

OUABACHE NEWSLETTER

NEWSLETTER FOR THE OUABACHE LAND CONSERVANCY

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Ouabache Land Conservancy
P.O. Box 10993
Terre Haute, IN 47801-0993
Phone: 765-344-1502

Information about OLC can be found on their website at ouabachelandconservancy.org



Mission Statement:

The Ouabache Land Conservancy protects, preserves and restores land in west central Indiana to provide habitat for wildlife, maintain natural scenic beauty, improve water quality, and secure the means to produce food and fiber for future generations.

SECOND ANNUAL OLC MEMBERSHIP MEETING

In a Nutshell:

Date: January 27, 2012
Time: 6:00 Social Hour
and Silent Auction
7:00 Dinner
Location: Gerhardt's Bierstube
1724 Lafayette Ave
Price: \$25 per person
RSVP: Phil Cox
(765)548-4007 or
philwcox@gmail.com

The Ouabache Land Conservancy (a 501(c)3 non-profit land trust) will be hosting its annual meeting and banquet on Friday January 27 at Gerhardt's Bierstube Restaurant, 1724 Lafayette Avenue, Terre Haute. The featured speakers for the evening: **Mike McCormick** (Vigo County historian, master story teller and author of *Terre Haute: Queen City of the Wabash*) and **Marty Jones** (Wabash Valley Audubon Society president and expert wildlife photographer); will present the History and Nature of the magnificent Forest Park, located along the banks of

the Otter Creek in North Terre Haute. There will be a social hour and silent auction (donations accepted) beginning at 6:00 with dinner at 7:00. Make reservations by contacting Phil Cox at (765)548-4007 or philwcox@gmail.com by January 19. Checks (made payable to Ouabache Land Conservancy for \$25 per person for members, \$50 for non-members (includes a membership), and \$20 per guest with member) can be mailed to Phil Cox, P.O. Box 237, Clinton, IN 47842 or payment can be made at the door (with a reservation). Please come and help celebrate Ouabache Land Conservancy's 2011 accomplishments and 2012 vision. Silent auction items may be donated at the banquet. Non-members and especially persons living or owning property in the Otter Creek Valley are welcome! For more information about the Ouabache Land Conservancy, visit ouabachelandconservancy.org.

FALL FOLIAGE HIKE, OCTOBER 16, 2011

Members of The Ouabache Land Conservancy enjoyed a fall foliage hike of the Jackson-Schnyder Nature Preserve on Sunday October 16th. This hike celebrated the two-year anniversary of its dedication as a State nature preserve. Dr. Marion Jackson, the Preserve's namesake and author of **101 Trees of Indiana**, led hikers through the tallgrass prairie and approximately 25 species of trees found on the Preserve. For more information about the Ouabache Land Conservancy or the Jackson-Schnyder Nature Preserve, go to ouabachelandconservancy.org.



FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Ouabache Officers, Directors and Advisors:

Congratulations! We were officially one year old November 2! Of course we have a long history as a Committee of Sycamore Trails RC&D and certainly benefited from their support over the years, but we have successfully survived on our own for a full year!

I believe our greatest achievement this year was the Haymaker Conservation Easement. This was a learning experience for all of us and it successfully brought 125 acres of fine woodlands under protection from future development. Hansford's enthusiasm and perseverance made it happen. A special thank you to Hans!

Equally as important to our future success has been our outreach program. Getting our organization's name before the public and building recognition in the conservation community is vital to our success. Through sponsored events and activities, publication of pictures and articles, and partnerships with other conservation organizations, Ouabache is building that reputation. Thanks, Phil, Karen and Marion!

Our membership in the Land Trust Alliance and the Indiana Land Protection Association has brought us credibility and invaluable access to resources with experience and answers to questions that we would have struggled with and helped to avoid procedural errors. We must continue to support and benefit from these organizations. Ted Harris has been our mentor. Thanks Ted!

Our participation in the public "open houses" in support of the Department of Natural Resources' Healthy Rivers Initiative (The Wabash wetlands project) has brought us friends in the DNR and the Soil and Water Districts in our service area that can be a great aid as we move forward with our mission. Tom Swinford has been a special help in formulating our Service Area Conservation Plan.

I want to thank all of the Officers and Directors who I did not already name for the hours they have devoted to conducting the business of Ouabache LC. Without your dedication to making the organization succeed and grow, there would truly not be an Ouabache Land Conservancy! Thank you for your time and dedication.

Finally, thanks to the Advisory Board. Your commitment to help Ouabache grow to be a great land trust through advice and suggestions keeps me and the Directors on the right path. I look forward to the day that you can take on the commitment required of a Director and move up to help us actively build a great organization.

