

Historic Hoosier Hills

RESOURCE, CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT, INC.

Newsletter

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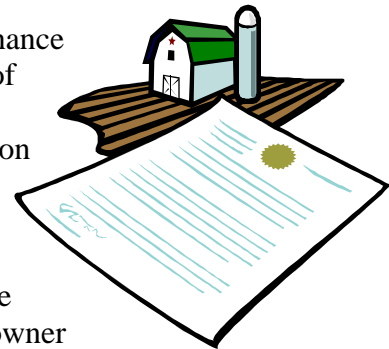
March 2001

Issue 3

Clark's Valley Land Trust Introduced to the Public

The Clark County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) held its first public meeting on February 22 to introduce the **Clark's Valley Land Trust** to the general public – about 17 people attended from Clark and Scott Counties to learn about the purposes of the land trust and provide some guidance to the Land Trust advisors. The Land Trust evolved from the Land Use Subcommittee of the Clark County SWCD – it was created to offer local farmers a vehicle to protect their farmland from development pressures and keep open space and production agriculture in Clark and surrounding counties. The SWCD approached Historic Hoosier Hills to make the Land Trust a part of Historic Hoosier Hills and use the 501(c)3 umbrella to start the trust. The request was approved by the Historic Hoosier Hills Board of Directors in September of 1999. The SWCD has moved slowly and carefully to develop the trust concept so it will meet local needs and fulfill the legal requirements of a land trust.

The Mission of the Clark's Valley Land Trust is to “protect, enhance and maintain the rural, natural, historical and cultural qualities of land in Clark County and surrounding areas through land preservation.” The land trust will be set up to accept conservation easements initially, and will eventually evolve to an entity that will be in a position to accept donations of land. The land trust serves as a vehicle for landowners to protect their land from development pressures. The trust is responsible for enforcing the development restrictions placed on a parcel of land by the landowner through the conservation easement. Gifts of conservation easements may provide income and estate tax benefits for the donor. Conservation easements are strictly voluntary and have to be offered by the landowner to the receiving land trust or other qualified easement recipient.



Consensus from the meeting was that the land trust was needed and could be a valuable tool for preserving farmland, historic, scenic, and other sensitive areas.

For more information, contact the Clark's Valley Land Trust at (812) 256-2330 ext 3, or e-mail at cvlt@clarkswcd.org.

Woodland Committee Hosts Fifth Annual Timber Industry Meeting

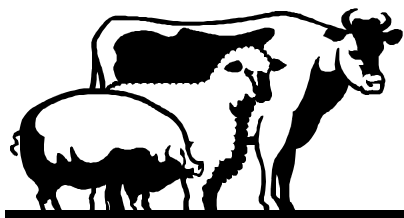


Tree planting was the theme of the fifth annual **Timber Industry Meeting** hosted by the **Woodland Committee** for southeastern Indiana loggers and mill operators in early March. The committee sponsors these programs each year to bring professional foresters, loggers, and sawmill owners and operators together to share information and ideas.

Fifteen attended the field session in the afternoon that was held at SEPAC – the Purdue Farm at Butlerville. They visited tree plantations in the area that have been completed in recent years to look at survival success. The group then returned to SEPAC for supper and an evening program. Thirty six attended the evening sessions – Extension Forester John Siefert presented a slide program on tree planting and tree seedling quality in Indiana.

“We are pleased with the interest our area loggers and mill operators show in meeting annually and keeping good lines of communication open between foresters and the timber industry”, stated Brian Cruser, Chair of the Woodland Committee.

Forage and Livestock Association Holds Winter Program



The **Southeastern Indiana Forage and Livestock Association Board of Directors** held their winter program and meeting on March 8 at the South Ripley Elementary School. About 30 attended the meeting which featured **Scott Gardner, Manager for United Producers, Inc.** who spoke on the new livestock marketing facility at Little York in Scott County. The marketing facility has been very successful since it's opening earlier this year – producers are bringing cattle from as far as 150 – 175 miles to the stockyard for sale. Early predictions that volume might taper off after the first few sales has not come about. Scott commented that one reason the buyers keep coming back is that southern Indiana consistently brings high-quality animals that they buyers are looking for.

Directors re-elected to the Board include Dave Trotter from Clark County and Bernard Housemeyer from Ohio County.

Outgoing President Dave Nuhring and Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative (GLCI) Coordinator Del hall reported on activities of the Forage Association and the GLCI Steering Committee.

New officers were installed for 2001 – John Harrell is President, Sherman Hughes is Vice President, and Jim Casper is Secretary.

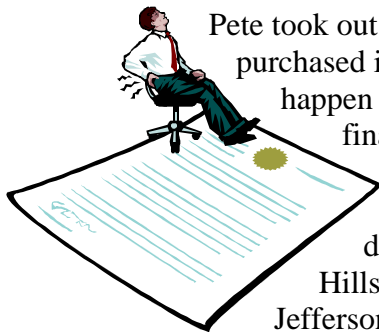
The Southeastern Indiana Forage and Livestock Association is a resource committee of Historic Hoosier Hills and an affiliate of the Indiana Forage Council. Directors are forage and livestock producers from the nine Historic Hoosier Hills counties in southeastern Indiana.

Funds for the Future...

The Historic Hoosier Hills Endowment Fund

*Article by Louise Markel, Executive Director
Community Foundation of Madison and Jefferson County*

Pete, a widower, had been talking to his attorney about updating his will and including Historic Hoosier Hills RC&D as one of his beneficiaries. They were looking at the various assets Pete has, deciding what would be appropriate to leave his family and others.



Pete took out a life insurance policy when he was in his twenties. He purchased it because he wanted to be sure that if something were to happen to him his wife and young children wouldn't be left in bad financial straits. Pete had almost forgotten about the policy, which had been paid up for some years and has no loans against it. Pete's family doesn't need this insurance any more so he decided this would be an appropriate gift to Historic Hoosier Hills Endowment in the Community Foundation of Madison and Jefferson County, Inc. Annual grants from this endowment will forever provide an income stream to Historic Hoosier Hills.

There are several ways to make a gift of insurance. One way is to name a charity as the beneficiary, either in whole or in part. This testamentary gift would also trigger a charitable tax deduction to the estate. Or he could make the charity the owner of the policy and take an immediate tax deduction, which could be as much as the replacement value of the policy.

If this type of gift seems to be something you might be interested in doing, talk with your insurance agent and tax and legal advisors.

A gift of life insurance might be a way for you to make an investment in our community's future, a way for you to be a part of a lasting legacy that addresses the needs of today and the challenges of tomorrow.

(The information provided in this example is for illustrative purposes only. Please contact your attorney or accountant for professional advice.)

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Historic Hoosier Hills RC&D Council meets on the 4th Monday of every other month. The Executive Committee meets on the 3rd Friday of every other month that the Council does not meet. All meetings are open to the public. Anyone wishing to attend will certainly be welcome.

Historic Hoosier Hills RC&D

Mission Statement:

“Serve as a catalyst to empower local people to solve the overall economic and natural resource problems of the area, and to properly develop, utilize, and conserve our natural and human resources.”

Vision Statement:

“Workable economic climate in harmony with natural resources developed to their full potential for a higher quality of life.”

Officers & Staff

Council President – Lilian Carmer
1st Vice-President – (vacant)
2nd Vice-President – William Corning
Treasurer – Raymond West
Secretary – Barbara Corning
RC&D Coordinator – Gary Conant
RC&D Assistant – Phyllis May
Proposal Writer – Barbara Jachimiak