are controlled and that the forest remains healthy and vibrant.

We are looking forward to 2017 and new opportunities to conserve land in and around the county.



### Accreditation

Having achieved accreditation status at the beginning of 2016, the Accreditation Committee took a well-deserved hiatus in 2016. The Land Trust Alliance,

### Farm to Fork Sponsors, Donors, and Volunteers

The following individuals and businesses contributed financial sponsorship, goods and services to Farm to Fork, the 2016 major fundraising event, and the Trust is very grateful!

Albyn's Landscape and Nursery Center

Alfie's Wholesome Food Always Forward Cross-fit

Agua Doc Pond & Lake Management

Baker's Acres
The Bike Doctor
Bird's Haven Farm
Danielle Bittner
Bookmark Farms
Lyn Boone
Robin Brown
Buckeye Blooms
Buxton Inn
Capuano's Pizza
CS Construction Group

Cheesecake Factory
Cherry Valley Lodge and Coco Key Water Park

Columbus Symphony Orchestra Columbus Zoo and Aquarium

Comfrey Corner

COSI

Dawes Arboretum

Denise's Salon on South Main

**Denison University** 

**Denison University Physics Department** 

Eccentric Bee/Laurie Mackenzie Crane

Naia and Rex Eggan Electric Hair Salon T.J. Evans Foundation

Everest Gear

First Federal Savings Giant Eagle Grocery Green Magic Apothecary Granville Milling

John Hinderer Honda

Michael Jung Abram Kaplan

Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter Kendal at Granville

John Klauder Landscape and Design

**Kussmaul Gallery** 

Licking County Soil and Water

**Conservation District** 

Love Yourself and Earth Salon/Spa

Maamos Kitchen

Seed to Sip/Matesich Distributing

MedBen Health Benefits
Mike and Diane Mickelson
Middleton Senior Living
Newark-Granville Symphony



Michelle Newman Brady Ohio Prairie Nursery

Orchard House Bed and Breakfast

Park National Bank Readers Garden

Robbins Hunter Museum Ross Granville Market

Mark Roth Ginny Sharkey

Studio Artiflora/Evelyn Frolking

Sunbeam Family Farm Target of Heath Trader Joe's

Vail Series, Denison University

Velvet Ice Cream VO2 Fitness

Weathervane Playhouse Welsh Hills School

The Wilds

Clarke and Sara Jean Wilhelm

Wilson's Garden Center

The Works



Susan Studer King, Michelle Newman Brady and Darrah Buren enjoy the event's signature cocktails featuring spirits from a local distillery at the Farm to Fork Tasting and Silent Auction.

the national land preservation organization the Trust follows, has been revising its Standards and Practices while at the same time the Land Trust Accreditation Commission has been reworking its review process. Once these national standards and processes are final, the Accreditation Committee will review and update the Trust's policies and procedures over the next several years in preparation for renewal of our accreditation.

Membership & Donor Development

Friends of land conservation continued their enthusiastic support of the Trust's mission and activities in 2016, joining for the first time or renewing memberships, providing donations and gifts, and participating in the Trust's activities and fundraising initiatives. The 2016 membership total of 434 was one of the five highest levels in the 25-year history of the Trust. Annual attrition of membership was low at about 10

percent; by comparison, the annual attrition of members in nonprofits is often 50-75 percent or even higher. This low attrition rate puts the Licking Land Trust in excellent shape!

The Trust, with strong donor and member support, continued its fundraising work to sustain its general operations and to complete the funding of its Stewardship Fund by the end of 2020, as required by national accreditation standards of the Land Trust Alliance. "Farm to Fork," the Trust's second annual local-foods tasting and silent auction, held in August at the Granville Inn, was highly successful, attended by almost 100 members and friends, and enjoying the support of 17 financial sponsors, 5 in-kind donors, and 50 silent auction donors. The event netted \$8,327 for the Trust.

Community outreach is a continuing effort to introduce Licking County citizens and organizations to the Trust and its initiatives. The Trust continues to offer a slideshow program that Board members are happy to present to interested groups. All interested persons or organizations are urged to contact the Trust if they would like to arrange for a general program about the Trust or for a landowner seminar.



Some of the locally grown food items awaiting sampling at the Farm to Fork event.

