

Historic Hoosier Hills

RESOURCE, CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT, INC.

Newsletter

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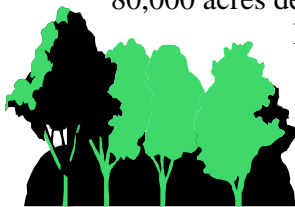
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Woodland Committee Kicks Off New Program Year

About 20 Woodland Committee members and guests met at the Hearthstone Restaurant in Metamora to start the Committee's program year with a dinner and program. Guest speaker was Phil Marshall, Forest Entomologist with the Division of Forestry, Indiana Department of Natural Resources. Marshall highlighted the program in Indiana to slow the invasion of the Gypsy Moth that has been in northeastern Indiana for over a decade. It has been trapped in southeastern Indiana for the first time in 2000, with some moths trapped in all nine Historic Hoosier Hills counties. The most were trapped in Ripley and Decatur Counties. It is anticipated that the Gypsy Moth could reach problem levels within the next ten years in our area. Indiana has not had infestations bad enough to cause defoliation, but Ohio had 80,000 acres defoliated last year.



Marshall also talked about some other diseases and pests of note in Indiana.

In other business, the committee adopted its plan of work for this coming year which includes several programs and field days. Chair Brian Cruser reported on a new program in Indiana called the COVERTS Program which is designed to teach woodland owners how to improve their forests for wildlife habitat

as well as for timber production. The classes are offered through Purdue Extension and the School of Forestry and Natural Resources.

John Siefert reported on activities of the Indiana Forest and Woodland Owners Association to include significant forestry programs in the 2002 Farm Bill.

Dr. Max and Geri Joseph Honored

On Saturday, September 1, Dr. Max and Geri Joseph were inducted into the Gallery of Agricultural Leaders (GOAL) at the Hayden Museum in Jennings County for their lifelong contributions to Jennings County and southeastern Indiana.



Jennings County farmer George Corya (left) presented the award. Lester Tracy, one of the

innovators behind GOAL, described the Josephs as a “successful couple who have certainly contributed much to making our world a better place to live”.

Dr. Joseph is a retired state veterinarian and was a member of the Regional College Development Board of Historic Hoosier Hills for years. He was instrumental in getting the four college groups in southeastern Indiana together and creating the Southeastern Indiana College and Continuing Education Coalition (SICCEC). That group was responsible for the 11 distance learning sites in our region offering college courses and degree courses from all of Indiana’s public universities. Dr. Joseph received a Sagamore of the Wabash Award in recent years for his efforts with the distance learning program.

Congratulations to Max and Geri on their well-deserved recognition!!

Welcome to our New Directors!

Historic Hoosier Hills has eight new directors on our Board this year. Seven have attended new director training offered this summer. We



appreciate their interest in Historic Hoosier Hills and their willingness to give of their time and talents to help with the leadership of the organization.

New Directors and their appointing sponsors are:

- Carl Kramer – Clark County Commissioners
- William Ford – Jefferson County Commissioners
- Maria Hardy – Switzerland County Commissioners
- Matt Wirth – City of Scottsburg
- Kelly Misamore – Muscatatuck National Wildlife Refuge
- John Thompson – At-large Director

John Harrell – President, Southeast Indiana Forage and Livestock Association
Glenn Wright – President, Laughery Valley Fish & Game Club/Fish & Wildlife Committee
(The chairs or presidents of our permanent resource committees also have a position on the Board.)

Forage and Livestock Field Day

Kenneth “Butch” and Mona Plummer of Jackson County opened their farm Saturday, September 8 to host a forage field day co-sponsored by the Jackson and Jennings County Sol and Water Conservation Districts and the Southeastern Indiana Forage and Livestock Association of Historic Hoosier Hills. About 40 producers attended the morning program where they learned about several aspects of rotational grazing and forage production. Visitors were loaded onto hay wagons and taken to the various sites around the farm.



Steve Hawkins with Purdue Cooperative Extension Service at the Southern Indiana Purdue Ag Center (SIPAC) talked to the group on considerations for designing watering systems for different animal needs and different operations. Mr. Plummer demonstrated the solar-powered pump system he had in place – the system was made available by the Southeastern Indiana Forage and Livestock Association through a Value Added Grant from the Office of Commissioner of Agriculture.

Other speakers included Ed Heckman, Purdue Extension Educator from Wayne County who spoke on rotational grazing and forage management. USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Grazing Lands Specialist Vic Shelton demonstrate several types of temporary or moveable fencing that could be used to create paddocks for management intensive grazing. USDA – NRCS State Agronomist Darrell Brown talked to the group at another stop on fescue management. Jennings County Extension Educator Dan Baugh wrapped up the morning with a presentation on weed identification and control in pastures.

The rain held off, the sun came out, and the weather couldn't have been better for 40 people to learn more about managing their grasslands for more profitability.

Funds for the Future....The Historic Hoosier Hills Endowment Fund

Charitable Giving...Now and Forever

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

Paul and Mary have long supported a local charity through annual membership dues and by volunteering their time to help out. They feel the charity has an extremely important role in their community, and had been talking about how important it is that this service be available to people in the future. Paul and Mary decided to talk to Sue, their tax preparer, to discuss ways they could significantly provide for their charity.

Sue pointed out that Paul and Mary bought a few shares of stock in a locally-owned bank in the '60's. Since then, the bank was sold and re-sold and is now part of a large corporation located in Cleveland. The few shares of stock

they acquired years ago are now worth a great deal, but that doesn't do them much good because the dividends are small. And, if they sell the stock, they will have to pay capital gains taxes.

Sue suggested using the bank stock to help the charity. Sue also told them about their county's community foundation. She said that they could donate the stock to the community foundation to establish an endowment for the charity. The endowment is invested and never spent. Instead, investment income from the fund is annually granted to the charity of the donor's choice, forever. This means that the charity would have a stable source of income year after year. And over time, the charity's total income from the fund will far exceed the fund's original value.

Sue also asked them to think about the advantages and disadvantages of donating the stock. The disadvantage is giving up an asset, but Paul and Mary decided they can continue to live comfortably without it and their children have successful careers and won't need it.

The advantages are that they could make a large gift without using their cash, they wouldn't have to pay capital gains taxes to make the gift and they could use the current value of the stock for a tax deduction.

Paul and Mary set up the endowment for their charity, and now have the satisfaction of seeing the charity get more income and know this will go on long after they are gone.

If this illustration reflects your personal situation, contact your county's community foundation and find out how you, too, could support HHH RC&D or any other charity now and forever.

(The information provided above is an example 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