

Jeff Bower's Memorial was finished in 2006 to honor the life of one of our volunteers. Jeff Bowers was a T&D's volunteer who was suddenly diagnosed with leukemia in May 2003. He died in July 2004. Jeff was a very kind, sincere, dedicated nature/animal lover and a T&D's volunteer. His memory will live with us and with others who visit T&D's through the wetland memorial we have dedicated in his name. We are lucky, as Jeff pointed out one day, to have a natural vernal pool on our property.

In order to preserve this natural area and the plants within it, it was fenced off from our white-tailed deer. In June, the dock was completed for visitors to get closer to this area. There are benches to enjoy the area a little longer and informational posters that explain the importance of wetlands and the species that use these areas.



A tribute to Jeff from our family reads: Over the years, T&D's has had only a handful of volunteers, one of which was Jeff Bowers. We met Jeff and Debi, Jeff's wife, through our veterinarians, Julie Irwin and Steve Pokorny, in November 2002. Jeff was immediately interested in helping, and wanted to volunteer. Jeff helped complete the spider monkey area, and the black bear pen. He also showed great interest in a wetland area preserved on T&D's property. Jeff was a resourceful and dependable worker. He arrived for work with a smile on his face and, despite working with Terry, left with one. Jeff was anxious to learn new things and had much to offer us as well. He was soft spoken and hard working.

A memory which we will all carry with us came about one snowy day in the winter of 2003. We have cared for animals since 1985. In those 19 years, we have come to know many people who want to help. On this snowy day, it was not one of these people we have known for years, it was not one of our neighbors, it was Jeff, who drove through the snow covered roads and pulled into our driveway. He stepped out of his truck with his typical warm smile ready to help us shovel snow off of pens. At that time, we had known him for just 2 months. That was Jeff. We will all miss him very much.