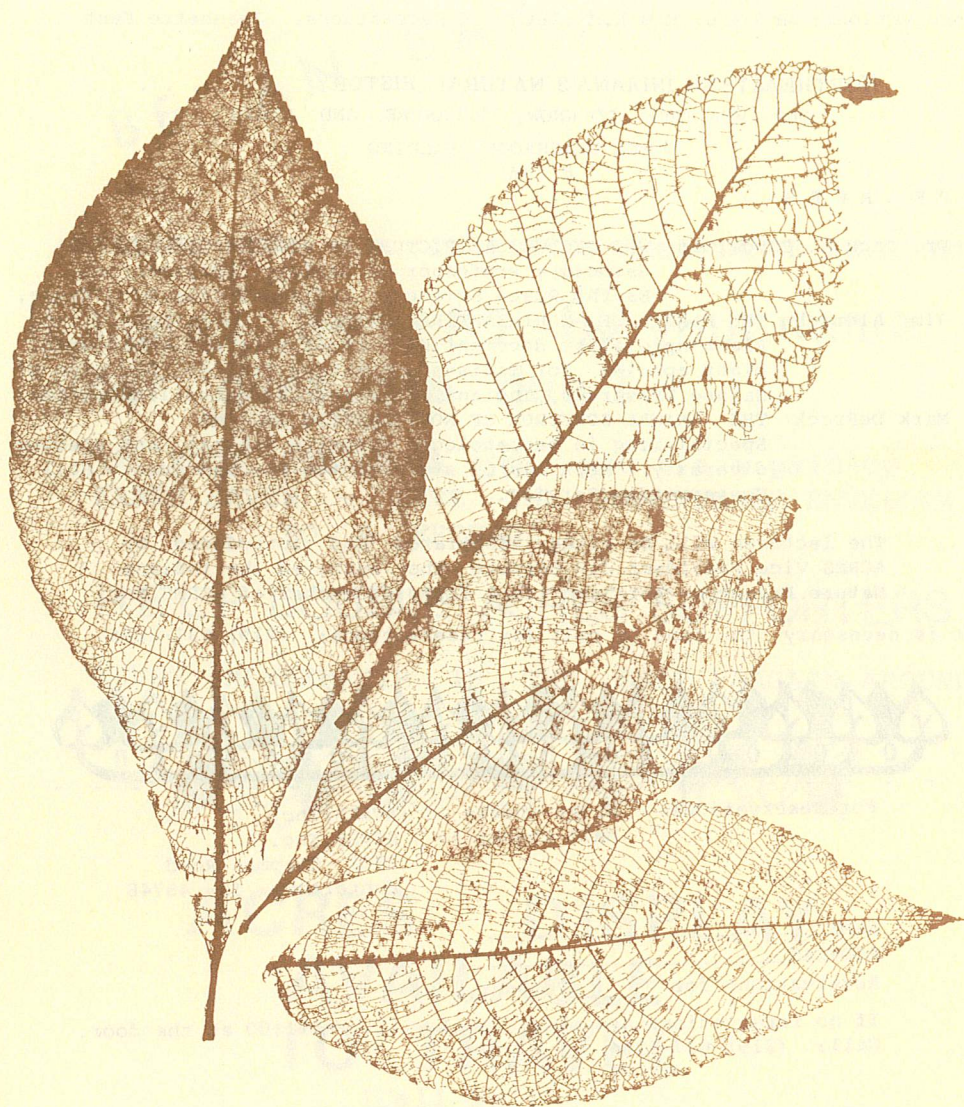




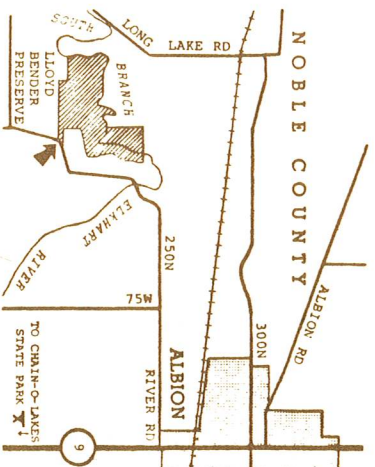
QUARTERLY

FALL • 1985
Vol. XXIV No. 3

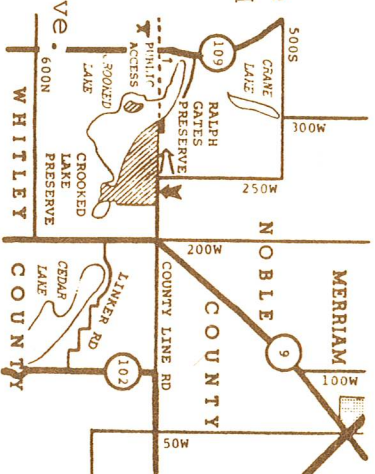


ACRES FALL FIELD TRIPS

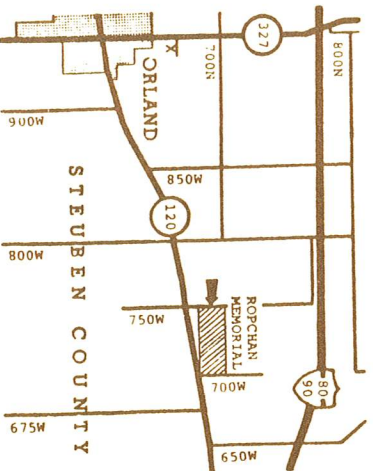
SEPTEMBER 22



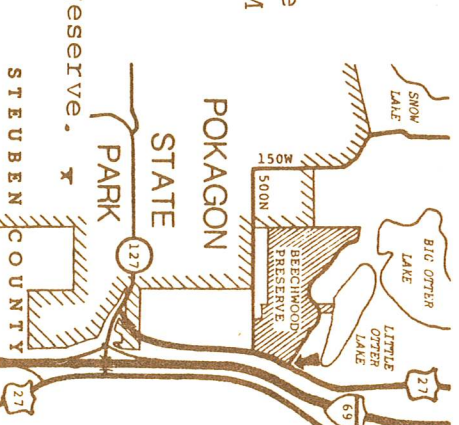
Meet Ed Eberhardt at Gold Dome Summit Bank, Coliseum Blvd. 1 PM OR Lloyd W. Bender Memorial Forest approx. 1:45 PM. NATURALIST - Ed Eberhardt
