

## 2011 Annual Report

Blue grama grass, Tony Peroutky

July 1, 2010 — June 30, 2011

### Our Mission

- ◊ Preserve native plant and wildlife communities of the Arboretum lands
- ◊ Provide opportunities for education and research
- ◊ Model practices of sustainable land use
- ◊ Make accessible a natural environment that invites spiritual renewal

### Our Vision

Saint John's Arboretum celebrates the unique beauty and richness of God's creation in central Minnesota and fosters the Benedictine tradition of land stewardship, education, and environmental respect.

# Environmental Education and Community Outreach

Saint John's Arboretum is committed to providing environmental education opportunities to its neighbors, students, and the surrounding community.

## CSB/SJU Education

- 5,261 CSB/SJU students participated in Arboretum programs this year. 930 of those came to the Arboretum with the addition of Adventure Programming.
- The addition of Adventure Programming has expanded the Arboretum's ability to connect students with the outdoors. More than 75 students traveled on wilderness trips with the Peer Resource Program, and 1,657 student "customers" rented gear from the Outdoor Leadership Center.
- The Arboretum has been able to increase our outreach to professors, coaches, and other groups on campus. We provided nearly 50 hiking tours and challenge courses to CSB/SJU first-year seminar classes, biology labs, environmental studies classes, sports teams, admissions groups, study abroad groups, and more.
- We celebrate the success of several outdoor events, some new and some old favorites: Winter Carnival, Fruit at the Finish Triathlon, Earth Week, wilderness medicine, and SCUBA certification.



Eleanor Gray



Jenny Kutter

## Community Education

- 5,127 community members participated in Arboretum programs.
- The CSB/SJU Adventure Programming options expanded our outreach in the community. Facilitating the Challenge Course for community groups, hosting the Banff Mountain Film Festival, and the ever-popular Fruit at the Finish Triathlon were among the Adventure Programming events attracting approximately 600 community participants to the Arboretum this year.
- The annual Avon Hills conference opened with a world-renowned keynote speaker, National Geographic photographer Jim Brandenberg. The conference was a great success, with over 380 participants and diverse workshops on themes such as land stewardship, water quality, arts, gardening, natural history, and more.
- The Maple Syrup Festivals continue to be one of our most popular community events, with more than 1,400 people attending both Saturdays for tree-tapping, sap-collecting, syrup-cooking, live music, and hot-maple-syrup-sundae fun!



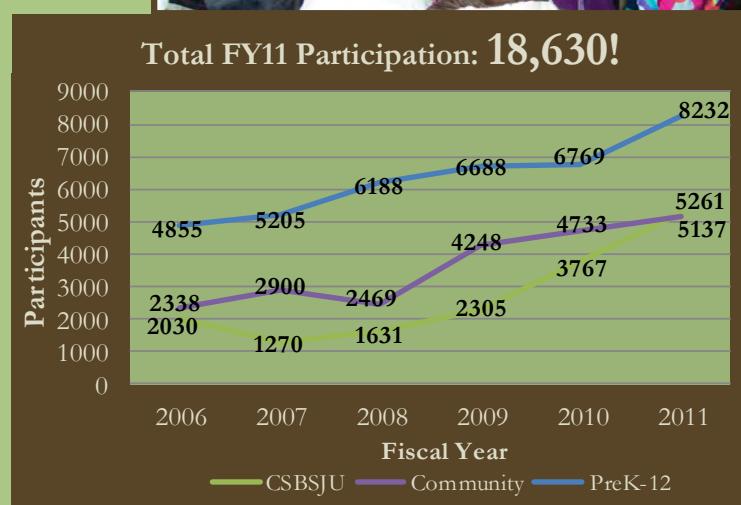
Tony Peroutky



Jenny Kutter

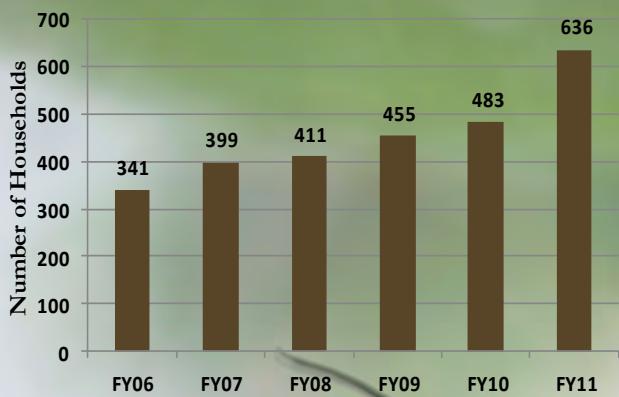
## preK-12 Education

- 8,232 students visited the Arboretum from 15 public schools, 10 private schools, and several homeschool groups.
- 19% of students were in grades 6-8, nearly meeting our long-term goal of 20%, meant to help ensure continuity of environmental education as students grow.
- Digital Photography, Nature Journaling, and the Science of Sledding were among the new curriculum offerings developed and taught this year.
- This winter, Sarah Gainey developed a unit on biomimicry for Saint John's Prep School sixth graders. The students were able to design nature-inspired inventions for the first annual Biomimicry Youth Challenge sponsored by the Biomimicry Institute. One invention received an honorable mention, and one received first prize!