## Financial Report

The financial condition of the Licking Land Trust was significantly strengthened in 2016, with total cash and investments growing substantially due to two one-time events: the CAUV required timbering of the Trust-owned Fryman tract, and a generous bequest made to the Trust by a late member. In addition, the Trust's investments continued to perform well, and the organization's fundraising event, Farm-to-Fork, was a success for a second year. The Trust continues to have no debt.

As of December 31, 2016, total assets were \$572,088, of which \$326,249 comprised cash, Vanguard mutual funds, and the organization's Board-Advised Fund, a trust account managed by Park National Bank. The remaining \$245,839 total asset balance represented the value of land and easements owned, as well as other miscellaneous assets as shown on the balance sheet.

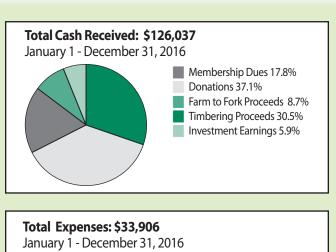
During 2016, total cash received by the Trust was \$126,037. This total included membership dues of \$22,460, other donations of \$46,725, timbering proceeds of \$38,419, Farm-to-Fork fundraising gross revenues of \$10,976, and investment earnings of \$7,457.

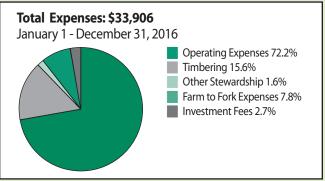
Total cash disbursed during 2016 was \$33,906, which included operating expense of \$24,491. Costs in 2016 of the Fryman timbering project were \$5,300, and other stewardship expenses were \$540. Farm-to-Fork event expense totaled \$2,649, and investment management fees were \$926.

The Trust's total cash and securities of \$326,249, as of December 31, 2016, were held in the following accounts: Legal Defense Fund (savings and Vanguard investment account), \$69,049; Stewardship Fund (savings and Vanguard investment account), \$81,015; Donations and Bequests (savings and Vanguard investment account), \$74,385; Board-Advised Fund (Park National Bank trust fund), \$82,306; Don Wiper Memorial Fund, \$2,230; Farm-to-Fork savings account, \$500; and operating accounts, \$16,764.

The Licking Land Trust's financial statements are reviewed by the Board's Finance Committee as well as by the full Board at each board meeting, along with financial transactions and any concerns or decisions needed. Dues and donations, operating funds, investment accounts, and all expenses are reviewed, as well as the operating budget and its status year-to-date.

#### **Licking Land Trust Summary Balance Sheet** Assets **Cash and Securities** \$ 69,049.24 Legal Defense Funds Stewardship Funds 81,014.58 **Donations and Bequests** 74,384.54 Don Wiper Fund 2,230.00 Farm to Fork Fundraising 499.84 Board Advised Fund 82,306.51 **Operating Accounts** 16,763.80 **Total Cash and Securities** \$ 326,248.51 **Other Assets** Office Equipment and Computers 3,000.00 Books in Library (33) 660.00 Conservation Easements: 16, total 1,049 acres (carried at \$1.00 each) 16.00 Trust-owned Land: 7 parcels, 125 acres (estimated value) 242,163.29 **Total Other Assets** \$ 245,839.29 **TOTAL ASSETS** \$572,087.80 **Liabilities and Equity** Liabilities 0.00 572,087.80 Equity **TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY** \$572,087.80





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

## Licking Land Trust Protected Land

The following table of Protected Land lists the Trust's easements and fee properties, and a timeline of acquisition. Over time, several have been combined into single easements or fee properties and appropriately named.

Name	Grantor	Licking County Location	Year	Ownership Acres	Easement Acres
Harnden Mill Pond Preserve	Bob and Deb Harnden	Granville Township	1991	7.564	
Raccoon Creek Reserve	Granville Township	Granville Township	1993 2000 2001		16.330
Boldon Reserve	Doug and Marilyn Boldon	Granville Township	1994	1.263	
Hartman Farms Nature Reserve	Ron Beitzel	Union Township	1995	7.350	
Hill Wetland Reserve	Cynthia Hill	Granville Township	1996	7.652	
Hankinson Road	Lee and Kathy Larson	Granville Township	1997		5.200
Goose Lane Farm	William Custer	St. Albans and Granville Townships	1997		41.200
Old Maid's Lane Farm	William Custer	Pataskala	1997		40.465
Mount Parnassus	Howard LeFevre Robert and Susan Morrison	Granville	1999	0.587	
Kramer Farm	Arthur Kramer	Harrison Township	2002		81.455
Neeley Farm	Larry and Janet Neeley	Walnut Township, Fairfield Co	2003		75.300
Mockingbird Hill Conservation Area	Judy Farris/Mockingbird Hill, Inc.	Granville and McKean Townships	2004		53.500
Winter Farm	llse 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	
Park Trails	MI Homes	Newark	2005 2008	64.301	
James Farm	Patricia James and Jay Matthews	Union Township	2006 2014		133.723
Spring Valley	Granville Township	Granville Township	2007		45.600
Neeley Farm - II	Larry and Janet Neeley	Walnut Township, Fairfield Co.	2007		52.730
Hughes Farm	Kayla Hughes	Newton Township	2007		92.770
Brush Farm	Victoria and C. Bernard Brush	Pataskala	2007		64.400
Carter Farm	Richard Carter	St. Albans Township	2008		98.830
Beckett Farm	Tom, Louise, and Suzette Beckett	Bowling Green Township	2013		59.670
Total Acres Protected:	1,174.065			125.292	1,048.773

