



“Joy in looking and comprehending is nature’s most beautiful gift.” – Albert Einstein

Letter From the Chair

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Friends of the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County's Board of Directors, I am pleased to present our annual report for 2016.

I have served on the Friends' Board since it was founded in 2010, and 2016 was a particularly exciting year, one that focused on growth as well as new ideas, gift opportunities, priority projects and leadership.

I am proud to see how our grants contribute to the Forest Preserve District's mission and goals and leave positive, lasting effects on its operations and programs. I also am pleased that we continue to grow key and meaningful partnerships with DuPage residents, volunteers, business leaders, and foundations who support the work we do for the benefit of people and wildlife alike. Our successes and contributions are a direct result of the support you give this foundation and its mission, and we remain committed to using your dollars as you thoughtfully intended.

Thank you for continuing along this path with us, extending your trust and resources to meaningfully contribute to your community and the environment. We are just beginning and there is much work yet to be done. I hope you will accompany us on our long-term journey to accomplish amazing things for DuPage County's forest preserves. For now, please enjoy this look back at a truly successful year.

Thanking you for your support and contributions,

Carl Schultz
Chair

Looking Ahead

Please continue to stay in touch with the Friends. We hope to see you at upcoming events and programs.

Like us on [facebook.com/dupageforestfriends](https://www.facebook.com/dupageforestfriends)

Find Friends of the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County on [LinkedIn.com](https://www.linkedin.com/company/friends-of-the-forest-preserve-district-of-dupage-county)

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“Little pockets of warmth and sun trickle through the leaves, tickling my skin with happiness.” – Robin Pickens



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FRIENDS OF THE FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF DUPAGE COUNTY 2016 ANNUAL REPORT



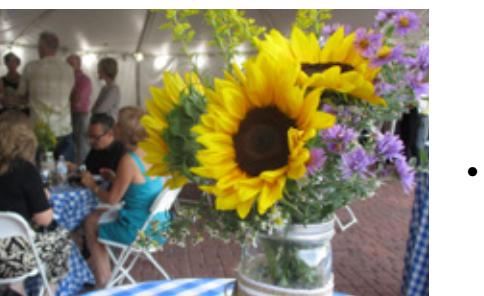
The Friends of the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County exists to advance the vision of the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County through philanthropic endeavors.

2016 Accomplishments

- Served hot chocolate to more than 400 guests at Wonders of Winter at Mayslake Peabody Estate in February
- Repaid the remainder of a \$47,382 interest-free loan from the Forest Preserve District, which helped launch the Friends foundation



- Received a \$500 Next Generation Initiative group grant and \$300 in individual gifts from the DuPage Foundation, whose members also helped collect 27 bags of refuse at "Helping Hands at Herrick Lake" in April
- Received an appreciation award from the Forest Preserve District at the agency's volunteer banquet in April
- Hosted more than 120 donors at the hospitality receptions at Family Field Day at St. James Farm and Danada Fall Festival at Danada Equestrian Center
- Approved the use of contributions from the Rotary Club of Elmhurst,



"Dreams come true. Without that possibility, nature would not incite us to have them." — John Updike

the Sierra Club River Prairie Group and individual donors to purchase a programming trailer for Forest Preserve District rangers to use as a mobile learning lab at special events, programs, camps, and traveling programs at schools and libraries

- Supported Willowbrook Wildlife Center fans and avid bicyclists on a one-day 100-mile "Ride for Wildlife" fundraiser along the DuPage Forest Preserves Century Trail in support of the center
- Transferred more than \$29,000 to Mayslake Peabody Estate to benefit the rear courtyard restoration project

- Accepted \$6,000 from the Mary J. Demmon Private Foundation to cover medical expenses for the horses at the Danada Equestrian Center
- Received a grant from the CNH Industrial Foundation (part of the Case IH brand) to help fund an addition at the indoor riding arena at St. James Farm as well as safety-code, energy-efficiency and public-access improvements to the building

- Accepted \$5,206 in stock certificates — the foundation's first donation of its kind — to fund the restoration of photos and library shelving at Mayslake Peabody Estate with remaining, unused dollars to support additional work at the estate
- Received nearly \$4,000 from the Wheaton Whole Foods Market's Community Support Day



Ambassadors Circle

In 2016, 153 donors contributed \$100

or more, making each of them a part of the Friends' Ambassadors Circle. It was the first year more than 100 people participated at this level.

The Friends offered a variety of experiences to Ambassadors Circle donors during the year, including those listed below. Each was a way to thank them for their support, enrich their memories in the forest preserves, increase their involvement in Forest Preserve District activities and encourage them to visit new preserves.