# Arboretum Special Funding

Funding Source	Balance 7-01-10	Additions	Expenses	Balance 6-30-11	Purpose
Individual Memberships/Special Gifts		\$43,159			Arboretum program support
Arboretum Educational Programs & Events	\$34,141	\$29,932	(\$43,132)	\$82,984	Community and CSB/SJU education
preK-12 Programs		\$18,884			preK-12 education
Adventure Programming	\$29,368	\$31,346	(\$30,768)	\$29,946	PRP, OLC, Collegebound, Challenge Course, CSB/SJU student programs
Income drawn from Endowments	\$0	\$7,410	(\$7,410)	0\$	Arboretum program support
<b>Summary: Arboretum General Funding</b>	<b>\$63,509</b>	<b>\$130,731</b>	<b>(\$81,310)</b>	<b>\$112,930</b>	
Environmental Education Endowment in memory of Father Paul Schwietz	\$43,108	\$16,395	(\$0)	\$59,503	K-12, Community and CSB/SJU environmental education
L&M Schwietz Abbey Endowment	\$152,156	\$31,178	(\$7,310)	\$176,024	Abbey-related land stewardship activities and environmental education
Land Legacy Fund	\$2,188	\$1,685	(\$100)	\$3,773	Arboretum land preservation
Buy a seat on the bus	\$7,559	\$1,972	(\$0)	\$9,531	Bussing for preK-12 students
Central MN Community Foundation	\$2,665	\$587	(\$0)	\$3,252	Environmental education
<b>Summary: Endowments/Dedicated Funds</b>	<b>\$207,676</b>	<b>\$51,817</b>	<b>(\$7,410)</b>	<b>\$252,083</b>	
MacLeod Foundation	\$3,500	\$0	(\$0)	\$3,500	CSB/SJU education
Morgan Family Foundation	\$27,275	\$0	(\$27,275)	\$0	Environmental Education Fellowship, preK-12 bussing
Gordon & Margaret Bailey Foundation	\$0	\$2,000	(\$2,000)	\$0	preK-12 bussing
Environmental Learning in Minnesota	\$486	\$2,000	(\$2,486)	\$0	Envr. Issues Investigation curricula for grades 6-8
Xcel Energy Foundation grants	\$5,801	\$0	(\$4,225)	\$1,576	preK-12 education, teacher training, bussing
<b>Summary: Arboretum Grant-Funding</b>	<b>\$37,062</b>	<b>\$4,000</b>	<b>(\$35,986)</b>	<b>\$5,076</b>	
Legislative Citizens Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR)	\$0	\$219,539	(\$219,539)	\$0	\$337,000 eligible for Avon Hills related expenses through 6-30-11
Initiative Foundation/SJU Matching Fund	\$7,804	\$0	(\$0)	\$7,804	Avon Hills Initiative
<b>Summary: Avon Hills Initiative Funds</b>	<b>\$7,804</b>	<b>\$219,539</b>	<b>(\$219,539)</b>	<b>\$7,804</b>	



## Membership News

We would like to extend our sincerest thanks to all of our donors. Your contributions allow us to continue our work and allow for growth of our programs. We could not be as successful without the generous financial and volunteer support we receive each year from our members.

Thank you again to all of our members who generously donate their time and energy to the Saint John's Arboretum. We also thank our special partners: Saint John's Abbey, Saint John's University, and the College of Saint Benedict for all of their work and continued support.



Monarch caterpillar, Tony Peroutky

# Abbey Land Stewardship & Conservation

The Arboretum promotes conservation and stewardship through education and modeling sustainable practices. Some of our annual efforts include sustainable logging, tree planting, prairie burns, invasive species management, and a controlled deer hunt for population control.

- 9,500 Red oak seedlings were planted, all grown from acorns collected in 2009 at Saint John's by CSB/SJU students and volunteers.
- 85 conifer trees were planted to provide for the future harvest of Christmas trees.
- The timber harvest was limited to salvage from last year's windstorms. This included 417 ft<sup>3</sup> of better quality logs and 2560 ft<sup>3</sup> of lower quality logs.
- Students, staff, and volunteers burned 14 acres of prairie.
- 20 deer were harvested in the 2010 controlled deer hunt, but deer damage is still significant. As such deer fencing projects began in the spring of 2011.
- The maple syrup operation bottled 126 gallons of maple syrup this spring.
- The Abbey purchased 72 acres of adjacent land which is about ½ wooded and ½ wetland. It will be used for purposes similar to the other lands which constitute the Arboretum.
- The CapX2020 project planning and authorization process ended in June 2011. The route will avoid the entire Avon Hills area which includes Saint John's, mostly due to the very difficult nature of traversing the city of Avon along I-94.
- A Frisbee Golf Course was approved by the Abbey and installed just southeast of East Gemini Lake.

