

Elkhart Historical Society
For Immediate Release
April 14, 2023



The Elkhart Historical Society is excited to welcome Guy Sternberg to the podium for the **Friday May 19, 2023, 5:30 p.m.** dinner lecture at Horsefeathers Wild Hare Café. This lecture is for everyone who spends time outdoors appreciating all the elements that come together to create the world we live in. The devastation caused by the emerald ash borer (EAB) in most ash trees is the subject of the talk. According to the U of I, after being infested with the borer, less than 1 tree in 1,000 will survive. The impact to both urban and forested areas is staggering from loss of property value to the cost of dead tree removal. Over 35 states are reeling from the damage, which in this country had no natural enemies or biological controls to counter the infestations.

In 2021 a team of determined fighters, led in part by Guy Sternberg, took on the challenge to end the reign of the deadly EAB. Come and hear his story, which is the subject of the dinner lecture, “The Borer Wars.” He will answer the question, “Is there an American ash species that might survive the Emerald Ash Borer without perpetual help?” Come and learn about the discovery of a tree here in Elkhart and central Illinois that shows promise, as well as new techniques in the on-going fight. A silent auction will be held during the lecture to allow two of these trees to find new homes among our attendees. Opening bid will be \$25 for each of the 2 year old Elkhart blue ash trees, so be prepared to make your bid, and take home one of the trees on May 19th.

Sternberg lectures frequently for various colleges, trade, and professional organizations. He teaches master naturalist classes and is very active in the preservation of historic trees. He was the author and photographer of *Landscaping with Native Trees* in 1995, and prepared a 550-page sequel to that volume titled *Native Trees for North American Landscapes*, released in 2004. His newest book, *Native Trees of North America*, was published in 2021.

Reservations for this dinner lecture are required, and should be made by calling 217-947-2238 no later than May 12. Once confirmed a reservation form must be submitted with payment to The Elkhart Historical Society PO Box 255 Elkhart IL 62634. The cost of \$45 covers the meal and lecture. The entrees are Roast Pork or Chicken Cordon Bleu, for full menu details and the reservation form to download, please go to www.elkharthistoricalsociety.org website.