Ft. Wayne 424-2462
Also visit Gates Nature Preserve.



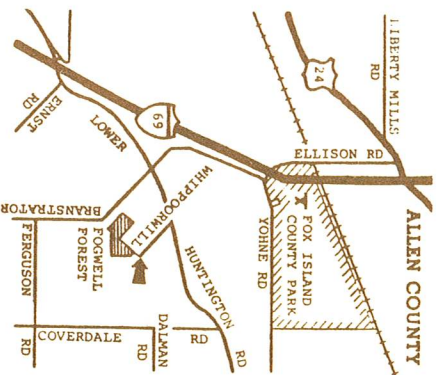
SEPTEMBER 29



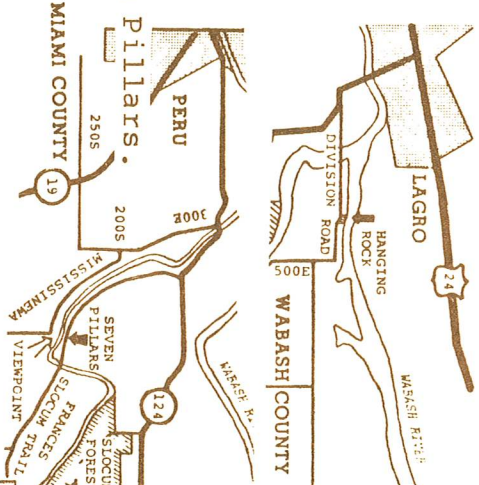
Meet Ted Heemstra at Gold Dome Summit Bank, Coliseum Blvd. 1 PM OR Ropchan Memorial approx. 1:45 PM. NATURALIST - Mark DeBrock
Angola 833-4280
Also visit Beechwood Nature Preserve.



