

Ed Hauser, A remembrance and Thanks

A Wetlands Ecologist with a Ph.d from Kent State University, Ed Hauser was a college professor and later an environmental consultant. He was an NSF Fellow at the University of Georgia, a Graduate Council Fellow at Michigan State University, and a Research Associate at The Ohio State University. He had over 40 years of experience as an environmental consultant for over 200 projects for the EPA and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. In 2011, Ed was selected as one of 75 outstanding graduates of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at Kent State University. Ed was an Honorary Life Trustee of the Nature Conservancy of Ohio and elected as a Life Fellow in the Ohio Academy of Sciences.

He was the past chair of The Nature Conservancy of Ohio. In 1976 he coordinated the Natural Heritage Program as a bicentennial gift to the nation – a model that is now used in all 50 states. He was a member of the National Climate Data Project and provided expert witness testimony on Capitol Hill for Congress on behalf of the National Audubon Society. He was the ecological consultant for the Audubon International Signature Sanctuary Program adopted by Sand Ridge Golf Club in Ohio, considered to be the model for green and sustainable golf courses in the nation.

Ed was an invaluable member of the EMAS Board of Directors and in many ways was the “conscience” of the Board, always pushing us to do the right thing. Ed served as Wetlands Coordinator for 22 years for the Beaver Lake Bird Sanctuary and designed the Sanctuary’s ecofilter wetland, which helps protect the water quality in Beaver Lake. He never really retired, devoting his time and boundless energy to a wide range of environmental issues. In addition to his service to EMAS, he was a long-time board member of the Botanical Gardens of Asheville and worked for over 20 years with the Asheville Area Habitat for Humanity.

At his memorial service, his daughter lovingly described her father as stubborn. I had to laugh, as all his friends on the EMAS Board of Directors would agree. But Ed was stubborn in the best connotation of this word. He was stubborn in his commitment to preserve nature and creation. We will remember Ed for his service, his dedication and his passionate concern for the earth!

Tom Tribble
President, EMAS Board of Directors