



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

lickinglandtrust.org

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



The Licking Land Trust board and members are looking forward with renewed energy to in-person meetings, a return to our gala Annual Farm to Fork summer event in an exciting new venue, and to hosting regular activities and events – with diligent safety protocols. Two highlights of this spring-summer season deserve special attention:

The Youth Conservation Ambassador program, only its second year, has grown dramatically. Twenty-two high school students volunteered to support Trust programs under the guidance of Administrative Director Jen Jacquot and interns Emma Smith and Mary Kosin. We appreciate their ideas, energy, and enthusiasm!

Community interest in the Licking County Adventure Passport, described on page 3, has exceeded our wildest expectations. The passport directs participants to take part in local events and to visit outdoor sites. This

continued on page 3

FEATURED PROPERTY: THE BIEBERBACH FARM

By Mary Fitch and Linda Habig

In the autumn of 2004, the late Marian Bieberbach, pictured on page 5 with her faithful dachshund Woody, granted an agricultural easement on her 115-acre farm to the Licking Land Trust. Her generous and forward-thinking action thus preserved her beloved farm in southeast Licking County in perpetuity.

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TRUST TIDBITS

- Farm to Fork 2021 will be held at Moon Hall on the Denison campus on Saturday, August 14th at 6:30 PM. Tickets may be purchased online @ www.lickinglandtrust.org. Watch your mail for further information!
- On the morning of Saturday, September 18th, grab a lunch at the Granville Farmers Market, or another favorite venue, then join us for a fun family picnic at noon at the Spring Valley Nature Preserve! A guided hike through this lovely preserve will round out the day.
- The Licking Land Trust Financial Report for 2020 as well as the current Table of Protected Land will be posted online on July 1st @ <https://lickinglandtrust.org/about-us> (scroll down).
- Save the evening of November 11th for *A Romp Through Ohio's Flora and Fauna* with Jim McCormac. A retired ODNR botanist, Jim specializes in wildlife diversity projects, especially involving birds. He has authored or coauthored six books, writes the Columbus Dispatch column "Nature," and was named 2015 Conservation Communicator of the Year by the League of Ohio Sportsmen.

WELCOME OUR NEW BOARD MEMBERS!



Amy Mock

AMY MOCK

From Spring Valley to Harnden Reserve, some of Amy's family's favorite local adventures and best wildflower spotting have occurred on properties conserved by the Licking Land Trust. She got involved with the Trust after learning – from trusted voices immersed in the organization's work – how the Trust protects such green spaces. A favorite flute teacher, Linda Habig,

a fellow community garden volunteer, Tom Henshaw, and good friend and former Trust Administrator Wendy Bittel each spoke of the important educational and conservation activities of the Trust.

Amy's initial role with the Trust was as part-time Administrator (2015 – 2019) while also training to become a nurse practitioner. She is quite happy to continue to lend a hand now as a Board member – giving her a new perspective on the organization. From inspecting protected properties, invasive species removal, reviewing budgets, helping with nitty-gritty details of fundraising, to touring prospective properties that might be conserved – she is excited to dive in.

Amy works as a Women's Health Nurse Practitioner at an ob-gyn practice in Columbus, a mid-life career change from employee environmental health training and advocacy. She and her husband, Mort Guiney, are long-time residents of Granville where they raised their daughters Zoe and Kate. She credits her love of natural spaces to her backpacking and fly-fishing enthusiast father, who took her tromping around forests and lakes in her home state of California. Her mother, an indefatigable community volunteer, also taught her the value of participating in organizations that shape our lives.



Karen Bailey

KAREN BAILEY

Karen first became interested in land conservation when she worked as the Greenway and Park Coordinator in east Tennessee, partnering with

various county government departments to address preservation of open space for recreation, wildlife habitat, water quality, agriculture, and culturally significant and aesthetic landscapes. She was a member of a local land trust in Tennessee, and through attending Land Trust Alliance conferences, she became passionate about preservation of our natural resources. In that role she collaborated on the Beaver Creek Green Infrastructure Plan and the French Broad River Conservation Corridor Plan.

