

A Couple Hundred Limbs Supporting A Couple Million Leaves...

by Laura Wyatt, TREE Fund Liaison

Tour des Trees

Thanks to the generosity of arborists, corporate sponsors and many others, more than 50 cyclists have raised over \$287,000 so far in the 2008 TREE Fund Tour des Trees. As of August 15th, Team Wisconsin, supported by riders Dick Rideout and Doug Drysdale, has raised more than \$10,946 toward its goal of \$15,000! Riders joined with local and state organizations and more than 200 children, to plant ten trees in five public awareness events throughout the tour. In addition to TV, radio and newspaper coverage before and during the tour, more than 900 media outlets clicked on our national press release that was sent just after the tour ended in St. Louis, spreading the TREE Fund's message that research and education are critical to improving the health of trees in our communities.

Donations are still being accepted in support of Team Wisconsin, Dick and Doug, at <http://www.active.com/donate/2008tourdestrees>.

Auction Donations

Fabulous live auction and silent auction items, donated by ISA chapters, companies and individuals, brought in more than \$70,000 in the Raise Your Hand for Research gala auction. WAA's two auction packages, Badger Triple Play and Birdie Your Way Through Wisconsin Golf, raised \$2,100! A special thanks to Jim Skiera (ISA Executive Director) for his high bid for the

Badger package and John Lloyd (Tech Tree Experts Inc., Blackburn, VA) for out-bidding everyone for the Wisconsin golf package!

WAA thanks the many donors who contributed items to make the Wisconsin packages possible, including:

Badger Triple Play:

Marriott Madison West, Courtyard Marriott West-Middleton, Sheraton Madison Hotel, The Dardanelles Mediterranean Restaurant—a member of Madison Originals, an organization featuring independently owned restaurants, University Bookstore, and anonymous Badger ticket donor

Wisconsin Golf:

University Ridge Golf Course, Wisconsin Energy Foundation, and Trappers Turn Golf Club

Volunteer of the Year

Chapter involvement and volunteerism from a growing network of friends made all the difference! In fact, a person who exemplifies those qualities, Jim Barborinas (Urban Forestry Service, Mount Vernon, WA), was the 2008 recipient of the Ken Ottman Volunteer of the Year award. The TREE Fund staff and board truly appreciate all who helped to make these events so successful and we encourage everyone to check out the October *Arborist News* for a detailed list of sponsors and Chapter Challenge rankings.



Team Wisconsin: Dick Rideout (left) and Doug Drysdale (right).