

Having trouble reading this email? [View it in your browser.](#)

RESOURCE

A Monthly Publication of the Nebraska Environmental Trust

June 2017

Executive Director Corner

It was just over a year ago when we lost our office manager, Lori Moore. Lori had a kidney transplant three years previously and she thought she had turned the corner on many of her medical conditions, but in the end, there were just too many complications. Lori worked for the Trust up to the very week she passed away. We struggled to think of an appropriate memorial to Lori and with the family's input, it was decided to do a piece of artwork that would be displayed in the Ferguson House (home to the Trust). Lori loved wildlife and so we had to decide what she would appreciate. We decided a Sandhill Crane would fit the bill, but where do we find an artist? As you all know, Nebraska is full of very talented wildlife artists. We decided we would contact Cliff Hollestelle right here in Lincoln. I knew of Cliff's talents from a lifetime exhibit of his works a few years ago and a permanent exhibit at Morrill Hall. In addition I had admired his bronze works at the Lincoln Children's Zoo and other places around the State. Cliff is a wood carver, illustrator and sculptor. Cliff had just the ticket for us. The sculpture is entitled "Joy" and it was inspired from a photo by another famous wildlife artist from Nebraska, Michael Forsberg.

On June 6th we had a dedication of Cliff's bronze sculpture, "Joy", at the Ferguson House. Lori's husband, parents, relatives and friends joined the Trust staff, current and



Pete Ricketts, Governor
Board of Trustees

District I

Vacant - TBA

James Hellbusch -
Columbus

Kevin Peterson - Osceola

District II

Gerry Lauritzen - Omaha

Paul Dunn - Omaha

Robert Krohn - Omaha

District III

Sherry Vinton - Whitman

Rodney Christen - Steinauer

Quinten Bowen - Humboldt

former board members and the artists, Cliff Hollestelle and Mike Forsberg. See the photo below of Lori's parents (Ray and Betty Valasek), Cliff Hollestelle and the sculpture, "Joy".

The Trust staff and board want to relay our condolences to our Administrative Assistant, Pam Deines, who lost her mother last week. Pam's mom had lived with her the last several years and she will be greatly missed by her family and friends. Clara Deines was 97 and I always enjoyed talking with her about a variety of subjects.

Recently we lost a giant in the conservation world, Marian Langan. There was a Celebration of Life this past Saturday at Spring Creek Prairie. Unfortunately I was out-of-state and unable to attend, but Marilyn from our staff was able to attend and noted there were many of our friends from the conservation community there to remember this great person that has done so much for our causes.

Last month we did get a new board member, Quinten Bowen from Humboldt, but we have not received appointments for the two other openings on the board. Kevin Peterson will continue to serve until his seat is reappointed and the other seat is vacant at this time. Our next board meeting will be held at Fontenelle Forest in Bellevue, NE, on August 7th and 8th.

The Husker baseball team had fans getting excited at the end of the season, but two and done was the result in the final tournament. After winning the Big 10 title, fans were dreaming of the College World Series, but you will have to select another team to root for this year. It looks like the Huskers' football recruiting team did well this season, landing us in the top 10 for recruiting. It seems a few of our football players are getting into mischief in the off-season; let's hope they don't have any more run-ins with law enforcement. The volleyball team lost a couple of promising players, but I think Coach Cook will do just fine again this

Agency Directors

Jim Douglas, Nebraska
Game and Parks
Commission

Greg Ibach, Nebraska
Department of Agriculture

Jim Macy, Nebraska
Department of
Environmental Quality

Jeff Fassett, P.E., Nebraska
Department of Natural
Resources

Dr. Tom Williams, Nebraska
Department of Health and
Human Services

Trust Staff

Mark A. Brohman
Executive Director

Marilyn Tabor
Grants Administrator

Sheila Johnson
Public Information Officer

Pam Deines
Administrative Secretary

Allison La Duke
Grants Assistant

The Nebraska
Environmental Trust

season.

A lot of Nebraskans are getting nervous about this administration and their trade policies. We will have to wait and see how things turn out, but some of the commodity groups are working hard in Canada, Mexico, China and other places. There has been a lot of press lately about selling Nebraska beef in the growing market of China.