While representing the Knox County government in Tennessee, Karen was also proud to act as a leader in a multi-agency and community-wide effort to obtain a grant through the USDA's Farm and Ranch Land Protection Program, resulting in a conservation easement on the local 400-acre Cruze Dairy Farm. This meant a great deal to the local community and the Cruze family. The Land Trust for Tennessee now holds this significant easement. For more interesting information, please visit: www.landtrusttn.org/projects/cruze-dairy-farm/

Recently Karen became a grandmother and now is even more passionate about the natural world that future generations will inherit. She values balance, integration, and creativity; thus she finds great joy in holistic movement, healthy food, beauty in nature, and a good fit between form and function. Her intentions are to work with others to create opportunities for sustainable livelihoods, stewardship of our resources, and strong communities that work cooperatively to co-create a vision of a healthy and desirable future.

WELCOME OUR NEW BOARD MEMBERS!

KYLE DIXON

Kyle graduated from The Ohio State University with a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science, with a focus on ecosystem restoration. He currently works as an environmental scientist, specializing in wetland delineations and habitat assessments. Prior to his current job, Kyle held an internship with the Licking County Park District, where he helped educate local young people about our fascinating natural world.

Kyle has been a resident of Licking County since 2005. He lives outside of Hebron with his wife, Mackenzie, and their two children. Kyle says the outdoors has always been a big part of his life: whether hiking or camping, if he's outside, he's in his happy place!



Kyle Dixon



ADVENTURE PASSPORTS By Jen Jacquot

The Licking County Adventure Passport is a new and exciting pocket-sized booklet. Inside you will find a list of local outdoor events and activities, all of which encourage young people and students to engage with nature. Collecting stickers, you can document your outdoor adventures and win prizes! Events listed in the passport are organized and sponsored by the Land Trust and our partners: Dawes Arboretum, the Licking County Soil & Water Conservation District (Licking County SWCD), the Licking Park District, and Denison University. These fun passports were recently distributed to 2,000 Licking County students through the Free Trees for Students giveaway, sponsored by the Licking County SWCD. Passports are also provided free to the community and can be picked up at Explore Licking County (5 S. 3rd. St. in Newark), the Dawes Arboretum, the Granville Public Library, and the Granville Chamber of Commerce.

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR continued from page 1

is a great way for local youth to see and appreciate Mother Nature in our area.

This year a number of property owners stepped up to initiate the process of protecting their land in both Licking and Perry Counties. As Columbus development marches eastward, green space and farmland will be even more important – and increasingly rare. Now is the time to think about saving land for our children, grandchildren, and generations to come. With the population of central Ohio (and Licking County) projected to grow an incredible 50% by 2050, undeveloped land is ever-more in the sights of developers. We appreciate the foresight of these property owners.

On the financial front, the Trust weathered the pandemic year in robust condition, meeting its budget and its revenue goals, and benefiting from 2020's resilient investment markets as well as from a nonprofit grant from the CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, & Economic Security) Act. Your unwavering support through membership dues and regular annual gifts exceeded those of 2019 by 6%, and our major fundraiser – Farm to Fork – netted over \$9,000 in spite of resorting to an online format! We are deeply grateful for your good will and loyalty. Financial details of the 2020 Licking Land Trust Annual Report will be posted at www.lickinglandtrust.org by July 1st.

By Jim Bidigare, Chair

FEATURED PROTECTED PROPERTY: BIEBERBACH FARM continued from page 1



Mrs. Bieberbach grew up in West Haven, Connecticut, and as a girl rode her bicycle through the wide-open countryside there. This East Coast rural area was later completely transformed by housing developments, a built environment Marian called "house-to-house." She did not want this fate to befall her Ohio farm, located in Franklin Township near the Rt 40 / I-70 corridor, so she granted an agricultural easement to the Trust to save her land's natural rural beauty forever.

Her farm, comprising about 65 acres of crops, 15 acres of pasture, and 35 acres of woodland, will now always remain as a pristine agricultural and natural space, as she wished.

