

Linn Log

The Newsletter
of the
Merrill W. Linn
Land & Waterways
Conservancy

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Winter 2000

Coming Events:

Winter Events at the Halfway Run Environmental Center

Snowfest 2000 at R. B. Winter State Park: Break free of the winter doldrums! Join us for R. B. Winter State Park's fourth annual Snowfest on Sunday, February 13. Snowy fun for all will be featured from noon to 4 p.m. Visitors can try out such winter activities as snow volleyball, broomball, skating, cross country skiing, snowshoeing, ice fishing, sledding, and winter mountain biking. Compete for prizes in the snow person fashion contest or watch ice cutting as it was done on Halfway Lake during the late 1930s. Children can build kites to fly on the ice or have their faces painted with wintery designs. If you prefer viewing the frozen landscape of R. B. Winter from a warmer perspective, there are indoor programs, too. Story time by the fireplace, close up looks at animal adaptations, lectures on winter survival skills, snowmobile safety, and more will be presented at the Halfway Run Environmental Learning Center. Short easy walks to highlight winter botany and resident birds are also planned. A concession stand will provide hot refreshments, or you can pack your own picnic. Most programs are free of charge; some will require you to bring your own equipment.

Hopefully there will be snow — but Snowfest will go on rain or shine! A complete schedule of events is available at the Halfway Run Environmental Learning Center or can be obtained by calling the park at 570-966-1455, weekdays between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m.

The Environmental Learning Center is offering a myriad of programs throughout the coming months, among them a **winter botany walk**, scheduled for Friday, February 25 between 10 a.m. and noon. For information on this and the center's many programs for school-age children, call the number mentioned above.

March 26th: Dick Nickelsen to Lead Walk to Explore the Geology of the Montandon Marsh Area

We have the opportunity to understand why there are sand dunes in Montandon and much more when Dick Nickelsen, former Linn Conservancy board member and Professor of Geology at Bucknell University, leads a walk in the Montandon area on Sunday, March 26th. This group will be limited in size, as all the Montandon walks are, so send in registration as soon as possible. The registration fee of \$10 per person holds your place and will be returned the day of the walk. The group will assemble at 1:30 p.m. in the parking lot of the Union County Courthouse and car pool to the different areas that will be part of the walk. Dick chose this time of year so our view will be clear of obstructing foliage.

"Vision of the Valley" to be Shown to Lewisburg Civic Club and Others as Requested

Conservancy members and the coordinator are eager to share our video "Vision of the Valley" with community groups in the coming months. Such an evening has already been requested by the Lewisburg Civic Club for March 8th, by AAUW for March 20th, and the D.A.R. for May 1st. If you are a member of a group that would be interested in seeing the 12-minute video and have the opportunity to ask questions about the Linn Conservancy and its work, this would be a winning combination. Please call the office to arrange for such a program this year!

Our Environment Matters:

Great Stream Commons Project Enters Next Stage

Just to the northeast of the small community of Allenwood, along Route 15, is a parcel of land well known to area residents. From 1990 to 1994 it was a battleground, figuratively speaking, over plans by a subsidiary of Union Pacific to build a hazardous waste incinerator. Faced with determined community protest and a declining demand for incinerator capacity, the property owner ultimately dropped these plans in the summer of 1994 and subsequently sold the 600+ acres to a Canadian waste management company, Laidlaw, Inc. Apparently after concluding that application for a permit for a waste facility would generate formidable opposition, Laidlaw too decided to sell.

With a different vision for the property — of a non-polluting industrial park combined with a residential community and open space — the Union County Chamber of Commerce purchased the property through an entity created for this purpose, the Union County Industrial Development Corporation. The project has been more recently aided by county financing support. Driving by on Route 15 now, one sees the network of roads being established, which signals the first stage of work on the property.

As work on the infrastructure progresses, the Linn Conservancy has recently become associated with the project, as explained in the following article. Although the Conservancy's involvement might appear to some to be contradictory to its mission and goals, the members of the board hope you will agree that the decision is indeed consistent with our mission.

