

Ozark Regional Land Trust
P.O. Box 1512
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Visit our website www.ortl.org and Like ORLT on Facebook!

34th Annual ORLT Member's Meeting and Float Trip! June 9, 2018. All are welcome!

Join ORLT board members, staff, volunteers, and fellow members to hear the latest on our conservation projects on Saturday, June 9, at Orr Street Studios in the North Village Arts District in Columbia, MO. Our guest speaker, Missouri Conservation Commissioner Dave Murphy, will discuss the importance of private land conservation. Lunch is provided. Please **RSVP no later than May 23** to Kathy, at ktlee@ortl.org, or call the ORLT office at 573-817-2020.



In August, 2017, ORLT members paddled on Perche Creek in Boone County, not far from the creek's confluence with the Missouri River. Let's do it again! (Photo: J.P. Scott)

Go with the flow!

After the meeting, join us for a special field trip on a beautiful stretch of the Missouri River! Paddle through history with ORLT friends, on a 4-5 hour guided float tour led by Lewis & Clark historian and naturalist Brett Dufur with Mighty MO tours. **Advance reservations are required.** The cost is \$35.00 per person to be paid at the time of the float. Register no later than May 23rd to Kathy, at ktlee@ortl.org, or call the ORLT office at 573-817-2020. Visit the Mighty MO website at www.mighty-mo.com for more information.

THE OZARK HOLLER

OZARK REGIONAL LAND TRUST NEWSLETTER • SPRING 2018

Legacies combine to open Schulze Nature Preserve

One hundred years ago, innovative farmer Henry Schulze tilled fields just outside Washington, MO. Today, high school students are working that same land, thanks to a donation from Henry's daughters, Betty and Irene. Instead of raising corn, wheat, hay, hogs, and chickens, as the Schulze family did, these students are working the land for the grand opening of the Schulze Nature Preserve, which is scheduled for May 5.

Henry Schulze passed his love of the land on to his

daughters, who are making sure that part of it will be protected forever by ORLT. In turn, a beloved high school science teacher brought his students out to work with ORLT on the project. Over the span of 100 years and four generations, a passion for this beautiful land has brought together a farmer, his daughters, a high school teacher and groups of high school students to create a lasting legacy.

Continued on inside page



**Lindbergh High School
Environmental Club sponsor
Steve Tomey left a legacy
of love for the land at
Schulze Nature Preserve.
Read more inside.**



Above: Students from Steve Tomey's Environmental Science Class at Lindbergh High School worked on the first round of clearing the trail at Schulze in the fall of 2016. They came again in March and October 2017, preparing a trail tread of mulch on the north loop as well as assisting with grading along the south loop trail. (Photo: Alex Hayter)

Banner photo: Fungus grows on a fallen log at Schulze Nature Preserve.



The Schulze sisters, Irene (seated) and Betty, with husband Carl, have donated a part of their family farm for the Schulze Nature Preserve.

Join us on May 5, 11:00–1:00, for the Schulze Nature Preserve Grand Opening in Washington, MO. More details at ortl.org.

Your donations to ORLT support lasting conservation legacies like the Schulze Nature Preserve.

ORLT Pursues Land Trust Accreditation

The land trust accreditation program recognizes land conservation organizations that meet national quality standards for protecting important natural places and working lands forever. **Ozark Regional Land Trust is pleased to announce it is applying for accreditation. A public comment period is now open.**

The Land Trust Accreditation Commission, an independent program of the Land Trust Alliance, conducts an extensive review of each applicant's policies and programs. Land trust accreditation is a mark of distinction that will demonstrate ORLT's commitment to the highest standards of organizational management and land conservation. **ORLT will be the first accredited regional land trust in Missouri and the second in Arkansas.**

The Commission invites public input and accepts signed, written comments on pending applications.

Comments must relate to how ORLT complies with national quality standards. These standards address the ethical and technical operation of a land trust.

For the full list of standards see: www.landtrustaccreditation.org/help-and-resources/indicator-practices.

