



Tree Research Findings
and TREE Fund News

Breaking Away to the Gateway

by Laura Wyatt, TREE Fund Liaison

Thanks to all who have supported "Team Wisconsin" Tour des Trees riders Dick Rideout and Doug Drysdale by donating \$8001. Dick and Doug have secured the necessary minimum to be granted the privilege to pedal the 500+ miles from Indianapolis to St. Louis during the steamiest time of the year. As of 6/21/08 they are \$7999 short of their goal of \$15,000. Join with other WAA members and pledge your support by visiting <http://www.active.com/donate/2008tourdestrees>. Every donation, from \$1 to \$500 and more, is important!

On a competitive note, I am sad to report that Team Wisconsin has been displaced from the top team fundraising spot by the "Tree Climbin' California Team." If Wisconsin's dairy cows can outproduce California's cows in cheese production, WAA members can surely recapture the team fundraising title from the California dreamers. Donate today and help Team Wisconsin break away!

Raise Your Hand for Research Gala Auction is another way for you to support the TREE Fund. On Monday evening, July 28th, the live auction will be held at the Renaissance St. Louis Hotel ballroom. Some of the amazing auction items donated by ISA chapters include: **Florida** – fishing charter for four, plus \$1,000 travel voucher; **Indiana** – four tickets to U.S. Senior Open 2009 at Crooked Stick Golf Club; **New York** – two nights at Sheraton on the Falls, helicopter ride, boat ride, car rental and meals; **Midwestern** – five-day getaway for several families in a luxurious country home in the Ozarks, complete with a built-in pool, Jacuzzi, 7 BR's, five baths, 5,000 sq. feet, AND a \$1,000 travel voucher; **Pacific Northwest** – four-night getaway to Alaska with deluxe accommodations and train tickets into Denali.

Our Wisconsin chapter has donated two packages featuring Wisconsin venues. The **Badger Triple Play** package features two tickets to the game of your choice for each of the three premier Wisconsin Badgers

sport teams for the 2008-2009 regular season, including football, men's basketball and men's hockey. Three individual nights of hotel accommodations, \$100 in food certificates and a Badger gift basket is included. The **Birdie Your Way Through Wisconsin Golf** features a round of golf for four at three of southern Wisconsin's top-rated golf courses, including University Ridge (Madison), The Bog (Saukville) and Trappers Turn (Wisconsin Dells).

And of course, don't forget, the **Bottle of Bourbon** which has been auctioned off each year since 2001, will go on the block one last time. The winning bidder will join top bidders from previous years for a ceremonial tasting and toasting on stage.

You don't need to be at the conference in St. Louis to participate in the auction. Arrangements have been made for an online auction site to operate July 7-25 for preview and bidding on both live auction and silent auction packages. Visit www.TREEFund.org for additional information. Bid early and often!