— Roger Curran, Geoff Goodenow

On September 17th Fred Wilder, Union County planner, applied to the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) in the name of the Merrill W. Linn Land & Waterways Conservancy for funds to purchase open space along the Susquehanna River in Gregg Township. If the Conservancy obtains the grant, these DCNR funds will be matched by money received earlier by Union County. The total project funds of approximately \$400,000 would be used to purchase 110 acres, part of which is currently owned by the Union County Industrial Development Corporation (UCIDC).

The funds would pay for the property, its survey, appraisal, and the closing costs. Next, the Linn Conservancy would immediately turn over the land to the Union County Conservation District (UCCD) with a conservation easement on the property to be held and enforced by the Conservancy. The Conservancy's Coordinator and the Union County Conservation District's Bill Deitrick worked out the terms of the conservation easement and its conservation plan in advance. These were approved by the Conservancy's site committee and then the Conservancy's board in October, in anticipation of a land transfer early this year. The draft of the easement is to be reviewed by an attorney for the Conservancy and one for the UCCD.

Once the land is transferred, there will be a five-person advisory board to the UCCD comprising two representatives each from the Conservancy and the Conservation District and one from the county Industrial Development Corporation. The conservation plan for the 110-acre site includes a variety of components including a building for environmental education, a walking trail, canoe entry to the Susquehanna, and active recreation.

The Conservancy agreed to become involved in the project because the land has significant conservation value and because board members believe that the Conservancy can exert a positive influence on maintaining it in its natural state while permitting appropriate recreational use.

Although staff and members of the Linn Conservancy have put in time on the Great Stream Commons Open Space project, the Conservancy has not had any out-of-pocket expenses.

Scientific Work Conducted on Conservancy Montandon Marsh Property

As part of Warren Abrahamson's National Science Foundation-funded work on tritrophic-level interactions (the interactions of plants with herbivores and herbivores with their predators), scientific trials have begun on part of the former Belles tract. The work, which was begun this fall, is expected to be completed in February. It involves examining the natural selection by downy woodpeckers on two host races of goldenrod stem galls. Bucknell senior Mark Bremer is working on this project with Dr. Abrahamson and Dr. Amy Whipple, a Burpee Postdoctoral fellow at Bucknell.

Montandon Wetlands Material

The Conservancy has purchased wetlands educational material that is now available for use by home-schooling parents and by teachers. The materials were initially reviewed by area educators who are working with the Linn Conservancy on a video that will feature the Montandon Marsh. That video is expected to be released next spring. Among the books and video cassettes currently available are *Ranger Rick's Wading into Wetlands*, put out by the National Wildlife Federation. It has lots of wonderful activities for young people K-7 to introduce them to wetland concerns and concepts. Another video is *One Small Square: Swamp*, part of the award-winning series by noted children's science writer Don Silver. It is beautifully illustrated and was praised as "Science education at its best" by *Science Books and Films*.

Also in the Conservancy's lending library are *Wow! The Wonders of Wetlands/An Educator's Guide*, an extensive educator's manual for wetlands study with a wide variety of lessons and activities for K-12, and *The Book of Swamp and Bog: Trees, Shrubs and Wildflowers of Eastern Freshwater Wetlands* — a wonderful field guide for those wanting complete but readable definitions and great black and white line drawings.

Pennsylvania Land Trust News by Jeannette Lasansky

Board member Neal Woodruff and I recently attended the Pennsylvania Land Trust Alliance meeting held in State College. It was a very full day with about forty people in attendance from over seventy Pennsylvania land trusts/conservancies/watershed groups. The speakers represented the federal government's Forest Legacy Program, the Highland Coalition in New Jersey, Pennsylvania's Habitat Alliance, and the PA Department of Agriculture. As usual, there was a lot to talk about on the way home, as well as material to read and items to follow through on. I'd like to share some of the information with the readers of the *Log* as that illustrates the different areas in which the Conservancy needs to be both knowledgeable and active.