Travel safe this summer and here's to timely rains to grow our grass and crops.

Mark A. Brohman
Executive Director



Ray and Betty Valasek, Cliff Hollestelle and the sculpture, "Joy" (Pictured above).

Public Information and Education (PIE) Grants

Nebraska Academy of Sciences (NAS) has been approved to administer another three year grant cycle for the Nebraska Environmental Trust Public Information and Education Minigrant program. They were honored to be able to continue this very worthwhile program which provides small grants up to \$3,000. These grants support the presentation

700 S 16th Street
PO Box 94913
Lincoln, NE 68509-4913

web site:

environmentaltrust.org

and dissemination of information and perspectives that will stimulate enhanced environmental stewardship in any category eligible for Nebraska Environmental Trust (NET) funding. These categories are habitat, surface and ground water, waste management, air quality, and soil management. The grant expands dialogue on important current conservation topics and provides information on emerging or highly useful conservation methods. All Nebraska individuals, private organizations, and public entities are eligible to apply for these funds.

NAS received 11 applications for the second quarter of 2017. Applications were received from the Nebraska Recycling Council - Annual Awards Luncheon and Workshops; Omaha by Design - Neighborhoods USA Conference: Growing Green Neighborhoods Track; UNL - Students Promoting Diversity (in tree plantings); UNL - Fostering Future Foresters; NE Game and Parks Commission - Distribution of "The Fishes of Nebraska" to Schools; Prairie Pines Partners - Prairie Pines Nature Preserve "Second Saturdays" Nature Experience and Education Project; The Groundwater Foundation - Groundwater Education and Technology; Elkhorn Valley Museum - Our Wild Neighbors; Community Crops - Greening Your Home Workshop Series; Friends of Heron Haven - Environmental Education at Heron Haven, an Urban Wetland; and the Nature Conservancy - Prairie Perspectives: Seeing Nature with Drones. Nine grants were awarded to the Nebraska Recycling Council, Omaha by Design, UNL, Prairie Pines Partners, The Groundwater Foundation, Elkhorn Valley Museum, Community Crops, Friends of Heron Haven, and the Nature Conservancy.

Third quarter 2017 applications are due July 7, 2017.

Grant forms and information can be found on our website, www.neacadsci.org. Click on NAS and then click on Grants and Scholarships.

Call for Presentations

Annual Meeting of the Nebraska
Natural Legacy Project
October 10–11, 2017
Lied Lodge & Conference
Center, Nebraska City



Who? Conservation practitioners, researchers, and graduate students. Please join us this fall in Nebraska City to share your work and research to conserve Nebraska's wildlife and wild places. The annual meeting of the Nebraska Natural Legacy Project is an opportunity to learn, collaborate, and build partnerships that foster conservation. Agencies and organizations supported by the Natural Legacy Project and State Wildlife Grants are highly encouraged to participate. This event is made possible through support from the Nebraska Environmental Trust.

Please direct questions and send a summary/abstract of

your presentation to
melissa.panella@nebraska.gov
by July 17, 2017.

Hub & Spoke Regional Recycling Meetings

Organized by the Northeast RC & D, these meetings are confirmed at the following locations, are free and open to the public. You will learn how the "hub & spoke" recycling concept will work, the benefits of recycling and get ideas on sorting and storing recyclables at home.

- City of Creighton at City Office; Thursday, June 22 at 6:30pm
- City of Plainview at Library; Thursday June 29 at 6:30pm
- Village of Brunswick at the Community Room; Thursday June 29 at 8pm
- City of Bloomfield at the Community Center; Thursday, June 22 at 8pm
- Village of Niobrara at Ponca Tribal Headquarters; Thursday June 15 at 8pm

If you need any additional information, please contact the RC&D Office at 402-582-4866.

Upcoming Events

- 3rd Quarter Board Meeting - Monday/Tuesday, August 7-8, 2017, Fontenelle Forest, Bellevue NE
 - Nebraska State Fair, - August 25-September 4, 2017
 - Grants deadline, Tuesday, September 5, 2017
-

Stay Connected with The Nebraska Environmental Trust:



SUBSCRIBER SERVICES:

[Manage Subscriptions](#) | [Unsubscribe All](#) | [Help](#)