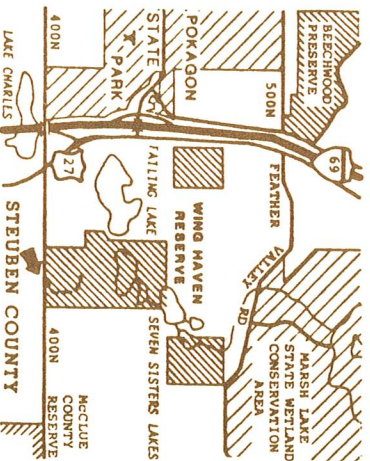
OCTOBER 13



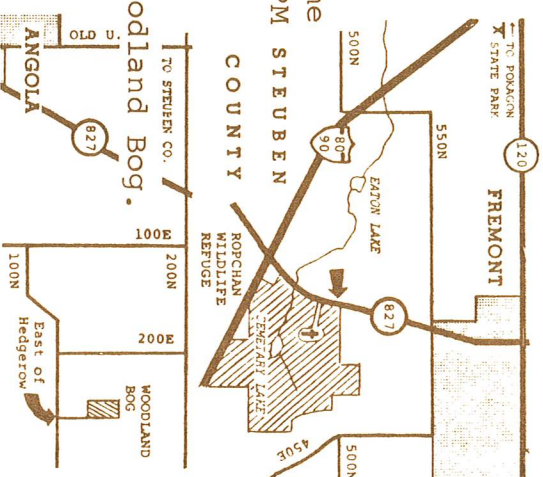
Meet Bob Weber at Fogwell Forest, Whippoorwill Dr. at 1 PM NATURALIST - Bob Weber
Ft Wayne 747-6030
Also visit Hanging Rock & Seven Pillars.



OCTOBER 20

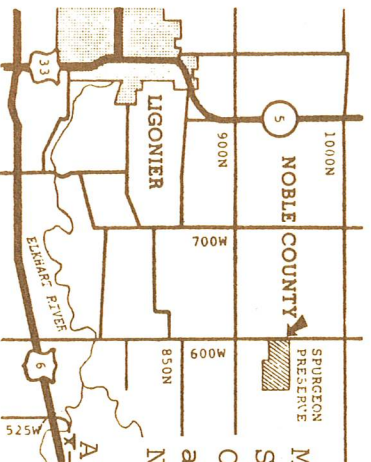


Meet Dave Zumbaugh at Gold Dome Summit Bank, Coliseum Blvd. 1 PM STEUBEN OR at Wing Haven at 1:45PM. NATURALIST - David Zumbaugh
Ft. Wayne 422-3300
Also visit Ropchan Refuge & Woodland Bog.



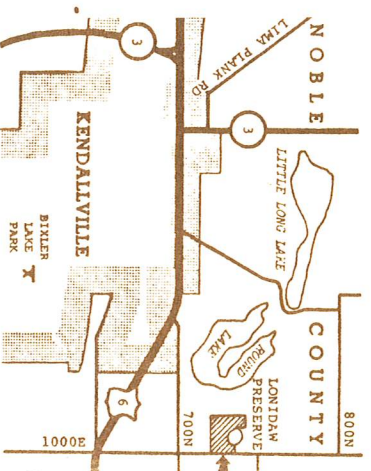
ACRES FALL FIELD TRIPS

OCTOBER 27

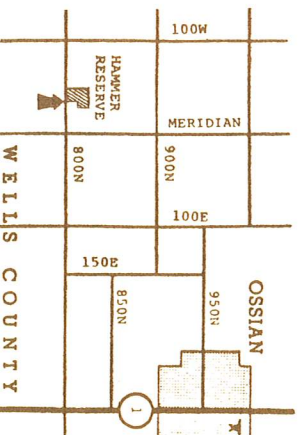


Meet Judy Esterline at Gold Dome Summit Bank, Coliseum Blvd. 1 PM
OR at Spurgeon Woodland Reserve approx. 1:45 PM.

NATURALIST - Judy Esterline
Ft. Wayne 432-8455
Also visit Lonidaw Nature Preserve.