The farm is quite beautiful, with many breathtaking views. The pleasant hills in the agricultural section roll downward to mature woodlands in the southern third of the property. There is a sizable stand of pine within the deciduous woodland area. Intermittent streams, headwaters of Bowling Green Creek, a tributary to Jonathan Creek, traverse portions of the farm.



Several barns, outbuildings and a peaceful pond complete the picture. The farm's single-family home is excluded from the protected property, and under the terms of the easement, the property owner may also establish a second building site for one additional new single-family residence.

Sadly, Mrs. Bieberbach, a widow and beloved mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, passed away at home in late 2014. In March 2015, the farm was sold to new owners, the Langs, who are committed to conserving this protected land. A variety of farming activities continue, including new tree plantings, all within the terms of the easement that "runs with the land." The farm is planted in crops, goats roam the pastures, and selective harvesting of dead and





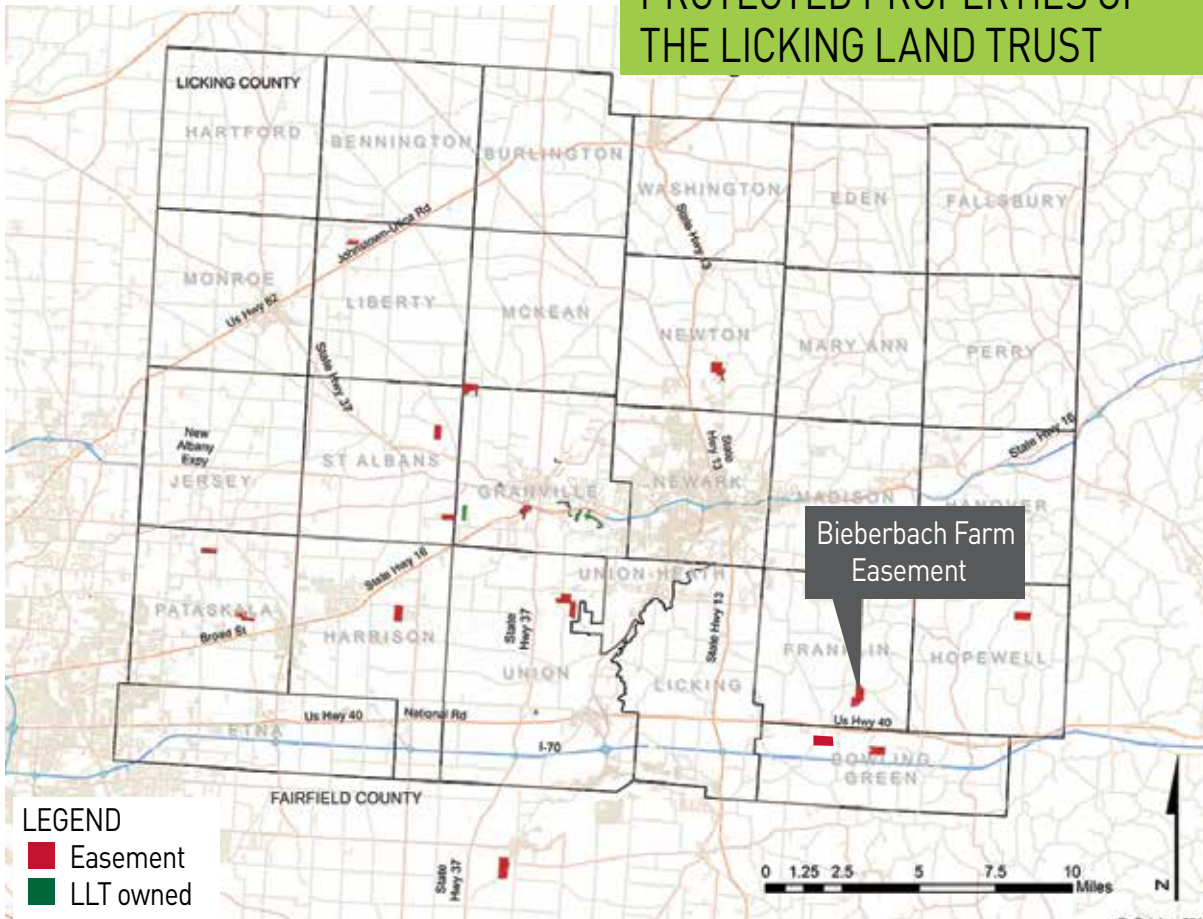
Marian Bieberbach on her farm

nuisance trees is performed after Trust approval of a forest management plan. An energy lease pre-dated the easement and was specifically permitted; this active oil/gas well, near the northern boundary of the farm, still operates. When energy production is no longer viable, this area will be returned to its original condition, per easement terms.

The long-range vision for maintaining the beautiful rural character of southeast Licking County has been very much enhanced through Mrs. Bieberbach's decision to protect this lovely 115-acre farm.



PROTECTED PROPERTIES OF THE LICKING LAND TRUST



YOUTH CONSERVATION AMBASSADOR PROGRAM



The Youth Conservation Ambassador Program, in its second year, has grown exponentially in terms of the number of participating students (22) and conservation activities offered. Our Youth Ambassadors are learning about native plants, invasive species, and meeting environmental science professionals. We look forward to sharing these adventures with you throughout the summer. Follow the Youth Ambassadors on Facebook and Instagram @Licking Land Trust!

Our Youth Ambassadors:
 Jake Valenzuela, Ty Pangborn, George Turner, Allie Judd, Paige Hartshorn, Ava Wandersleben, Ella Johnson, Clare Mialky

THANK YOU FOR MAKING THE 2020 "FARM-TO-FORK AT HOME" POSSIBLE!



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INTRODUCING OUR SUMMER INTERNS - EMMA SMITH & MARY KOSIN

EMMA SMITH