It is time for each of us to renew our memberships in Ouabache Land Trust for 2012. I hope you all feel the pride that I do in what we have accomplished so far. Please be as generous as you can so we can continue to grow.

Dave

HAYMAKER CONSERVATION EASEMENT



Ouabache Land Conservancy is honored to announce the acceptance of its first Conservation Easement since establishing itself apart from Sycamore Trails RC&D Land Conservation committee. This easement is on the Bob and Joanne Haymaker Farm, which consists of 161.23 acres lying along the Little Walnut Creek in North Western Putnam County. The property has been owned by the Haymakers for approximately 40 years and has had previously farmed upland fields reforested while the original forested property remains in managed timber production. Bob and Joanne worked diligently with the OLC to complete this easement on their property and this beautiful land will be preserved in perpetuity

from development to benefit the ecosystem and those of the future who value and appreciate natural space. Many thanks to the Haymakers from Ouabache Land Conservancy!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS – 2012

Board elections were held December 6, 2011. The results are below:

<u>Officers</u>	<u>Office</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>	<u>Advisory Board</u>
Dave Burns	President	2012	Mary Beth Eberwein
Phil Cox	VP of Development	2014	Dan Griggs
Hansford Mann	VP of Programs	2013	Ted Harris
Bill Mitchell	Secretary	2014	Steve Herbert
George Bakken	Treasurer	2012	Marty Jones
			Carissa Lovett
			Mike Maloney
			Raoul Moore
			Marshall Parks
			Patrick Ralston
			Peter Scott
			Gerald "Bud" Sharp
<u>Directors</u>			
Marion Jackson	Director	2013	
Gerald McGlone	Director	2013	
Karen Moffett	Director	2013	
John Whitaker	Director	2014	

Check out our website at ouabachelandconservancy.org
or visit us on Facebook!

ABOUT OUABACHE LAND CONSERVANCY

The Ouabache (pronounced Wabash) Land Conservancy was founded in 2007 as a land trust. There are currently over 1,700 land trusts in the United States, 26 of which are in the state of Indiana. The function of most land trusts is to protect natural lands and farmlands from development. Some land trusts also focus on historic sites.

OLC serves west central Indiana, including Clay, Fountain, Montgomery, Owen, Parke, Putnam, Sullivan, Vermillion, and Vigo Counties.

WANT TO BECOME A MEMBER?

We need your help to preserve our natural lands!

Anyone can become a member and supporter of OLC and we welcome all! We invite anyone who has an interest in preserving natural and agricultural lands for future generations to attend our meetings .

OLC's board meetings are open to its general membership and to the public. They are held at 6:30 pm on the first Tuesday of each month at 4900 Mill Dam Road across from Mill Dam Park in North Terre Haute. Come join us!

Ouabache Land Conservancy especially needs people whose love for nature would motivate them to serve on our board or on a committee. We can use individuals with naturalist knowledge, real estate skills, website or newsletter experience, connections to other organizations for outreach events, and many other areas, including enthusiasm to help where needed most.

Current Members!
It's that time of year: fill out the renewal form on the back page!



2011 OLC Programs and Activities

- Inaugural Annual OLC Meeting at Gerhardt's Bierstube
- Healthy Rivers Initiative (Terre Haute & Clinton)
- Spring Wildflower walk at Jackson-Schnyder Nature Preserve (JSNP)
- Invasive Species Eradication and Cleanup Days at JSNP
- Controlled Prairie Burn at JSNP
- Fall Foliage Hike at JSNP
- Downtown Terre Haute Farmer's Market
- 4-H Wonder of Wetlands Day at Duke Energy Cayuga Station
- Newport Chemical Depot Prairie Tour



- Prairie Restoration in Indiana Program at Dobbs Park
- Ernie Pyle Elementary School Prairie Program
- Indiana State University Bat Festival
- Osher Lifelong Learning Institute Prairie Program
- Wabash Valley Master Gardeners Prairie Program
- Town & Countrie Garden Club Prairie Program
- Friends of Turkey Run & Shades State Parks Prairie Program

Ouabache Land Conservancy
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JOIN OR RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP FOR 2012

Yes! I want to become a member of Ouabache Land Conservancy to help with its important conservation work!

I am enclosing a tax-deductible contribution in the amount of:

\$25 \$50 \$100 \$250 \$500 \$1,000 \$2,500 \$5,000 Other amount: _____

New Member Membership Renewal

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Home phone (_____) _____ Work phone (_____) _____

Cell phone (_____) _____ E-mail _____

Would you prefer to receive newsletters & written communications via email _____ or hard copy via US Postal Service _____

Please make checks payable to "Ouabache Land Conservancy".

Mail to: Ouabache Land Conservancy
c/o George Bakken
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