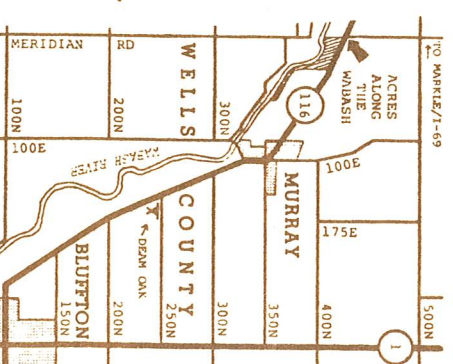


NOVEMBER 10

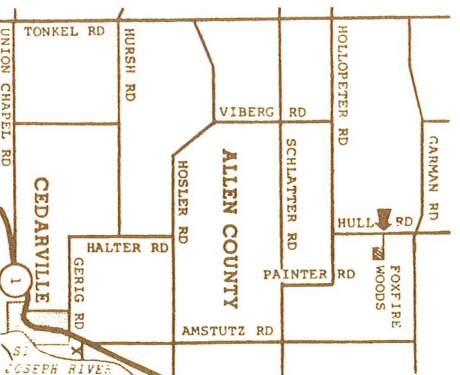


Meet Judy Esterline at Rogers - Waynedale (west side of parking lot) 1 PM OR Anna Brand Hammer Reserve approx. 1:45 PM.

NATURALIST - Larry Bieberich
Decatur 547-4265
Also visit Acres Along The Wabash.

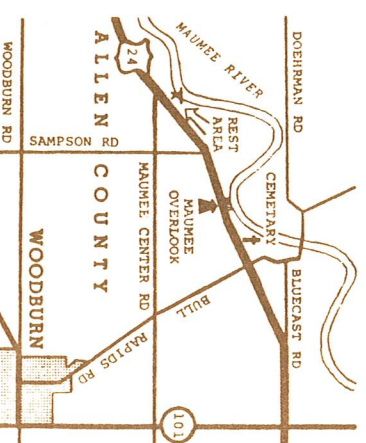
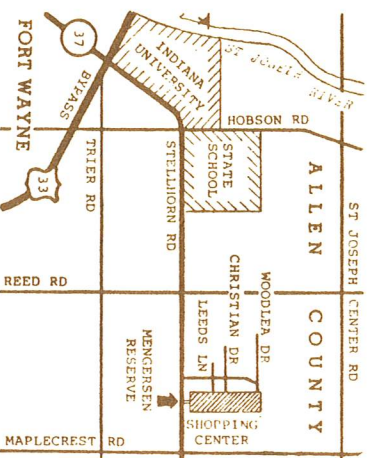


NOVEMBER 17



Meet Ted Heemstra at Gold Dome Summit Bank, Coliseum Blvd. 1PM
OR at Foxfire Woods approx. 1:30
NATURALIST - Ted Heemstra
Ft. Wayne 484-4385

Also visit Maumee River Overlook and Mengersen Nature Preserve.



NOTE: Come Prepared - We are planning to accomplish one maintenance chore at each area we visit, even if it is just a clean-up.
Any jobs needing tools or supplies, we'll provide.
Wear sturdy outdoor clothes and boots. Bring rain gear. We go rain or shine.

twenty-fifth year
Annual Dinner Meeting
NOV. 8, 1985

6:30 p.m. CONCORDIA SEMINARY DINING HALL \$10.00 a plate

Reservations: Mr & Mrs. Kim N. Miller Decorations: Jeannette Kent

NORTHEASTERN INDIANA'S NATURAL HISTORY

OUR HERITAGE TO KNOW, TREASURE AND SHARE

NORTH CLASSROOM BUILDING
8 PM

S P E A K E R S

Dr. Jack A. Sunderman THE GEOLOGICAL PICTURE OF NORTHEASTERN INDIANA
Associate Professor of Geology, Department of
Earth & Space Sciences, Indiana-Purdue, Fort Wayne.

Jim Aldrich THE PLANTS OF NORTHEASTERN INDIANA
Plant specialist documenting unusual, rare and endangered
plant species for Indiana's Heritage Program, Division of
Nature Preserves, Indiana Department of Natural Resources.

Mark DeBrock THE ANIMAL SPECTRUM OF NORTHEASTERN INDIANA
Specializing in herpetology, herptile habitat and species
diversity, Mark is on staff of the Steuben County Soil
Conservation Service.

The lectures will be slide illustrated and introduced by
ACRES Vice President Jim Barrett who authored the Indiana
Nature Preserves Act and is a founding member of ACRES, Inc.

