

A C R E S

QUARTERLY

SPRING • 1974

Volume XIII No. 2



LIDA

ACRES AREAS NOW NUMBER TEN !

Pick a Spring date and join an ACRES field trip and/or work day! Our areas are each one unique and enjoyable. Visit them, know them and love them. Write us or tell us if you would like to look after a special one. As our areas grow in numbers, we are more and more in need of your help in stewarding them.

ACRES field trips are naturalist guided expeditions. We go rain or shine! Note that our meeting places are planned so that we can double up with driving. Come prepared to fill your car with passengers OR be somebody's rider.

Naturalists-in-charge are John W. Klotz, Robert C. Weber, and Frank Kirschner.

spring

APRIL 20 - Saturday

Planting time on the MENGERTON RESERVE south boundary. We will plant a wildlife screen planting of Autumn Olive, European Black Alder and White Pine.

TIME: 9:30 AM

PLACE: Entry to the Mengerton Nature Reserve, 5859 Stellhorn Road, Fort Wayne.

BRING: Bucket, Spade. Lunch and drink.

In the afternoon, we will assist Concordia High School students at the Hanna's Ford Nature Study Area, east of their school.

TIME: 1:00 PM

PLACE: East side of Concordia Lutheran High School parking lot, North Anthony and St. Joe River Drive, Ft. Wayne.

APRIL 27 - Saturday

Visit to two north-central Allen County woodlands. Wildflower displays should be splendid! First, the woods of Mr. and Mrs. Menno J. Steiner off Tonkel Rd; then a hike in ACRES new FOXFIRE WOODS off Hull Road. We will lunch at the Poe pavilion by the lake. After lunch we will plant Sweet Gum trees for Glenn Poe south of the Foxfire Woods among the pine plantings north of the lake.

TIME: 9:00 AM

PLACE: Eastern edge Washington Square, Rogers Market parking lot 6131 N. Clinton, Fort Wayne.

BRING: Lunch and drink. Bucket and spade.

QUARTERLY COVER ARTIST is Lida Luchnenko, Junior at St. Francis College, Fort Wayne. Working on a fine arts degree, Lida hopes to enter the field of secondary education and continue her art interests.

MAY 4 - Saturday

Field Trip - Work Day at ACRES ALONG THE WABASH. An opportunity to explore this new area of woods, wildflowers and Wabash river banks of bluffs and record size trees. If we are lucky, the shooting stars will be in full display. Our jobs include marking property boundaries and mapping trail and entry.

Those who wish can make a brief visit on the return home, accompanied by Bob Weber, at the Deam Arboretum in Bluffton where we will be hosted by owners, Mr. and Mrs. Clinton Baumgartner.

TIME: 9:30 AM

PLACE: Liberty Mills Marathon station, 8713 US Hwy. 24, W, just west of the I69 and US24 interchange.

BRING: Lunch and drink. Work tools provided.

MAY 18 - Saturday

SPURGEON RESERVE, fence maintenance. LONIDAW, paint wood trim on trail-side building. A chance for a hiking-working visit to these two fine ACRES areas.

TIME: 9:00 AM

PLACE: White Swan Plaza parking lot, 9100 Lima Rd. (Rte. 3).

BRING: Lunch and Drink. Hammers, pliers, paint brush.

JUNE 9 - Sunday

The ROPCHAN MEMORIAL NATURE RESERVE in western Steuben County, a gift of Sam and Adeline Ropchan. This fascinating area of tamarack, carpets of living sphagnum, highbush blueberry, yellow birch, white pine and fern varieties beckons us to explore. Our naturalists are certain this habitat supports orchid species - hopefully showing themselves at this date. No trails are established at the Reserve yet so this is an exploring field trip and apt to be rugged.

TIME: 1:15 PM

PLACE: White Swan Plaza parking lot, 9100 Lima Rd., (Rte. 3).

BRING: Boots, mosquito dope, fern and fungus field guides.

