



For Immediate Release

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Tree Lafayette Holds Presentation on Mobile Tree and Shrub Identification Program at Annual Meeting

Tree Lafayette supporters will gather for its annual meeting to hear a presentation entitled “Scan, Link, Learn: Purdue Arboretum Mobile Learning Platform,” on Wednesday, Nov. 14 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at SGT. Preston’s of the North Bar and Restaurant, 6 North 2nd St. in Lafayette. The annual meeting will be held in the Purdue Room at the restaurant.

The presentation will be given by Paul Siciliano and Kirby Kalbaugh, who will be instructing the crowd on a “Quick Response Code” using mobile apps to identify trees and shrubs, with specifics about the Purdue University campus. The program will be of interest to anyone who enjoys learning more about the species and types of plant life that inhabit our local area. The cost is \$13 per person, and pay at the door. Contact Rob Pahl, Tree Lafayette vice president for reservations and more information at pahlrc@gmail.com, or call 765-491-5499.

In addition to the presentation, the annual meeting is a chance for the Tree Lafayette Board of Directors and the committees of the organization, to report what they have done during the year. Each of the committees, including governance, finance, membership and grant, tree, education, and marketing, will give a brief review of their accomplishments in 2012.

Several individuals and groups will be recognized for their contributions both in time and money to Tree Lafayette. Corporate recognition will be given to Evonik Industries Tippecanoe manufacturing site, formally Eli Lilly and Company, for 20 times of giving to Tree Lafayette. Other corporate donors will be recognized as well. A tree preservation award will go to the principal of Tecumseh Junior High School, Brett Gruetzmacher, and the principal of Jefferson High School, Jeff Studebaker, for their efforts to water the trees that were planted on the school grounds during Arbor Day 2012. A preservation award will also be given to Lynn Layden, president of the West Lafayette Tree Fund, for her dedication to watering five days a week during the summer in difficult drought conditions.

Tree Lafayette's Volunteer of the Year will also be recognized during the annual meeting.

Three board members will be retiring. They are Tree Lafayette President, Larry Rose, Arlan Stavnheim, and Rob Galbraith.

"Of all the boards on which I have served, Tree Lafayette board members have the passion to serve beyond expectations," says retiring Tree Lafayette President Larry Rose. "It has been an honor to work with them all and extremely easy to lead when they all have the same goals. I remain totally committed to the mission of Tree Lafayette."

Four board members will be up for election, and three of them are new to the board. Brief biographies of the board members that will be elected during the annual meeting are below.

Gregory Shaner

Greg Shaner will be serving his second term on the board of Tree Lafayette. He is chairman of the all-important Tree Committee, and also serves on the Education and Development Committees. Greg is a Professor Emeritus from Purdue University. He taught and did research at the university from 1968 through 2008. His research areas include control of diseases of wheat, corn, soybean, and oat. Greg has also been heavily involved with extension programming, such as presenting educational programs for farmers and agricultural professionals throughout Indiana.

Greg has a BS and a Ph.D. from Oregon State University. He has been a dedicated board member of Tree Lafayette, working diligently to organize tree plantings, including ordering trees and materials, monitoring the trees, and leading teams of volunteers who prune and water.

Gregory Goga

Gregory Goga, a new Tree Lafayette board member, is a senior environmental professional with Alcoa, Inc. in Lafayette. His position includes managing environmental activities at the Lafayette facility, and communicating with local, state, and federal agencies. Previous to Alcoa, he was a production supervisor at Goodrich Corporation, Plating Facilities in Cleveland, where he managed employees to create a positive team

environment. He has also been an environmental Health and Safety Specialist, working on governmental compliance issues.

Greg has a law degree from the Cleveland Marshall College of Law, and a master's degree in Environmental Studies from Cleveland State University. He enjoys spending time with his wife, Megan, and their two children, Mallory and Wade.

Susan Colby

Susan Colby has been a member of the Tree Lafayette pruning and watering team. She will be joining our Board of Directors for the 2013 term.

Mrs. Colby received a BA from Emporia State University, the teachers' college in Kansas. She was a Field Adviser for the Girl Scout Council in Trenton, New Jersey. Under the direction of psychologist, B.F. Skinner, she helped write a kindergarten through eighth grade mathematics textbook series.

Susan has served on several non-profit boards and has been a volunteer in many organizations and schools. She enjoys being outdoors and learned about the management of wood lots in Maine so she could maintain the health of her family forest in Maine.

Since moving to Lafayette, her focus has shifted to urban forestry with her involvement in Tree Lafayette. As a member of the board, she would like to educate Lafayette citizens about the health and environmental benefits of trees in our community.

Ben Basaran

Ben Basaran is new to the Tree Lafayette Board of Directors. He graduated from Purdue University in May 2012 with a Bachelor of Science degree in landscape architecture. Ben worked with the Purdue University Office of the University Architect in an internship capacity. During that time, he had the opportunity to design many landscapes on the Purdue University campus.

As a board member, Ben would like to increase student awareness of Tree Lafayette in order to increase volunteerism. He is currently employed at Target. In his free time, he enjoys hiking and playing the guitar.