It is necessary to send or call for reservations: (219) 637-6264



For reservations: Write checks to ACRES, Inc.
Mail checks to ACRES, Inc.
1802 Chapman Road
Huntertown, IN 46748

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

Reservations for _____ Persons.

If no reservations are made, meal will be \$11.00 at the door.
Call: (219) 637-6264

ACRES AT TWENTY - FIVE

This is a membership issue!

JOIN

BE AN EARTH SAVER

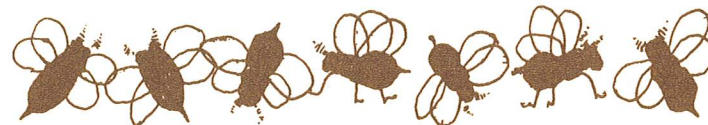
PLEASE USE THE ENCLOSED REMITTANCE ENVELOPE

if there's 84 or 85 by your name,
your dues are due!

IF YOUR LABEL SAYS 86, you are a paid-up
EARTH SAVER - GIVE THE REMITTANCE ENVELOPE
TO A FRIEND!

HELP DOUBLE ACRES SUPPORTERS

ACRES MEMBERSHIP IS THE BEST BARGAIN AROUND



**ACRES DISPLAY
AVAILABLE
TO TRAVEL**

(Call us!)

COVER ART: "Leaf-lace" by Nature.

EDITORIAL

Way back when ACRES began before Quarterly publication, before membership grew or the Annual Dinner became the major year-end event. . . . a picnic was planned. It was at the Fort Wayne Shoaff Park River Lodge on September 30, 1960 and Richard H. Pough was invited to come and "kick-off" ACRES program.

A great "birder", Pough was author of Audubon's Water Bird Guide, Land Bird Guide and the Western Bird Guide. With a background at Harvard and MIT in Engineering; tenure at the American Museum of Natural History and founding efforts with The Nature Conservancy, Pough in 1960 had launched his landmark work with the Natural Areas Council on the eastern seaboard.

Dick Pough's philosophy Don't try to save the world. Don't sit and wring your hands - you'll come up without a single conservation accomplishment. Get people to concentrate on one given area of concern: a forest, a marsh, a species of wildlife. Instead of saying all is lost and just standing around, ask "Well, who owns it?" Let's get a gift or let's go buy it! Let's save it AND he showed people, including ACRES, how to do it.

At twenty-five years, ACRES honors Richard H. Pough who inspired a significant chain of events for ACRES - a process which is ongoing and strong and as vitally important today as it was 25 years ago.

Because this is our 25th year and we gratefully recognize Richard H. Pough as our spur and stirrup to natural area preservation successes - and because Dick Pough wrote to me a few years ago and specifically asked about the Mengerson Nature Reserve, ACRES urban nature preserve within the Fort Wayne urban area he asked, could we successfully manage such areas and did I think urban nature preserves were important?

Here is my answer -
It was about 4:30 PM in January 1983 and I found myself with some free time and out near the Mengerson Nature Reserve at Stellohorn and Maplecrest roads. Just enough daylight to hike the trail and check on the area.

The events of the week had my thoughts and spirits at a low - one of those times when you try to hold things out at arm's length to examine them for purpose, reason and importance.

A brisk walk - get the the woods, I thought. As I struck out I grudgingly thought to myself how many of the suburban dwellers that surround this 40 acre area appreciate it, or even know it is here? The kids know, I thought, the trails tell me that. The one that cuts kitty-corner to the shopping mall, the cut-off to the big climbable trees, the one to the shallow woodland pond that had a slick of clear ice where they like to skate. Some animal tracks, squirrels, I thought.

Then I heard it. I thought I had anyway. My steps were crunchy and loud on the frozen leaves. I stopped. Again, I heard it. The Great Horned Owl's song. His call kept coming as I circled the wood's north end. I couldn't linger long, darkness was falling. But he lives there and I heard him call.

I had the answer to my questions of worth, of reason, of importance. As long as there was a Great Horned Owl, it didn't matter if anyone else at all even knew about the woods it belonged to the owl, to the big trees, to space and time. The Mengerson Nature Reserve was there, whole and alive that was truly important!