To learn more about the accreditation program and **to submit a comment**, visit:

www.landtrustaccreditation.org

OR email your comment to:

info@landtrustaccreditation.org.

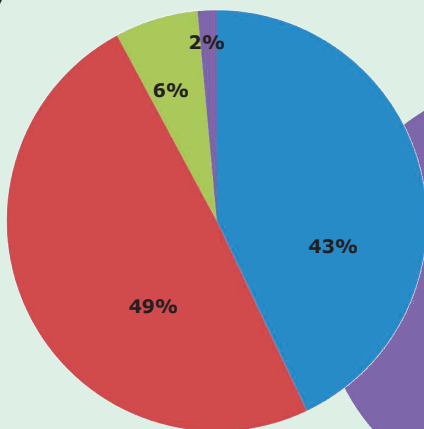
Comments may also be faxed or mailed to the Land Trust Accreditation Commission, Attn: Public Comments: (fax) 518-587-3183; (mail) 36 Phila Street, Suite 2, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866.

Comments on ORLT's application must be received before May 22, 2018.

2017 Financial Report

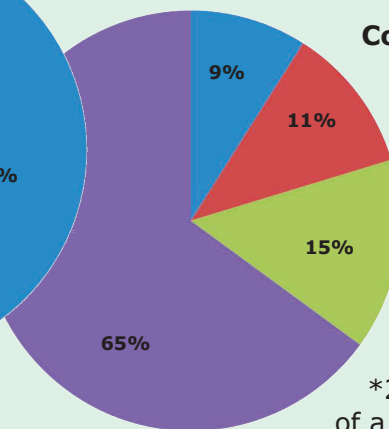
2017 Income: \$406,119

Foundations—49%
Individuals—43%
Government—6%
Earned Income—2%



2017 Expenses: \$475,520*

Conservation Stewardship & Land Management—65%
New Conservation Projects—15%
Public Education—11%
Administration—9%



Note: Financial report unaudited.

*2017 expenses reflect the use of a bequest received in 2016.

Leaving a legacy

Many of our conservation supporters take annual distributions from their retirement accounts (IRA, SEP IRA, or SIMPLE IRA). One IRS provision allows taxpayers ages 70½ years and older to transfer up to \$100,000 a year from an IRA to a charity **without** having to include any of that transfer as part of their income. See [IRS Publication 526](#), which clarifies that if a qualified gift comes directly from a retirement account to Ozark Regional Land Trust, **the gift is categorized as a distribution and is not treated as taxable income.**

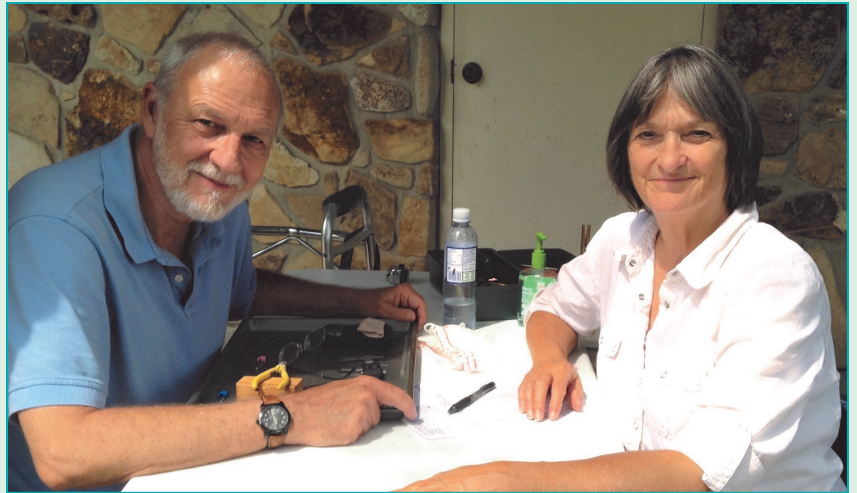
Another attractive option involves making a gift of **long-term appreciated securities**, including stock, bonds and mutual funds directly to ORLT. The full amount of the distribution will be used to support land conservation, and the donor does not pay capital gains tax on the appreciated asset. Investors can support ORLT by gifting appreciated stock; not only is there **no capital gains tax but the appreciated value of the stock can be taken as a deduction.** Practice smart portfolio management and benefit ORLT at the same time! Contact your financial advisor today.