The Forest Legacy program is a federal program administered in partnership with state and local governments, conservancies such as the Linn Conservancy, and private property owners. When a conservancy can identify interested landowners with heavily forested land, there is money available for 75% of the purchase of a perpetual conservation easement and its attendant costs. The land must be 90% forested and be under development pressure; the landowner must be willing to have development rights removed from the land and to have the easement held by local or state government and monitored by a conservancy; and be willing for the woods to be timbered (although the landowner is not required to have the land timbered).

Pennsylvania has applied to be part of the Forest Legacy Program, which is the first step in having this program be an option for local land preservation. Once Pennsylvania gets into the program, it is anticipated that the first competitive state selection of sites will occur in September 2000. Anyone who

would like to have a forested tract considered is encouraged to contact the office to find out more about the process.

Tim Dillingham, from the Highland Coalition in New Jersey, spoke about the need for groups like ours to be involved in the public policy debate on land issues. Land trusts/conservancies are now mainstream organizations, and concerns such as suburban sprawl, growth boundaries, and land use issues are in the forefront of policy discussions. Policy making is "personal," and we need, collectively and individually, to help policy makers know about and appreciate the environment people want to see preserved. Invite policy and opinion makers to join you on one of our trails, to come with you to one of our talks, to view the Conservancy video, or to come to our annual dinner. Dillingham inspired confidence that we all can get the message out by cultivating and building relationships. A hike, bike ride, or canoe excursion in a lovely spot on a great day is an experience that is unforgettable later when shaping legislation and casting votes.

A staff member from the Washington office of the Land Trust Alliance described the plans to secure foundation support for a PALTA/LTA office. Representatives from the Wildlands Conservancy and the Natural Lands Trust updated the group on the progress of conservation easement legislation. A member of the Pennsylvania Habitat Alliance, a group of conservation organizations, sportsmen's groups, and land trusts that is committed to the conservation of habitat, spoke of the Heritage 21 Bill (House Bill 1200) and other conservation spending measures pending in the House or Senate.

Last, the Deputy Secretary of the PA Department of Agriculture, Russell Redding, outlined the department's 2-year pilot program that will begin in 2000. It will allow groups like ours to have appraisal, survey, and closing costs paid by the Agriculture Department for conservation easements donated to conservancies. To be eligible, a property must meet certain criteria. The Conservancy is interested in hearing from any landowner who wants to know more about the program.

Linn Conservancy Working with Others on Susquehanna River Plan

Betsy Quant represented the Linn Conservancy at a series of meetings called by the Northcentral Pennsylvania Conservancy (NPC) located in Williamsport. The purpose of the meetings was to form a coalition of interested parties to support NPC's Key 93 project proposal for preparation of a river conservation plan for the West Branch of the Susquehanna River from Lick Run in Clinton County to the confluence of the West and North Branches in Northumberland County — an interest of the Linn Conservancy, of course.

Betsy Quant reported that "a river conservation plan examines current and historic conditions and uses of a river, gathers public input, and develops local strategies for conservation initiatives such as stream bank stabilization and forest buffers, water quality monitoring, public access, etc. A plan can be for a watershed or a segment of a river." This plan will be for the aforementioned segment in a strip 1 mile wide on each side of the West Branch. After DCNR approves a river conservation plan, that segment is listed on the Pennsylvania River Registry and is eligible for a 50% reimbursement to implement recommended initiatives.

NPC submitted its grant application to DCNR on October 29th. The application was accompanied by letters of support from at least 25 of the 48 municipalities affected by this proposal, submitted as evidence to DCNR that this is a regionally supported project.

Nation's Largest Conference on Voluntary Land Conservation *by Roger Curran*

More than 1200 land conservationists from across the country came together on October 14-17 at the National Land Trust Rally '99, sponsored by the Land Trust Alliance. Held in Snowmass, Colorado, the conference featured more than 100 workshops and seminars. I was privileged to attend.