JUNE 15 - Saturday

A visit to Thornehill, Huntington College nature study area, near Huntington where Prof. Fred Morgan will guide us and share details of the nesting studies underway there. We will lunch at HANGING ROCK near Lagro. This is an area administered by ACRES and we will do a clean-up after lunch. Then we will go to Laketon Bog. This is a natural area owned by Mr. and Mrs. Lee Brubaker. We are certain at this date to see the white Lady Slipper Orchid, prize of this area.

TIME: 9:00 AM

PLACE: Liberty Mills Marathon station, 8713 US Hwy 24, W., just west of I69 and US24 interchange.

BRING: Lunch and drink.

ACRES NEWEST AREA ... FOXFIRE WOODS

Early in 1974, ACRES accepted the first outright land gift within Allen County in its 14-year history of natural area preservation.

FOXFIRE WOODS Natural Area is 7.8 acres of woodland located east of Hull Rd. and north of the Hollopeter Rd. in north-central Allen County and is the gift of Mr. and Mrs. Glenn W. Poe, Crawford Road, Fort Wayne.

Glenn Poe was an original founding member of ACRES, Inc. when the organization formed in 1960 to save representative samples of natural areas in northeastern Indiana. He served continuously on ACRES Board of Directors until 1972.

Poe served in several capacities with the U.S. Department of Agriculture for 35 years, the last 23 of them with the Soil Conservation Service until his retirement in 1967. He was active in implementing the Allen County Soil and Water Conservation District in the late 1940's. A native of Hardin County, Ohio, Poe is a 1930 agriculture graduate of Ohio State University, while Mrs. Poe holds a master's degree in education and Latin from Columbia University.

FOXFIRE WOODS will be maintained in its natural state in perpetuity by ACRES, and will be used for study and environmental education purposes. It was part of an 80-acre tract still owned by the Poes which has been used for a number of years by Fort Wayne City school children in cooperation with the Poes and the Cedar Creek Women's Club.



Spring! Membership Renewal Time



REGULAR \$2.00

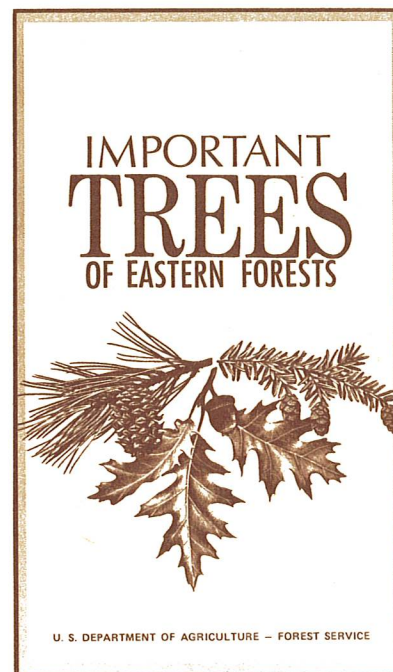
SUSTAINING \$10

PATRON \$50

----- STUDENT: \$.50 -----

If you find a membership return envelope enclosed in your QUARTERLY, your ACRES dues are due.

Make sure we have your correct address and zip.

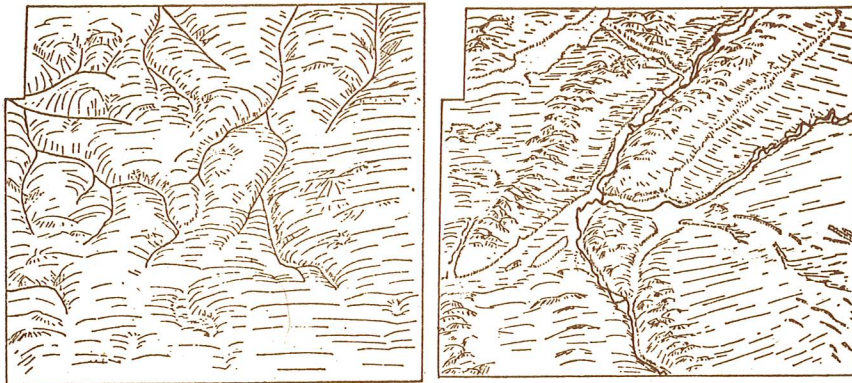


Tree pocket guide is available on request from:

Information & Education, USDA
U.S. Forest Service
6816 Market St.
Upper Darby, Penna. 19082

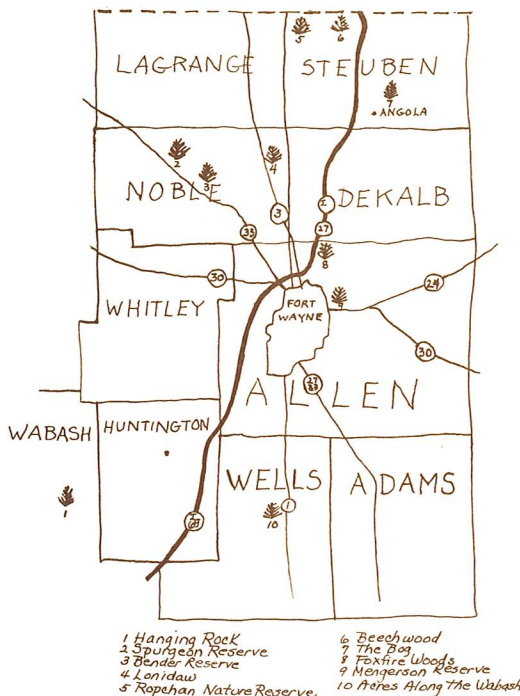
Illustrated in color showing leaf, bark, fruit and wood characteristics.

SPRING MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME
EVERY MEMBER ADD A MEMBER !



THE CHANGING LANDSCAPE—The preglacial landscape in Allen County looked something like the drawing at left, with deep valleys flowing northward and northwestward through the bedrock upland. The modern landscape (right) is dominated by the lake plain to the east and morainal uplands to the west. The uplands are cut through by several important valleys that were routes of glacial and glacial lake drainage. Drawings courtesy Indiana Geological Survey.

Hidden Landscapes County Terrain Covers 2 Or More 'Lost Worlds'



Just Published!
ACRES NEW BROCHURE

ACRES areas now number ten! The new brochure tells about ACRES program and purposes and encourages memberships with a tear-out return application. The brochure provides a short commentary about each of the ten areas as well as a location map for each. An (*) on each map indicates the nearest public picnic or camp spot since the ACRES areas do not provide for these uses. Other use rules are included under the heading "Everything In These Reserves Is Protected" with instructions about gun, ax, trap, fire, litter and collecting.

Send for more brochures -
interest a friend in ACRES!

By NED BLEUER

Who would ever know, looking at today's landscape in Allen County, that beneath our feet lie several buried past landscapes?

There is, of course, no way anyone would know, except after the study of geologic data. Such a study has been done as a part of the Indiana Geological Survey's environmental geology program in Allen County.

The real point of the mapping, of course, isn't nearly so academic; rather, it's meant to delineate subsurface strata that are important concerns in water supply, waste disposal, mineral resources and construction. But the fact is that Indiana Geological Survey geologists have been able to map in fairly great detail two buried land surfaces beneath the present Allen County land surface.

The most deeply buried of the former land surfaces, and naturally the oldest, is the surface of the bedrock, a land surface that existed before the Ice Age, and before the valleys were filled by glacial debris.

The lowest surface is relatively near the present land surface in a few places, and in most of these areas man has already recognized its significance. Stone quarries are operating in those areas.

The landscaping prior to glaciation was grossly unlike that which we see at the surface today. Today's drainage is a product of the glacially-produced moraines and major drainageways and contains a continental divide, but the ancient land surface, dating back perhaps several million

years, reveals valleys more than a hundred feet deep that drain predominately northward in Allen County, but that eventually turn westward and southwestward to join the giant preglacial Teays River system that flowed east to west across central Indiana.

But yet another former land surface lies buried under the present Allen County land surface. This is a landscape that was developed on glacial materials representing an early glacial advance. But the landscape was buried by materials deposited by the last ice mass to cover the county.

Geologists can map this surface with the use of well logs, boring samples and some surface exposures because the older glacial till is sandy and hard, in contrast to the softer, more clayey upper till.

