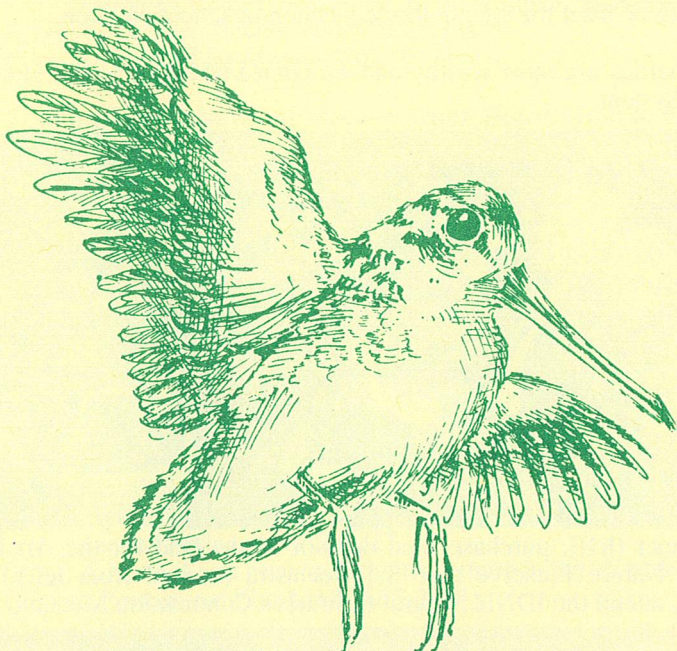




Quarterly

Spring - 1991
Volume XXX No. 2



American Woodcock

Membership Notice!

Please note your expiration date on your mailing label. If it says 6-91 this is the time to renew. If it says 6-90 or 6-89, we would like you to catch up and keep up! All of you are very important to us. This is also a good opportunity to give a membership to a relative or a friend and have it last throughout the year. Donations to the Land Acquisition and Management Fund are especially welcome as we are making serious efforts to acquire buffer property to existing ACRES areas as well as purchase significant new areas. **RENEW TODAY!** Many thanks! - Mary Anna Entwisle, Membership Secretary.

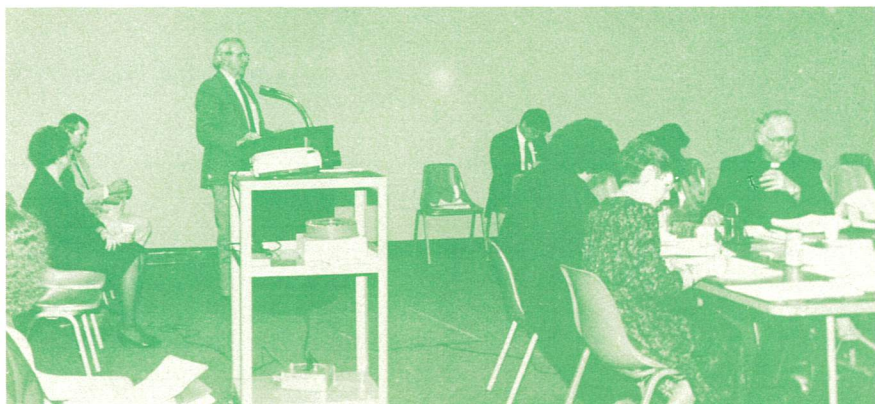
Dedication News from Indianapolis!

On February 26, 1991, the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Natural Resource Commission officially dedicated two nature preserves in northeast Indiana. The Art Hammer Wetlands is one of ACRES, Inc. most recent acquisitions, thanks to a gift by long-time supporter of ACRES, Art Hammer. The Charles McClue Nature Preserve is owned by Steuben County. It was left by the bequest of Maurice McClue, in memory of his father Charles. He wished it to be used for the outdoor education of school children.

Both properties are most worthy and welcomed additions to the State Nature Preserve System.