Nonprofit land trusts have been very successful in their mission of conserving open spaces. According to the Land Trust Alliance's 1998 National Land Trust Census, local and regional land trusts have protected 4.7 million acres, up from 2 million acres protected in 1988. During the same decade, the number of land trusts grew by 63 percent, to 1213 local and regional land trusts working in virtually every state.

The conference gave participants the opportunity to learn about conservation trends and exchange ideas. Following is a brief sampling of subjects covered.

A plenary session was devoted to the results of focus group discussions and national polling of the public on environmental issues. Views of sprawl were more varied than one might suppose. Twenty-one percent of those surveyed thought sprawl is bad, 10 percent found it good, and 64 percent found it both good and bad. With crime and education as top public concerns, many see in sprawl a way to escape from cities and the associated problems. And with population constantly increasing, stopping sprawl is, as one person put it, like telling a child "don't grow up." The good news is that people find that some of the major solutions to

sprawl are desirable ends in themselves. The polling revealed approval for such efforts as government purchases of land for parks, open space, and wildlife; "save our neighborhood" initiatives such as tax credits, low-interest loans, and other efforts aimed at rejuvenating downtowns; and efforts to support existing infrastructure. The urban growth boundaries concept meets with resistance when it is seen as restricting development outside of the boundaries, which relates to the deeply held value of freedom. Creating better choices — encouraging *voluntary* sales or donations of land or easements and tax incentives for donations — resonates well.

Representatives of a Massachusetts land trust owning 85 properties explained how they plan financially for land stewardship by developing start-up and operating budgets that permit an endowment yielding enough income (projected at 5%) to meet operating expenses. Endowments for easements involve, of course, much smaller amounts than do endowments for owned properties. The approaches used by several land trusts for setting up easement endowments were described. Finally, the story of how a small land trust in Brunswick, Maine conducted a \$775,000, 5-year capital campaign to preserve a "must have" property was an impressive one. The property was a farm on the edge of town, described as "one of the community's most precious natural resources." The decision to campaign, the role of the campaign finance committee, the tactics used to keep up pressure and awareness, the importance of clear and concise written materials and presentations, special events held at the farm, relationships with donors, and more were covered. The trust received individual gifts ranging from \$5 to \$53,000, support from eleven foundations from Maine to North Carolina totaling more than \$70,000, and contributions from 58 area businesses yielding \$65,000.

A seminar on the final day interpreted the current tax benefits for donated conservation easements. There are four types of such benefits, which, as the attorneys say, can be enjoyed in combination. These include income tax deduction (in the amount of the value of the easement); estate tax "subtraction" (subtracting the value of a conservation easement from the value of estate property); a lowered real estate tax assessment to reflect an easement's prohibitions; and an estate tax exclusion. There are, of course, restrictions and limitations on all these benefits, and consultation with a qualified tax advisor is essential, but these conservation easement incentives in the tax code are *very considerable* and merit the attention of all who would consider such a donation.

A reference book providing detailed information on all the seminars and workshops, including those mentioned above, was given out at the conference and is on loan from the Conservancy's office in the Union County Courthouse. I recommend this book to anyone who is seeking more information on current issues facing land trusts and successful approaches that have been taken to achieve conservation objectives.

People, Businesses, and Organizations Effect Change:

Quica Ostrander New Linn Log Editor

As he anticipated taking on new leadership responsibilities with the Linn Conservancy, Roger Curran sought to be relieved of the task of editing the *Linn Log*. Roger had been an able editor since the Fall 1998 issue and we will miss his attention to detail as well as his lucid writing about the big picture. But we also look forward to having Quica Ostrander, a Linn Conservancy member who is a professional textbook editor, assume the responsibility with this issue.