## Membership

### Visionaries (\$5000 and greater)

Lucy D. McNeill Charitable Remainder Trust and Estate of Julia Farris

### Leaders (\$1000+)

BFK Foundation, Inc. John Cox Jane R. Daganhardt Richard and Jane Scott

### Stewards (\$500+)

Keith and Lyn Boone
Doug and Susan Kaiser
Bob and Joan Kent
Steve Mershon and Candi Moore
Michael and Diana Mickelson
Thomas and Wendy Miller
Larry and Janet Neeley
Randall Ripley and Grace Franklin
Greg and Ginny Sharkey
Doug and Beth Spieles
Mark and Lori Weaver
Clarke and Sara Jean Wilhelm

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

Richard Carter Sally Crane Cox Gerald and Linda Ehrsam Dave Fryman Paul Hammond and Tracee Laing Thomas and Erin Henshaw John Hinderer Keith and Gretchen Hollingsworth Jeremy and Susan King Jodi Melfi Design Ltd. Andrew and Deborah Merritt Reese, Pyle, Drake, and Meyer Community Fund of the Licking County Foundation Tom and Janet Schultz Mark and Linda Smith Hedda von Goeben John H. and Sarah Wallace Bill and Jane Willken David and Joanne Woodyard

### Honorary Members (Land or Easement Donors)

Thomas and Louise Beckett Ron Beitzel Ion Bennet Marian Bieberbach (deceased) Doug and Marilyn Boldon C. Bernard and Victoria Brush Richard Carter William and Lori Custer Judy Farris (deceased) Dick and Ann Fryman Granville Township Robert and Deborah Harnden Cynthia Hill (deceased) Kayla Hughes Arthur F. Kramer (deceased) Lee and Katherine Larson Howard E. LeFevre (deceased) John Matthews and Patricia James Robert and Susan Morrison Larry and Janet Neeley Park Trails/MI Homes T.J. Evans Foundation Ilse Winter and John Miller

### **Businesses and Organizations**

Aqua Doc Lake and **Pond Management** Aramar, Inc. BFK Foundation, Inc. Dawes Arboretum Granville Garden Club Granville Milling Co. Granville Veterinary Clinic Jodi Melfi Design Ltd. Kussmaul Gallery Licking County Soil and Water Conservation District Reese, Pyle, Drake, and Meyer Community Fund of the Licking County Foundation **Tecumseh Land Trust** 

#### Membership

Corinne Ailes Emily G. Akerstrom Kenneth and Carol Apacki Sterling and Beth Apthorp

Lynne Ashbrook Craig and Peggy Asplund Patrick and Anne Aubourg Gary and Suzanne Baker Cyrus and Margaret Banning Ianell Baran Ella Mae Bard David Bayley I.R. and Judith Beall Thomas and Louise Beckett John and Carole Begala Neal Bell and Loriann Fuhrer Clarke and Karen Berdan Doug and Mary Bibee Laurence and Elizabeth Bicking Jim Bidigare Ed and Wendy Bittel Michael and Elaine Boaz Trump and Carol Bradley Al and Lori Brown Greig and Robin Brown Sylvia Brown and Sandy Runzo Ronald and Barbara Bruner C. Bernard and Victoria Brush Brady and Ann Burt Ashlin Caravana Kim and Pam Carey Andrew Carlson and Krista Magaw Joseph and Diane Charles Ieri Clark Kevin Clouse and Deb Tegtmeyer Judy Cochran Richard and Kim Coplin Roger and Ellie Core Fred and Suzanne Costaschuk John and Jodie Crecca Jeff Darbee and Nancy Recchie Elliot and Margie Davidoff Irmagene Davis Tim and Sarah Davison Dan and Diane DeLawder Dave and Carol Dicks Ion and Marcia Downes **Jeanette Drake** Robert and Nancy Drake Michael and Wendy Duffey Tiffany Edwards Benjamin Englefield