Tony Peroutky



Monarch butterfly, Tony Peroutky



## Arboretum Advisory Council

Terri Barreiro, Chair  
John Benschoter  
Mike Connolly  
Scott Daninger  
Kari Dresow  
Emily Franklin  
John Geissler  
Lew Grobe, OSB  
Tom Haeg  
Troy Knight  
Glenn Miller  
Fr. Greg Miller, OSB  
Janette Monear  
Bob Russell  
Stephen Saupe  
Tom Wicks

## Student Council Members

*Students serving on the advisory council come from the CSB and SJU senates and rotate on an annual basis.*

## Arboretum Staff

Thomas Kroll  
*Director/Land Manager*  
Sarah Gainey  
*Assistant Director*  
*Environmental Education Coordinator*  
John O'Reilly  
*Assistant Director*  
*Environmental Education Coordinator*  
Jenny Kutter  
*Department Coordinator*  
Dan Vogel  
*Forest Technician*

## Student Staff

*1 Office Assistant, 1 Land Laborer,  
7 Naturalists, 16 Naturalist Aides,  
14 Outdoor Leadership Center Staff,  
30 Peer Resource Program Facilitators*

## Goals for FY2012 and beyond

- Maintain a focus on high quality programming, even as our participation numbers continue to grow.
- Continue work to stabilize funding for the Environmental Education Fellowship.
- Further develop a means to more comprehensively assess student environmental literacy—for preK-12, CSB/SJU, and the community.
- Continue testing and working toward long-term solutions to manage the deer population for more successful oak regeneration.
- Identify sponsorship and other funding opportunities to sustain larger events, update and repair outdoor and educational equipment, and maintain trails and habitat.

Collegeville, MN 56321-2000  
(320) 363-3163

E-mail: [arboretum@csbsju.edu](mailto:arboretum@csbsju.edu)  
<http://www.csbsju.edu/arboretum>

## Saint John's Arboretum would like to acknowledge the cumulative giving of the following people from 1997-2011

### \$100,000+

Lawrence E. Schwietz  
Legislative-Citizen Commission on MN Resources

### \$50,000-\$99,999

Gordon J. and JoAnne Bailey

Jerry and Ruth Peltier

### \$10,000-\$49,999

Bailey Nurseries, Inc

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Brian P. and Joy L. Crevoiserat

Paul David Hanson and Stephen C. Riendl

Huls Nursery

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L&M Construction Chemicals, Inc.

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Stephen Riendl and Paul Hanson

Gregory and Mary Lynn Schwietz

Michael and Patricia Sipe

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Wells Fargo Foundation

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### \$5,000-\$9,999

Margaret Bailey +

John and Bonita Benschoter

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Gannett Foundation

Laurence D. Huls

J. Scott and Mary Kay May

MN Assoc. for Environmental Education

MN Department of Natural Resources

Open Door Foundation

Jon Petters and Colleen Hollinger

Chris L. and Cathy Schellinger

Dr. J. Weston and Marilyn Smith

The Gordon & Margaret Bailey Foundation

Thomsen's Greenhouse and Garden Center

### \$1,000-\$4,999

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Richard McGuire

Merrill Lynch & Co. Foundation Inc.

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Minnesota Society of Arboriculture

Dr. Paul T. and Nancy Moran

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Kingsley and Katherine Murphy

North American Prairies

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Gregory and Laura Peichel

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State of Minnesota

Mark and Joan Strobel

SuperValu/Albertson's Foundation

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Frank R. and Kathleen Ziegler

### \$500-\$999

AT&T Foundation

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Cheryl A. and Hugh Knox

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Tim Kroll

Ryan P. and Jennifer Kutter

Wayne and Sharon Kutter

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Glen Shirley

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St. Cloud Lions Club

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James W. Sullivan

The Liturgical Press

Kristine Todd

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Dr. Gene and Joanne Wilhelm

Sheryl Yassin

## Saint John's Arboretum Members July 1, 2010—June 30, 2011

### Benedictine Legacy Society (Planned Gifts)

Bernard Kathmann  
Joseph W. and Elaine Fraune  
Jerry and Ruth Peltier

### Current Members

Anonymous (3)  
AT&T Foundation  
Richard and Mary Adamson  
John and Catherine Agee  
Anjanette and Dan Allard  
Joseph J. Allen  
Rita B. Allen  
Sarah Anderson  
Kaitlin Andreasen  
Carly Andresen  
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Prentiss and Joyce Foster  
Mike and Terri Franklin

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## Saint John's Arboretum Members July 1, 2010—June 30, 2011

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Thomas W. and Deanne Leither  
Todd D. Lemke  
Gerald and Mary Lou Lenz  
Ryan C. Lesch  
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Jason M. Ley  
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Mark Reum and Jackie Leedahl  
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Mary A. and Ronald Ritter  
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