Meet Emma Smith, one of our two summer 2021 interns. Emma is a rising senior at The Ohio State University, majoring in Environmental Policy and Decision Making with a minor in Risk Communication. After graduation Emma plans to move to the Pacific Northwest. Originally from Cincinnati, she is living and working in Columbus this summer. She does her best to visit Cincinnati often to see her parents, brothers, and two dogs, despite everyone's busy schedules. When not working or visiting family, Emma enjoys listening to music.

Emma has always had an interest in the environment and enjoys being outside with friends

and family. She especially likes outdoor sports, hiking, and spending time in a hammock. She is extremely passionate about the conservation of our national parks. Her "bucket list" includes visiting every national park in America; she has been to six already! Emma says she is grateful for the opportunity to intern with the Trust, and she looks forward to meeting many Trust members in the coming months.



Emma Smith



Mary Kosin

MARY KOSIN

Meet Mary Kosin, one of our two summer 2021 interns. Mary has been interested in science since childhood. Family trips to the Smoky Mountains, Lake Erie, and other inland lakes provided wonderful opportunities for exploring creeks, lakes, and trails, and discovering interesting creatures.

Natural sciences were one of Mary's strongest subjects in high school, starting with biology her freshman year. During her senior year, she so enjoyed an environmental science class that she considered this area for her college major. She appreciated the fact that real-world issues were addressed in this class, such as climate change due to CO2 emissions, food systems, and water treatment and sanitation.

After high school she had an incredible opportunity to visit Yellowstone National Park with Ecology Project International. Over the course of ten days, her group of students and teachers hiked the park,

conducted grazing field studies with park researchers, observed wildlife (bighorn sheep, pronghorn antelope, bison, gray wolves, and peregrine falcons, to name a few), and completed invasive plant removal across a large hillside, all while tent camping. That experience greatly influenced her interest in hands-on field work and strengthened her teamwork skills. Not to mention the fun of a thrilling white-water raft ride down the Yellowstone River!

Mary, a student at Denison University, appreciates Denison's liberal arts approach that allowed her to complete a variety of humanities, arts, and science courses. Now, as a rising senior majoring in Environmental Studies with a concentration in global environmental justice, she is looking forward to her senior year, graduation, and to finding work that she can be passionate about. She is excited to intern with the Trust and to explore many beautiful sites in Licking County.

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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.



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