ORLT members map hummingbird migration

Thanks to ORLT members Linda and Lanny Chambers, Missourians will have several opportunities this year to see how hummingbirds are banded. Lanny is a federally-licensed hummingbird researcher and bander who, assisted by Linda, presents public educational banding demonstrations each summer.

The Chambers moved to Missouri from Maryland in 1971. Largely because of the Ozarks, they chose to stay in the St. Louis area after Lanny finished his military service in 1974. Over the years they have enjoyed Ozark country drives, hiking, camping, stream fishing and canoeing, off-roading, and backpacking.

A bird enthusiast since his youth, Lanny became fascinated by hummingbirds while camping and backpacking with Linda in



Lanny and Linda Chambers at the Onondaga Cave State Park Visitors Center. (Photo: Cheryl Turner)

northern Colorado in the 1990s. As a professional website designer at that time, he developed Hummingbirds.net and its popular annual Ruby-throated Hummingbird migration map, which shows northward progress each spring, as first-observed dates are submitted on a website report form by thousands of participants in the eastern U.S. and southern Canada.

Over the years, Linda has assisted in the protection of five forested parks in St. Louis County, and has volunteered on native landscaping and other enhancement projects along the 24-mile Henry Shaw Ozark Corridor of Interstate 44, which extends from Gray Summit to Kirkwood.

"I first learned about ORLT many years ago," Linda said. "I really liked how it helped property owners to protect special natural places in our Ozark environment."



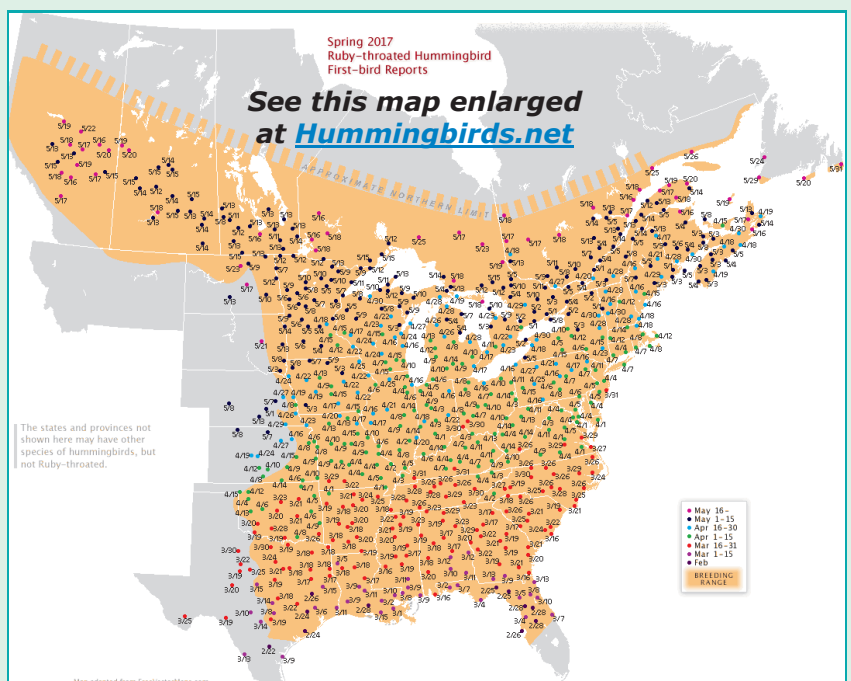
Photo: Kenn & Temple

Above: An adult male ruby-throated hummingbird, banded several years ago in Fenton, MO. This species is the only hummingbird that breeds in the Ozarks.

