



TREE Fund Report

by Laura Wyatt, TREE Fund Liaison

When I was recruited to serve as the WAA TREE Fund Liaison back in 2008, Gary Majeskie stressed one thing: the most important goal was to ensure that WAA continued to reach the platinum level, or premium level of support for the TREE Fund. The WAA's record over the years has been 100% platinum. **It is only through your support that we have been able to sustain that record.**

Our 2011 goal is set at \$12,160. This fundraising goal is met in an assortment of ways including individual private donations, the Raise Your Hand auction, and most importantly, through support of Tour des Trees riders. WAA has been fortunate to have Dick Rideout and Doug Drysdale serving as anchors of Team Wisconsin. For years they have not only met the required \$3,500 per rider fundraising goal but also exceeded it, enabling WAA to reach that perennial platinum designation. They succeed through **YOUR** support. If you haven't given already, visit the Tour des Trees website and DONATE.

News Alert – Team Wisconsin has added an additional rider! AJ Wallner, a 2009 graduate of the MSTC urban forestry program, registered for the tour out of a sense of supporting TREE Fund research and scholarship. It is exciting to see a new generation getting involved and making the commitment to support the advancement of our profession.

AJ grew up on a farm in Wisconsin focusing on specialty horticulture crops and has plans to continue his education at UWSP. He has held temporary positions in arboriculture but is currently unemployed. As a first-time Tour des Trees rider, AJ is just developing a fundraising network and would especially appreciate your support as he works at raising \$3,500. Visit <http://stihltourdestrees.org/> to donate to Team Wisconsin and our riders. As a reminder, **when making a gift to the Tour des Trees or TREE Fund, be sure to designate**



your gift to the Bob Skiera Fund.

Raise Your Hand Auction –

With the ISA conference being held in Australia this year, the TREE Fund's Raise Your Hand for Research auction was held in conjunction with the North American Tree Conference in Savannah, Georgia, in February.

WAA joined with the Rocky Mountain and Northwest ISA chapters to sponsor a wine-filled wine rack. A handcrafted wine rack made of American elm and filled with Pacific Northwest wines brought in \$1,000. Our silent auction featured a beautiful handcrafted **wooden bowl donated by Jesse Zieminski** and a Wisconsin wine and cheese package. A huge thanks to **Wollersheim Winery and Melinda Myers for donating wine** for the Wisconsin package.

TREE Fund Research Update – The TREE Fund recently awarded \$2,500 to support a symposium on Urban Tree Growth and Longevity to be held at the Morton Arboretum, September 12-13, 2011. (See article on page 7.)

A research project being conducted by Bryant Scharenbroch of the Morton Arboretum and Kelby Fite and Elden LeBrun of Bartlett Tree Research Lab was featured in the ABC Chicago affiliate broadcast on Earth Day. The project, supported by a 2010 Hyland Johns Grant from the TREE Fund, focuses on the merits of biochar as a soil amendment. View the video and learn more about this project at <http://www.bartlett.com/tree-expert-news-details.cfm?id=72>.

Limited Time Offer!

Support the Future of Arboriculture. Order your special, limited edition **2011 Trees Are Good** t-shirt to commemorate Arbor Day and promote the benefits of trees year-round. \$1 of every t-shirt purchased will be donated to the TREE Fund to help support tree care research and education.

*Bulk orders of 10 or more available for \$8.95 each! **Member Price:** \$10.95