A till is an unsorted mixture of sand, silt and clay that was deposited by its melting directly from the mass of glacial ice, in contrast to sand, silt or clay which have been sorted by moving water.

Commonly, separating the two tills that represent different glacial episodes is a water-bearing sand or gravel bed that has quite some economic

significance. Surprisingly, this buried intraglacial land surface is much like the present surface in overall form, ris-

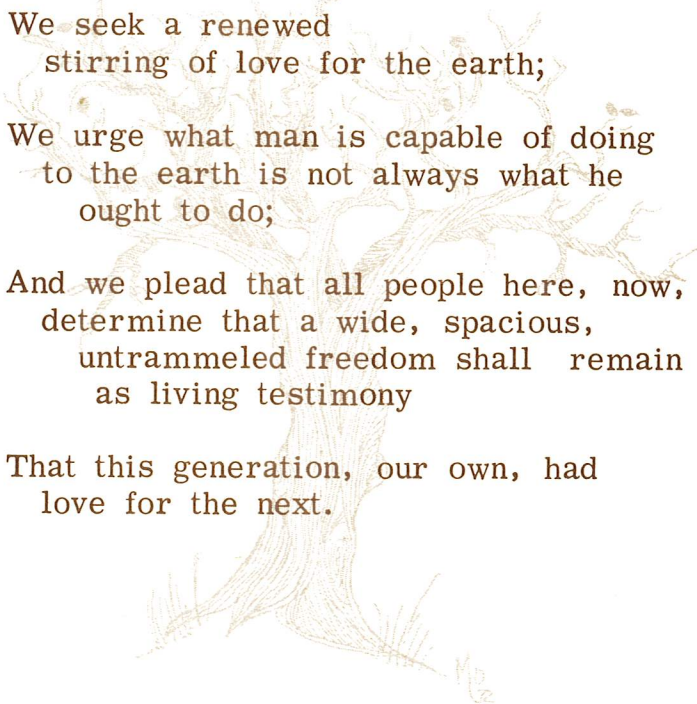
ing westward into distinct ridges.

The present land surface is characterized by the low, flat lake plain in eastern Allen County and a land surface which rises westward into the Fort Wayne and Wabash Moraines.

The eastern plain was the bed of an ancient and huge lake that melted out of the glacier and the ridges or moraines, one of which passes through Fort Wayne, divide the flow of waters: the Maumee flows eastward and the Wabash once a part of navigation to the Gulf of Mexico flows west.

These moraines represent accumulations of debris deposited at the glacier's snout during brief stillstands or minor readvances of the ice. Or at least, that's what geologists have classically thought. But as geologists throughout the Midwest probe the subsurface in more and more detail, they are finding more and more examples like that in Allen County, where the surface moraine ridges are actually cored by moraine ridges of an older glacial landscape. Neither glacial landscape, however, resembled in any way the landscape that existed before the Ice Age.

So we truly say that beneath our feet lie the remains of lost worlds. Not quite lost in the sense used by science fiction writers, but lost through combinations of geologic processes that go on today, and that have gone on through the immensity of geologic time.



We seek a renewed
stirring of love for the earth;

We urge what man is capable of doing
to the earth is not always what he
ought to do;

And we plead that all people here, now,
determine that a wide, spacious,
untrammelled freedom shall remain
as living testimony

That this generation, our own, had
love for the next.

ACRES, Inc.
1802 Chapman Road
Huntertown, Indiana 46748

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The **QUARTERLY** is published by ACRES, Inc. four times each year at 1802 Chapman Road, Huntertown, Indiana 46748, for the interest of its members, friends and others similarly dedicated to the preservation of natural areas in north-eastern Indiana. ACRES, Inc. is a non-profit corporation, incorporated under the laws of the state of Indiana. Contributions are deductible for tax purposes. Jane Dustin, Quarterly editor.

MEMBERSHIP: Student, \$.50; Regular, \$2.00; Sustaining, \$10.00; Patron, \$50.00 payable annually to ACRES, Inc., 1802 Chapman Road, Huntertown, Indiana 46748.