Jane Dustin

Varied plant life on Loon Lake

By HAROLD ALLISON

LOON LAKE IS A 138-ACRE natural lake located in Steuben County west of Angola, Ind., just off Interstate 69. This is a rather shallow lake with a maximum depth of only 18 feet, but this allows a wide range of plant life to take advantage of the shallow segments of the lake and its surrounding wetlands.

Most of the shoreline of Loon Lake is undeveloped, and, thanks to the prompt action of the Nature Conservancy and the concern of local residents, much of it will always remain undeveloped.

An 80-acre tract near the lake is set aside as the Anspaugh Wildlife Habitat Trust Area and helps protect some of the lakes shoreline, as well as a lowland woods, a wet sedge meadow and a shrub swamp. This parcel is open to the public only on a limited basis.

The Indiana Chapter of the Nature Conservancy, which is dedicated to helping preserve our remaining natural areas and in the midst of an ambitious fund raising campaign that when completed will insure the preservation of much of our natural heritage, was able to acquire most of the southern section of the lake shoreline.

The Conservancy is noted for its ability to act quickly when a natural area is threatened or comes up for sale. This promptness has helped insure a number of outstanding natural areas that otherwise would have been lost forever.

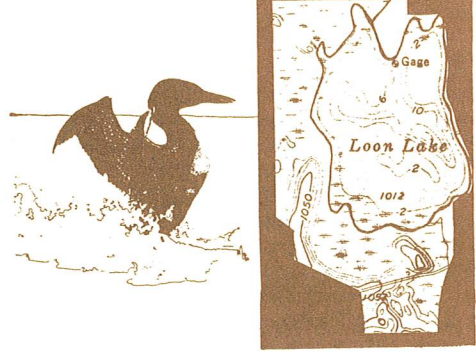
A 170-acre tract at Loon Lake was put up for sale by the Steuben County Sheriff for failure to pay back taxes. With only a few days notice, the Conservancy had to come up with the necessary money to outbid the other interested potential buyers, and then submit their bid for the property. Happily the Conservancy's bid was accepted and an outstanding natural area was acquired.

ABOUT 90 ACRES OF THE tract at Loon Lake is farmland, and as the Nature Conservancy seeks to preserve natural areas and is not in the farming business, this land will be sold to help reclaim some of the purchase price. This allows the land to be returned to productive agricultural purposes. Thus the Nature Conservancy can protect an 80-acre tract of natural wonders, as well as help make sure more of our valuable farmland is not lost to development.

The Loon Lake Natural Area includes many rare and unusual plants including Pitcher Plants, Purple Bladderwort and Sundew, all insectivorous plants that trap and digest insects to help make up for the lack of nutrients in their rather hostile environment.

The bog, wet sedge meadows, and marl prairie, which make up a large segment of the Loon Lake Nature Preserve, also harbors many state endangered or threatened plants. Among the endangered plants are the swaying Rush, Cuckoo Flower and Spike Rush. Plants that are threatened or rare in Indiana include the Purple Bladderwort, Buckbean, Cranberry, Bog Rosemary, Cotton Grass, some other rushes and four orchids, the Twayblade, Rose Pogonia, Grass Pink and Small Woodland. Add to this list Tamarack trees and varied animal life, and you can see why this area is meritorious of preservation.

Plans are for the area to be included in the state system of Nature Preserves, but due to the fragile terrain and many rare plants, visitation will probably be limited and access restricted.

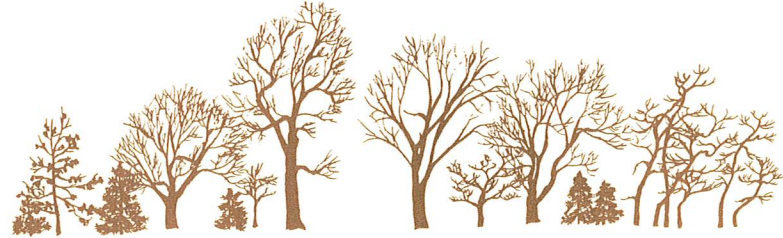


DO YOU LIKE THE IDEA ?

ACRES board of directors for some time has expressed strong interest in the establishment of an arboretum or memorial tree planting area. Like a number of other good things, however, an arboretum is much easier to begin than it is to protect and maintain. It could be costly and demanding of time and care unless we can devise "naturalized" plantings. The board is considering cost figures and programs done elsewhere.