Quica has lived in Union County for all but a year and a half since she first came to Bucknell as a freshman in 1967. She has been involved with local environmental groups since the early 1980s, including the Susquehanna Alliance and the Otzinachson Group of the Sierra Club, for both of which she edited newsletters. She is a charter member of the Conservancy (1988). Quica was responsible for last spring's Conservancy tabloid that was issued by the *Standard/Journal*.

Bucknell Survey Participation Appreciated

The response rate to the survey of Linn Conservancy members conducted by Bucknell senior Eric Charles has been extremely high, and we thank those who took time to participate in his effort. On December 6th, when Charles made his presentation to members of his class and his professor, Carl Milofsky, there were already over 100 responses and more were still coming in. We will be meeting with Eric Charles at the beginning of his spring term to further analyze your comments and answers, and we hope to present the collated results in our late-March *Linn Log*.

Heritage Letter Enclosed

Included with this issue of *Linn Log* is a letter to all members about some very important ways we can help further the work of the Conservancy. Your careful attention is invited.

Businesses Assist Conservancy

Area organizations and businesses help spread the word about the Linn Conservancy as well as provide good educational material for their customers and employees by giving prominent display space for Conservancy brochures. Member Bill Bastian recently made some changes when he analyzed where the brochures were moving and where they were displayed best. We thank Maya Bookstore, Donehower's Sporting Goods, Second Nature, the Bookseller, and the Buffalo Valley Telephone Company in Lewisburg, the Donut Connection in Mifflinburg, and the Laurel Market in Laurelton for having had the displays in the past.

Currently we have Linn Conservancy display racks at the Public Library for Union County, the Union County Courthouse, Cafe Latte, the Natural Foods Store, Campus Cycle/Fly Fishing Center, JPM, and Anni's Bed & Breakfast in Lewisburg; Country Farm and Home Garden Center, Mifflinburg Farm Supply, Mary Koons, and Carriage Corner in Mifflinburg; and the Union County Sportsmen's Club in Weikert. Thanks to Bill, we are able to do a better job of getting our material seen in a variety of locations. If your business would like such a tiered rack (accommodates 4 of our trail brochures), please call the office at 524-8666.

Also, if you have joined the Conservancy just recently, you may not have gotten our brochures as they were issued, and these locations will have much of what is available — or stop by the office on the first floor of the Union County Courthouse for the full complement: *Rural Routes I*, *Rural Routes II*, *The Dale's Ridge Trail*, *The Koons Trail*, *The Shamokin Mountain Trail*, our general information piece, and the tabloid issued by the *Standard/Journal* on the Conservancy. Other brochures include a general piece on Land Trust work and on ways to protect one's land, called *Conservation Options*. The *Rural Routes* brochures and the *Dale's Ridge* brochures have been revised and/or reprinted in the past year with financial support from ButterKrust Bakery and the Degenstein Foundation. We very much appreciate this corporate underwriting as it allows the Linn Conservancy's educational materials to be available free of charge and allows our budget to support other endeavors.

Shirley Bingaman: New Conservancy Board Member

Our newest board member is Shirley Bingaman, who lives in Hartley Township with her husband Dahle. Shirley is a native of Hartley Township, Union County and a graduate of Mifflinburg High School. She is filling the unexpired term of Tasha Cooper, formerly of Lewisburg, who has relocated to Hershey, Pennsylvania.

Shirley has long been engaged in environmental education and helped create the Outdoor Education Program for Mifflinburg Middle School students, a program she taught for twenty-three years. She began her teaching career in 1962, teaching special education at the Laurelton State School. She later taught in Norwalk, Connecticut; in Lewisburg; and finally, in Mifflinburg, starting in 1967. Shirley was one of four educators who initiated and designed the environmental education unit for the Mifflinburg School District in 1970. This is still a very active program.

In addition to being a member of the Merrill W. Linn Land & Waterways Conservancy Board, Shirley is also a long-time member of the Nature Conservancy and other environmentally concerned groups. Some also know Shirley as a quiltmaker and a member of the Susquehanna Valley Piecemakers Quilt Guild.