Bill and Janet Englefield

### Membership

Jim and Di Erickson Jon and Dagmar Farris

Robin Feil Vic Feldmiller Mary Fitch

Dan and Ginny Fletcher Michael and Janine Flood

Michael and Janine Flood
William Flowers
Reed and Mel Fraley
Dick and Ann Fryman
Michael and Vanessa Fuson
Leon and Beverly Gage
Alex and Maryann Galbraith
Trevor and Carolyn Gamble
Frank and Florence Gibson
Mark and Linda Giles
Jeff Gill and Joyce Meredith
Russell and Susan Ginise
Paul and Betty Goodridge
Chip and Sally Gordon

Jim and Jane Gordon Bill and Monica Graffeo William and Elizabeth Gray

Neil and Joan Greene

Janet Gregory

Mort Guiney and Amy Mock

Bill and Linda Habig John and Betty Hankinson Don and Debbie Haven

Ann Hendry

Bob and Paula Hinebaugh

Christine Hodgson Florence Hoffman Jim Holtsberry

Patrick and Caryn Huffman

Kayla Hughes

Tim and Nancy Hughes Betty Allen Hullinger

John Hunter and Karen Goodell

Alan and Jean Jankowski

Arnold Joseph Rosemary Joyce

Michael and Marilyn Jung

Abram Kaplan Jane Karaffa

Zaven and Susan Karian

Steven Katz and Constance Barsky

Anne Kauffman

David and Rebecca Keck

Chris and Kate Kenah

Norman and Suzanne Kennedy John Kessler and Eloise DeZwarte

Lyle and Elaine King Paul and Jane King

Bill Kirkpatrick and Anna Nekola

John and Anne Klauder Jim and Susan Kornides

John Kralovec and Julie Houpt

Mike Lafferty and Marlee Meriweather Lee and Katherine Larson Peter and Susan Larson Stephen and Michele Layman Dan and Sarah Leavell Jack and Jean Lepley

Michael Lewis and Shana Byrd Anthony I. and Marianne Lisska

David and Jill Litle Gary and Anne Love Bob and Mary Ann Malcuit Weldon and Mary Beth Mathews

Jack and Jeanne McClain

Bill McConnell

Mary Jane McDonald

Robert Meek David Melick

Scott and Susan Miller
Shayne and Jeni Miller
Margery L. Mitchell
Larry and Brenda Mix
Jeanie Montgomery
Jean Luc and Amy Moreau
Larry and Kyle Morgan
Jim and Suzy Murr
Keith and Patty Myers

Charles and Jacqueline O'Keefe Robert and Alexa O'Neill

Rodney and Jeanne Osborne Ralph Ottensmeier

Theresa Overholser Jurgen and Kirsten Pape

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Bruce and Debra Parrish Robert and Ruth Ann Parsley

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Sara Sharp Edgar Sheffler

Skip and Nancy Shepherd James and Nancy Siegel Barbara Sinsabaugh

Geoff Smith and Jessica Rettig Martijn Steger and Ann Townsend

Andrew Sterrett Joe and Sally Studer Phil and Kathy Stukus Rebecca Swab

Paul and Karen Treece

Don Tritt

Richard and Mary Lee Van Meter Jim Van Reeth and Ching-chu Hu

Dan and Jennifer VanNess

Barbara S. Vockel

Doug and Becky Wagner Wes and Beth Walter

Keith Ward and Pat Deering

James Weaver and Cynthia Greenleaf Michael and Heather Whitehead

Rose Wingert Stephen Wittman

Don and Maureen Yablonski Jay and Jenifer Young Michael and Lisa Zehnal



740-587-4104 lickinglandtrust@gmail.com www.lickinglandtrust.org

## Join The Licking Land Trust

# Renew your membership, join, or contribute online at www.lickinglandtrust.org



Name:
Email:
Address:
City, State, Zip:
Phone:

Membership Levels:

Detach and mail this completed form with your check to: Licking Land Trust P.O. Box 196 Granville, OH 43023