A planting area is envisioned as ultimately a collection of labeled native trees from this region, planted so they may grow to their natural shapes and sizes. Careful mapping and maintenance should keep an arboretum accessible to those who visit it. Memorial plantings could be suitably marked by their donors.

Your interest and thoughts about such a planting area are sincerely wanted. Contact Bob Weber (747-6030) or the ACRES office.





WING HAVEN NOTES

VISITS

..... We're OPEN to welcome your visits
EVERY FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH from
 one-to-five, continuing through November.
 A special OPEN Sunday is added for October 20!

HELPERS

..... Thanks go out to all who made last
 November's Open House possible: Pat Pichon, Bob Weber, Art
 Eberhardt, Ron Weaver, John Hill, Beau Jones, Rick Pichon, Larry Pichon, Janet Weber,
 Marion Eberhardt, Dee Pence, Nancy Baker, Sue Schlemmer, Barb Frymier, Margaret Pers-
 ing, Helen Skelton....and more.
 Recently - The Studio has a new deck thanks to assist from John Hicks and South
 Side Hi-Y Club members; Repair jobs by Fred Wooley's Dad and Sam Schwartz; Restor-
 ation of antique furniture by Chet Blighton; Twenty colorfull "ACRES, Inc." chair
 pads by Margien Lund; Help restoring the handsome heat stove by Energy Alternatives
 of Mongo; Properly cataloging the library of books and magazines by Mary Suttinger
 and Jackie Wooley; The construction and installation of Blue-Bird houses (which
 were instantly occupied) by Norma Weisner and our Otter Lake friends; The unending
 willingness of Marianne Golden to answer questions and tell us about her aunt,
 Helen Swenson; and the special help of Mike Booze, & Judy Esterline at our June event.

DONATIONS

Tennis & Mary Mahoney made a generous contribution to Management Fund.
 Sam and Marla Ropchan donated fencing and redwood lumber .
 Glen Slabach donated toward purchase of new tractor & mower.

SKILLS NEEDED

..... Rock work, brick and flagstone laying; carpenters for fence,
 gate, door, sign, and board-walk building. Hosts, guides
 and record keepers. (You dream up a few and come and do it!)

STUDY

..... ACRES Director Ed Eberhardt is leading specialists Peter Hippen-
 steel (Water Quality), Mark DeBrock (Reptiles and Amphibians) and
 Jim Haddock (Aquatic Insects) in a study of the fantastically rich
 lake and wetland habitats of WING HAVEN. More on this work later
 as these scientists explore and share their knowledge with us.

NEEDED

- Someone interested in topographic maps who would check the
 contents of ACRES topographic map drawer against the current index of avail-
 able quadrangles, and order up-dates or missing sheets. Call ACRES 637-6264.
 ♀ ♀ ♀ ♀ ♀ ♀ ♀ ♀ ♀

ALERT

- The future of LINDENWOOD ENVIRONMENTAL STUDY AREA located at 600
 Lindenwood Ave. Fort Wayne is uncertain. Lend support for the permanent
 establishment of this fine area! Contact: Lynn Sullivan, President of the
 Lindenwood Park Foundation 436-5643.

MIGRATION

The birds are flying fast and far,

They have no time for play.

I wonder what their missions are,

And why they cannot stay?

Margien L. Lund



Mourning Larks

e l e c t i o n s A C R E S B O A R D

IF YOU ARE A DUES-PAYING MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING:

YOU MAY MAKE NOMINATIONS UP UNTIL OCTOBER 13 (see details).
 YOU WILL RECEIVE A RETURN-BY-MAIL BALLOT BY NOVEMBER 1.
 YOU MUST VOTE BY MAIL BY DECEMBER 6 or YOU MAY VOTE IN
 PERSON ON DECEMBER 7, 1985, 8 PM 1802 Chapman Rd., Huntertown.

SELECTION OF DIRECTORS: There will be 18 directors. Three are
 appointed for staggered three year terms, one by the Dept. of
 Public Instruction of the State of Indiana, one by the Indiana
 Chapter of The Nature Conservancy, and one by the Indiana Park
 and Recreation Association. These appointees give broader public
 representation on our Board.