Koons Conservancy Quilt Won by Elizabeth Kling

A very special quilt that celebrates the local environment was designed and donated by Mary Koons of Mifflinburg as the major 1999 fundraiser for the Linn Conservancy. Members matched Mary's generosity by donating over \$2,000 for quilt tickets. Additional donations at the time of the quilt raffle had come from Carl and Faye Oberheim, Sylvia Gleason, Dorothy McRae, Robert and Carol Hamm, Larry and Marie Ginsberg, Amos and Madeline Zimmerman, Fred and Eleanor Bisbee, Jace Watson, Nancy and Pete Macky, Peggy Lauver, Janet Macgaffey, Steven Miller, Martha Reed, and Toni Byrd. We thank all of you for your added generosity. Member Penny Puskanich from Boulder, Colorado got friends there to buy tickets and bought another 24 for herself. Susan Hoyle Fournier purchased the greatest number of tickets, and others sent in money but no tickets — so we filled out ticket stubs for another non-profit, Union County Historical Society, which hoped to see the quilt in its collection.

The drawing was held on December 15th, in the lobby of the Union County Courthouse. We wished everyone “Good Luck” beforehand — and then Mary Koons and Ruth Zimmerman picked the winning quilt ticket. It belonged to Conservancy member **Elizabeth Kling**. Congratulations, Betty! May the quilt bring you much enjoyment and remind you always of the mission of the Linn Conservancy and the fine people who have made that mission their own in so many ways.

Making Tracks by Neal Woodruff

On November 9th I attended a seminar in Williamsport called “Preserving Family Lands: Estate and Tax Planning for Landowners and their Families.” It was led by Stephen J. Small, a Boston lawyer who has specialized for two decades in the laws governing inheritance and conservation easements. Some 35 or 40 people attended, and the majority were lawyers who evidently felt a need — hopefully growing throughout the country — for up-to-date information on these matters.

Small began by identifying three current and perhaps growing problems. The first is the greatly increasing value of land everywhere, which poses a new challenge. As a general rule, he said, all transfers of wealth are potentially subject to gift tax or estate tax, which can be substantial. The second problem is that landowners are generally now an older group, which means that much land is likely to change hands one way or another — and potentially also to change use. The likelihood of this result increases as landowners confront the need to realize the value of lands in order to satisfy tax bills. The third problem is that professionals (read “lawyers”) are well prepared to advise developers of real estate properties, but few are similarly well prepared to help owners preserve and protect land. While the number of land trusts and the use of conservation easements have both greatly increased in recent years, knowledge of these things has not kept pace among legal professionals.

Small is an advocate of what he calls “succession planning” that reaches beyond a present generation and the one that immediately follows it to a third generation and perhaps beyond. What makes such planning possible are the exceptions in tax laws to the general rule that transfers of wealth are potentially taxable. Anticipating a transfer of property well in advance makes possible a number of entirely legal expedients.

Among these expedients is the conservation easement. An owner establishes an easement voluntarily and is compensated for giving up development rights if she “sells” the easement and not compensated if she “donates” it. And there is great flexibility in drawing up conservation easements. A farmer, for example, may choose to give up the right to create building lots along a property’s road frontage. The owner of a wood lot might stipulate that a particular portion of it would be available for timbering but the balance must remain untouched and available to hunters. It is possible for an owner to retain rights to some income-producing uses of a piece of land that are compatible with conservation values — and perhaps support those values with the income realized.

There are technicalities in all this which I, as a lay person, could mostly follow but cannot claim to have mastered. The principles, though, seemed quite clear: If we really wish to have and pass on control of any land we now own, we need to find good legal help and plan well ahead. The conservation easement is an admirable way of ensuring that natural land, open land, farmed land, wooded land will remain natural, open, farmed, wooded. The Linn Conservancy stands ready, I scarcely need to add, to give assistance to anyone wishing to explore the possibilities offered by conservation easements or land gifts.

