

## LETTER FROM LESLIE KING, NOMINATING BRO. DON GEIGER

On behalf of the Rivers Institute at the University of Dayton, I would like to nominate Bro. Don Geiger for the 2011 Partner of the Year Award in the category of Lifetime Achievement. This year is particularly special because it marks the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Prairie at Mount St. John, which represents Bro. Geiger's 25 years of commitment and service to conservation, education and community action. Through the development of a shared vision, Bro. Geiger was able to bring a community of people together to restore and preserve land through an educational process.

Over time, that community at Mount St. John grew to become the Marianist Environmental Education Center (MEEC), which Bro. Geiger founded through persistent effort and dedication to community conservation and education. Similarly, Bro. Geiger is one of the co-founders of the Rivers Institute which was also created through the development of a widely shared community vision. Bro. Geiger continues to play an important role with the Rivers Institute, as a member of the Steering Committee and generally as an amazing role model and leader to the River Stewards.

As well as Bro. Geiger's work and contributions to the formation and operations of MEEC and the Rivers Institute, I am also nominating him for his overall achievements in partnering with local grassroots organizations focused on the protection, preservation and conservation of our environment and natural resources. Even while a full-time faculty member, Bro. Geiger was a major resource and volunteered the majority of his free time to local groups who needed his expertise, passion and energy. Now retired, Bro. Geiger has not slowed down one bit and is actively involved in numerous conservation and education projects around the region. One amazing example of a successful organization that partnered with Bro. Geiger is the Beaver Creek Wetlands Project and there are many more alike.

I am confident the Steering Committee for the 2011 Partner of the Year Award process is even more knowledgeable of Bro. Geiger's achievements than me. However, on a personal note, I will add Bro. Geiger has been an amazing influence for me in the short two and a half years I have known him and his passion, energy and actions to protect the environment for generations to come never ceases to amaze me!