Art Hammer (left), purchaser and donator of the land for the Art Hammer Wetlands Nature Preserve and Ted Heemstra (second from left), ACRES President, attend the IDNR Natural Resources Commission Meeting.



Art Eberhardt, an ACRES Board Member and also a Board Member of the McClue Nature Reserve offered comments to the Natural Resource Commission in favor of their action to dedicate the McClue Nature Reserve. For further information on the McClue Reserve, contact the Pokagon State Park Nature Center at 219-833-2012.

Field Trips & Special Events

April 6 Curtain up for Wildflowers! ... at the Spurgeon, Bender, and Lonidaw Preserves!

When: 9:30am at the Wild Birds Unlimited Store in Northcrest Shopping Center to car pool, or 10:00am at Spurgeon.

Bring: binoculars, flower books, and a lunch.

Contact Person: Else Matott (745-7877).

April 7 Wing Haven Nature Preserve Open House (1pm to 5pm).

April 13 Hammer Wetlands and Crooked Lake Preserve Work Day.

Part of day will be spent planting two memorial trees.

When: 10:00am

Where: At the Hammer Wetlands. Noble County, take 100 W. north from US 6 for 2 miles, jog west to 125 W. Proceed north, cross Elkhart River. Preserve on east side of road.

Bring: Work clothes and a lunch.

Contact Person: Bob Weber (747-6030).

April 20 Earth Day/Abor Day Tree Planting at Wing Haven.

Memorial tree planted plus **Second Annual Adopt a Tree Festival!**

When: 10:00am

Where: Wing Haven Nature Preserve. Steuben County, on 400 N. one-half mile east of SR 127.

Bring: A lunch if you plan to spend time there in the afternoon.

Contact Person: Art Eberhardt (665-2421).

April 27 Anna Brand Hammer Preserve Wildflower Hike

When: 2:00pm

Where: Meet at the Preserve. Wells County, take SR 1 through Ossian, turn west on 800 N., go 1 1/2 miles, preserve on right.

Contact Person: Else Matott (745-7877).

April 28 Fox Island Alliance Annual Meeting. See page 6 for details.

May 4 Acres Along the Wabash Preserve Hike!

Hopeful look at the blooming shooting star!

When: 10:00am (or 10:30 at the preserve).

Where: Meet for car pool at Hall's Restaurant in Quimby Village on Bluffton Road.

Bring: Walking clothes and lunch.

Contact Person: Judy Esterline (432-8455).

More Activities on the Next Page!

Field Trips and Special Events ... Cont'd.

May 5 Wing Haven Nature Preserve Open House and Fiber Fair!

A demonstration of various aspects of working with natural fibers: spinning, weaving, tatting, bobbin lace making, felt making, and others will be presented by the Fiber Connectors, a local group formed to promote and practice these skills.

When: 1:00pm to 5:00pm

Where: Wing Haven Nature Preserve. See directions on page 3.

Contact Person: Bob Gunzenhauser (367-2368).

May 11 Crooked Lake - Ralph Gates Nature Preserve Field Trip.

When: 10:00am (or 10:30am at the preserve).

Where: Car pool from Wild Birds Unlimited in Northcrest Center.

Preserve is in Whitley County, take US 33 northwest to SR 9. Go south to County Line Road, then west one-half mile.

Bring: Lunch, hiking clothes, binoculars, any field guides.

Contact Person: Carolyn McNagny (244-5714).

May 18 Bluebird Trail Hikes!

Visit several trails, each with 8 nesting boxes.

When: 10:00am

Where: Wild Birds Unlimited in Northcrest Shopping Center.

Bring: Binoculars and a lunch.

Contact Person: Else Matott (745-7877).

May 18 Natural Areas Conference. (see page 6 for details).

May 25 Herman F. Hammer Wald Nature Preserve Work Day.

Installation of entrance sign, trail construction and clean up.

When: 10:00am

Where: At the Preserve. Allen County, intersection of Hursttown and Rupert Roads. From Ft. Wayne, go north on SR 37, through Harlan, to Rupert. Turn north on Rupert, go 1 mile.