New Members Help Linn Conservancy Meet Its Goals

We welcome the following new individual and family members who have joined since the fall *Linn Log* came out: Dr. Alice Gora, Judy Everitt, Mark Berg, Lindsay Miller, Barbara & Roger Allison, and Swan Stull & Marty Gates.

In Brief:

Thanks to the Becks, Ed Culver, Rolf & Annick Helbig, Kathy Rowe, Lindsay Miller, and Roger Mann, who assisted in the summer and fall adopt-a-road cleanups with Geoff Goodenow.

(more . . .)

Thanks to Allen Schweinsberg, Pete Macky, and Tom Duck, assisted by Allen Macky, Jeff Duck, Damen and Gabriel Linn, and Dave Hafer for August, September, October, and November Dale's Ridge maintenance. Thanks also to Brad Huntington and his Industrial Arts Club for making new Nature Reserve standards to be placed in the open field perimeter of the Koons property and to Joe Southerton for installing these signs and replacing the old trail kiosk on the 8th Street entrance to the trail.

Thanks to Jeanette Campbell for the drawings that are on the stationery for our Heritage Club (see enclosed). The Conservancy has been pleased to work with Jeanette on printed material about Montandon Marsh, Dale's Ridge, and the Koons Trail and now the Heritage Club project.

Thanks to member Thom Fantasky for helping the office make a transition to its new iMac computer and its file-sharing capabilities.

Thanks to Dave Hafer and Wayne McDiffett who led fall walks.

Thanks to Conservancy members who gave additional gifts at the close of the calendar year: Wayne McDiffett, Elva Reitz, Jeff Coup, Pete & Nancy Macky, June & Preston Hoyle, Geoff Goodenow, Faye & Carl Oberheim, Roger & Nancy Curran, Betty Koons, Lynn Stanton Hoyle & Dale Stanton, Richard & Judy Ellis, Citizens' Electric Company, John & Gail Dunlop, Jack Harclerode, Ann Gelnett, Dorris Keen, John & Martha Zeller, and Barbara Zeiders. We also thank those members who were able to join at a new level for the coming year.

Thanks to Thomas R. Rippon, who made a donation to the Linn Conservancy in memory of botanist and board member and past President John Clark. Correction: (Also, the donor to John's memorial fund was Beverly Daggett, not Ruth Daggett, as listed in the last newsletter.)

Thanks to the Danowsky-Reeds Trust, which, for the third consecutive year, made a substantial unrestricted charitable contribution to the Linn Conservancy in the name of the Mazeppa Union Church.

Thanks to the following members who sold raffle tickets, gave away Conservancy material, and did much more at various public events this early and late fall: Kate Hastings, Rob Cook, Nancy & Roger Curran, members of Alpha Phi Omega, D. G. Keen, Marcia Milne, Judy Peeler, Carol Manbeck, Jeannette Lasansky, Rik & Pam Paulsen, Shirley Bingaman, Clyde & Diane Peeling, Margaret Moyer, Rose Ann Koons, Sue Taylor, Geoff Goodenow, Kathy Rowe, Sue Taylor, and Rolf Helbig.

We wish charter member Josephine Zeigler Auten the very best as she relocates to Columbus, Ohio, where she will be near her oldest daughter. Josephine will soon be 94 and has been a steady supporter of Conservancy projects. Her new address is 717 Neil Avenue, Apt 631, Columbus, OH, 43215.

If you have changed your address please notify the Conservancy office. We want to be sure that you get your copy of the *Linn Log* promptly and efficiently. If you know you will be moving please let us know ahead of time since our newsletter, which is sent bulk rate, will not be forwarded by the post office.

Please Note: Your dues are due for this year if there is a red stamp here; if so you should find a handy business reply envelope enclosed for your convenience. Please help us meet our goals by replying as quickly and as generously as you possibly can this year. Thank you for your support in the past. Giving to the Linn Conservancy makes a difference that matters.