Fifteen directors are elected by the dues-paying members in
 good standing, five each year for three year terms.

The procedure is as follows:

1. The statutory annual membership meeting will be held at
 8PM on December 7, 1985 at 1802 Chapman Road, Huntertown, IN.
 At this meeting ballots will be counted, members present may
 vote in person and the elected directors will be determined.
 NOTE This is not the annual dinner meeting at which we
 have a speaker. The Annual Dinner Meeting will be
 held November 8 at Concordia Seminary.
2. Between September 13 and October 13, dues-paying members
 in good standing may nominate directors as follows: Any ten
 members in good standing may nominate a member of the Corpor-
 ation by a written instrument which is a) signed by the 10
 members, b) contains the nominee's written consent to serve if
 elected, and c) is delivered to the Secretary at 1802 Chapman
 Road, Huntertown, IN 46748 on or before October 13.
3. If more than six members are nominated, the six nominated
 by the largest number of members shall be the nominees. The
 nominee for the one year term will be selected by the Nomina-
 tions Committee by lot.
4. If less than six nominations are made by the members, then
 between October 13 and October 29 the Nominations Committee
 may, but need not, nominate enough to make a total of ten
 nominees.
5. Each nominee may submit a statement of his qualifications
 which will be sent to members with the ballot. Such statement
 must be received by the Secretary before November 1
6. No later than November 1 the Secretary will mail to
 members entitled to vote a ballot and the statement of nom-
 inee's qualifications, together with a short reminder of the
 voting procedure.
7. Members may vote by mailed ballot. Members do not need to
 attend the annual meeting on December 7. However, if a mem-
 ber does attend, he may vote in person and cancel any ballot
 he may have returned by mail. There are no "write-in" votes
 accepted for anyone not nominated pursuant to the foregoing
 procedure.

*****To be effective, a ballot returned by mail must a) be enclosed in
 an envelope signed by the voting member, b) not be marked for more than
 six persons and c) be received by the Secretary NO LATER THAN DEC .6.

A GUIDE TO ...



Natural Areas
OF **Steuben**
County
INDIANA

Prepared by Fred Wooley,
Pokagon State Park Naturalist
and Wing Haven Caretaker.

Printed by ACRES, Inc. for
the 1985 Indiana Natural
Areas Conference & Field
Day at Tri-State University,
Angola.

Available on request at
Wing Haven, Pokagon State
Park Nature Center and
ACRES office.

"Nature understands no jesting. She is
always right, and the terrors and faults
are always those of man." Goethe

ACRES, Inc.
1802 Chapman Road
Huntertown, IN 46748

Address Correction Requested

DIRECTORS: Ted Heemstra, President; Robert C. Weber, Vice-President; James M. Barrett, Vice-President; Ethyle R. Bloch, Vice-President; Jane Dustin, Secretary; Duane Lupke, Treasurer; Patricia Pichon; Arthur Eberhardt; John Ellenwood; James D. Haddock; Jay Hammel; Sam Ropchan; Edward H. Eberhardt; Jim Goodwin; Judy Esterline; Lee A. Casabere; Larry Bieberich; Thomas M. Kimbrough. RECORDING SECRETARY: Marion Eberhardt and MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY: Mary Anna Entwistle. NATIONAL ADVISORY BOARD: Howard Michaud, Alton A. Lindsey, M. Graham Netting, Richard H. Pough, Durward L. Allen, Lynton K. Caldwell, Frank Kirchner, Robert H. Cooper, John W. Klotz. ACRES QUARTERLY is published by ACRES, Inc. at 1802 Chapman Rd., Huntertown, IN for the interest of its members, friends and others similarly dedicated to the preservation of natural lands in north-eastern Indiana. ACRES, Inc. is a non-profit corporation, incorporated under the laws of Indiana. Contributions are deductible for tax purposes. Jane Dustin, Editor. MEMBERSHIPS: Patron, \$100; Sustaining, \$50; Share, \$25; Family, \$10; Regular, \$5; Senior Citiz. \$2 and Student, \$1. Payable annually. Membership year is July 1 to June 31. ACRES, Inc. 1802 Chapman Road, Huntertown, IN 46748.