Right: The hummingbird migration map annually tracks and dates bird movements. You can report your sightings at Hummingbirds.net

Free Hummingbird Banding Programs

Onondaga Cave State Park, Leasburg, MO.
10 a.m.–noon, May 5, July 7, Aug. 4, Sept. 1
Montauk State Park, near Licking, MO.
9 a.m.–noon, May 6, July 8, Aug. 5, Sept. 2
Powder Valley Conservation Nature Center,
Kirkwood, MO. 9-11 a.m. May 12



THE OZARK HOLLER

Published by
**OZARK REGIONAL
LAND TRUST**

MISSION

To help people protect and conserve the natural resources and beauty of the Ozarks and to advocate for land conservation.

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ORLT protects Civil War battlefield

One of the earliest battles of the American Civil War took place on this property in Jasper County, MO. On July 5th, 1861, Union soldiers commanded by Col. Franz Sigel met the Missouri State Militia commanded by Governor Claiborne Jackson. Sigel opened with artillery fire, but then seeing Confederate soldiers (many were actually unarmed recruits) moving into the woods on his left, and fearing they would turn his flank, he pulled back. The Confederates pursued, and the battle continued in several locations over nine miles, but Sigel successfully withdrew to Carthage. Then, under cover of darkness, he retreated to Sarcoxie. Pro-Southern elements in Missouri, anxious for any good news, championed their first victory. In all, 244 soldiers lost their lives that day.



One part of the Battle of Carthage was fought here, at Buck's Branch, about nine miles northwest of Carthage. This historic site is now protected forever by an ORLT conservation easement.

ORLT brings two together after 50 years!

More than five decades ago, ORLT board member Ann Korschgen babysat a toddler in Doniphan, MO. Recently, while writing a thank-you note to an ORLT supporter, Ann thought the name seemed familiar. Even though this ORLT member lives in Kansas City, Ann took a chance and asked if she was the Diane Hall from Doniphan. She was! It was the same little girl she used to babysit. Ann and Diane are now reconnected in sharing a love of the Ozarks!



Left, ORLT member Diane Hall today, and as a child, checking her mail. Center and right: ORLT board member Ann Korschgen today, and during her babysitting years.

Schulze Nature Preserve, continued

A farmer's legacy

Henry Schulze was a pioneer in farming practices and was one of the first farmers to work some of the "new methods" such as contour farming. He had a deep love for the forest and for every tree in it.

His daughter Betty said, "There was always the possibility of selling wood off the land but he hesitated because he loved the trees."

Irene recalled a time somebody came to buy a walnut tree and her father went to the woods to look for

a tree to sell, then came back and said he couldn't do it. Henry Schulze's trees still stand today on the Preserve where they will be protected forever.

A teacher's legacy

Steve Tomey was known for his passion for the environment and for getting students out in nature. Schulze Nature Preserve was a classroom for his students. Since his passing in December 2017, Steve's students are serious about continuing the work their teacher began. "We want to keep his legacy and traditions going, even if he's not here," said student Emily Kessler.

Enjoy the trails

Now that this 22-acre preserve will be open to the public, everyone can enjoy the 1.2-mile trail system, consisting of two connected loops, which pass trees, forest, and historical remnants of the property's days as a farm.

Each loop is progressively longer and requires more agility. The North Loop is short and covered in a mulch tread, while the South Loop has the greatest changes in elevation and requires some scrambles.



Cold weather doesn't deter these workers! Volunteers Miles Woodbury (holding ice), Alberta McGilligan and Gary Schneider, and staff member Abigail Lambert tour the south loop trail.



Steve Tomey helped his students learn about the same trees that Henry Schulze cared for so deeply. His students say his influence is motivating them to keep his love of the land alive. (Photos this page: Alex Hayter)

For driving directions and other information about Schulze Nature Preserve and the Grand Opening, visit orlt.org or call us at 573-817-2020.



ORLT Stewardship Specialist Nic Rogers, ORLT Board member David Taylor, and volunteer Gary Schneider level and install water bars on a sloping section of the trail.



Native Plants Bring Nature Home!

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