- "Cabin Fever" activities at Herrick Lake Forest Preserve, including cooking a three-course meal with cast-iron cookware over a fire
- Kayaking trips leaving from Fullersburg Woods and Blackwell forest preserves



- Hayride tours, garden walks, a cookout and a chance to watch riding lessons during an evening at Danada Equestrian Center

- Evening cooking programs at Kline Creek Farm, the Forest Preserve District's 1890s living-history farm
- Introduction to geocaching program and participated in a geocaching trip at St. James Farm
- The first "Hoofprints Through History" walking tour at St. James Farm



"Live fully and honestly. Feel the whispers of the trees, the warmth of the sun, and nature's beautiful song." — Robin Pickens

Finances

Jan. 1 – Dec. 31, 2016

Since its inception in 2010,

the 501(c)(3) Friends of the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County has accepted tax-deductible gifts for priority projects, favorite forest preserves, natural-resource initiatives and other projects in need of financial support.

In 2016 the Friends raised \$98,260.61 in cash and \$3,913 in in-kind donations and closed the year with a balance of

\$230,225.96. The foundation received a total of 489 gifts, an increase of more than 150 percent over 2015. It also received more online gifts than any other

year, including \$1,105 from 12 employer-funded matching-gift programs. \$38,497.92 in expenditures supported projects as designated by donors.

PROGRESS	2015	2016
Donations Received	\$71,670.00	\$98,260.61
Total Gifts	194	489
Ambassadors Circle Donors	81	153
Expenditures	\$54,394.58	\$38,497.92

Honor Roll of Donors

The Ambassadors Circle

Visionary — \$3,500 and Up

Donald and Chris Shore
Sierra Club River Prairie Group
Anonymous (three)
Cabela's
ComEd
Whole Foods Market – Wheaton, Illinois
Joanne Goszczycki
Charles and Elizabeth Hadala
Michael and Ann Marie Halter *in honor of Ron Skleny*
Mark and Heather Yeager

Friend — \$100 – \$249

Anonymous (five)
Nancy Allured
Jeffrey and Marianne Barg
Fred and Kathleen Bauters
William J. and Patricia Smith II
Lori Bavaro *in memory of Jane Hibbits*

Steward — \$500 – \$1,499

Rosalie Cieply *in honor of Elizabeth R. Zygowicz*
Albert and Alison Claus *in memory of Robert Claus*
Edward and Minnie Ceragioli Fund
Irene McMaster
Donald and Susan Panizzo
John R. Quigley
The Richard Laurence Parish Foundation
Rotary Club of Elmhurst
Bruce and Martha Sanders
Marilyn Schweitzer
John and Marion Tableriou *in memory of Alexis Breeze and Colby Jedidiah*
Ray and Louise Vogt

Guardian — \$250 – \$499

Anonymous
William and Theresa Bacon
Brian and Dana Battle
Tim and Kate Blackwelder
Faith Devine
DuPage Foundation Next Generation Initiative Members
Cynthia Gray
Doug and Carol Hancock
Ross A. Hill
Kathy Isoda
Elaine Jans
John and Denise Jones
Larry Larson
George Luvisi Jr.
Philip C. Martin
Carol O'Neal
Robert R. McCormick Foundation
Michael Schade *in memory of Horace Wayne Langguth*
Follett Corporation
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Tim and Sally Gamble
Hugh Glenn
Joanne Goszczycki
Charles and Elizabeth Hadala
Michael and Ann Marie Halter *in honor of Ron Skleny*
Mark and Heather Yeager
Follett Corporation
James E. Robbs
Geralynne A. Rode
Roetzel & Andress *in memory of Nicholas Scotti*
Carrie Rush
Douglas and Laura Samuels
Miro Saric *in memory of Horace Wayne Langguth*
Marlen Schuett
Carl and Caryn Schultz
Marilyn Sells *in memory of Lillian Grosse*
David A. Shaw and Janice K. Becker
Thomas A. Staray
Gregory and Christina Stinsa
Joseph Susecki
Jude Sullivan and Carroll Stacklin
Cheryl Svee
Douglas Thompson and Jean Follett-Thompson
Judi Tilghman
Peter and Danielle Tomczak
Marcelo and Susan Virgili
Peggy Vos
Norman and Donna Wandke
Marla Westerhold
Richard and Elizabeth Whitney
Dennis and Rosemary Wisnosky
Daniel and Cheryl Zinnen

James E. Robbs
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Norman and Donna Wandke
Marla Westerhold
Richard and Elizabeth Whitney

Dennis and Rosemary Wisnosky
Daniel and Cheryl Zinnen

Gifts-In-Kind Contributors
Cabela's
Classic Cinemas
The Field Museum of Natural History
The Malnati Organization Inc.

Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum
The Boeing Company
BP Foundation
Caterpillar Foundation
Exelon Dollars for Doers

Follett Corporation
Illinois Tool Works Foundation
McMaster Carr
Motorola Solutions Foundation
Robert R. McCormick Foundation

Our sincere thanks to every donor. We are grateful for all contributions and gifts of all sizes that make a difference for our forest preserves. If we have missed your name as part of the Ambassadors' Circle, please let us know.