Bring: Work clothes and tools, and lunch.

Contact Person: Bob Weber (747-6030).

June 2 Wing Haven Nature Preserve Open House (1pm to 5pm).

June 8 Anna Brand Hammer Woods Nature Preserve Work Day.

Trail marking and construction and clean-up.

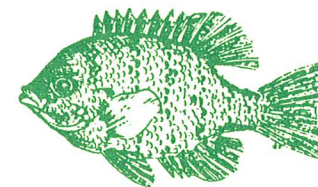
When: 9:30am

Where: At the preserve. Wells County, go south through Ossian on SR 1. Turn west on 800 N. Preserve is on right 1 1/2 miles.

Bring: Work clothes and tools, and lunch.

Contact Person: Bob Weber (747-6030).

Fishing Policy at Wing Haven Lakes Changes.



Until recently ACRES has attempted to combine its primary purpose of aquatic ecosystem protection at the Wing Haven Nature Preserve with restricted recreational use. On a trial basis, we initiated a policy of catch-and-release fishing using barbless, artificial lures only. Unfortunately this limited recreational use policy has not been successful. Observations indicated that some live bait was being used and not all fish were being released. Furthermore, some fisherman have insisted that the established state regulations for public waters were applicable at Wing Haven. There seems to be no recognition that these same "catch-and-keep" regulations have contributed to the clearly observable degradation of so many public waters (otherwise why the desire to fish Wing Haven lakes?). It has also not been firmly established that catch-and-release fishing fully protects the nearly unique and unspoiled aquatic ecosystem which now exists at Wing Haven. These pristine conditions still exist thanks to the many years of preservation by former Wing Haven owners, Helen and Ben Swenson, and the other bordering land owners.

Therefore, the ACRES board has decided to change to a total no-fishing policy in the Wing Haven lakes. Perhaps in the future, and especially if the protective value of catch-and-release fishing methods can be firmly established and accepted by the public, we will be able to return to a combined preservation/recreational policy. You are encouraged to contact Ed Eberhardt (219-424-2462) or any other ACRES board member with your suggestions or comments. For further information on catch-and-release fishing, please read the article in the Spring 1990 edition of the Isaak Walton publication "Outdoor America". - Ed Eberhardt

In Memory

On Sunday, September 2, 1990, ACRES Advisory Board Member Dr. Robert H. Cooper passed away, following a valiant battle against heart disease. He was 89 years of age.

Dr. Cooper was a naturalist, conservationist, preservationist, and a science educator. For many years he was professor and head of the Science Department of Ball State University. A science complex building and woodlot that he donated to B.S.U. for educational purposes, bear his name. He had many other interests including farming, gardening, music, flying, and civic organization involvement.

In addition to his involvement with ACRES, Inc., he was very involved with the Indiana Audubon Society and other similar groups. He is now gone, but the memories and the legacy he left behind will live on.



**Fox Island Alliance
Annual Meeting
Sunday, April 28, 1991
Old Country Buffet
Southtown Mall**

Schedule: 3:00pm. Dr. Richard Shore, Ph.D.
John Muir, a Dramatic Presentation.
4:00pm. Fox Island Alliance Annual Meeting.
5:00pm Meal - All you care to eat, including
several entrees, drinks, salads, and
desserts.

Price: \$7.50. Make checks payable to: Fox Island Alliance.

Seating capacity is limited to 100 people.

With Check, include name, address, and phone number.
Mail to: John McCory, 15921 Canyon Glen Parkway,
Fort Wayne, Indiana, 46845. For further informa-
tion, call John at 637-3526.

**Southcentral Indiana
Natural Areas Conference and Field Day
May 18, 1991 - Corydon, Indiana**

The Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Nature Preserves has organized the 10th annual Indiana Natural Areas Conference, which will be held in historic Corydon, the site of Indiana's first state capitol.

There will be a series of presentations on Saturday morning focusing on the unusual features of the Mitchell Karst Plain and adjacent Shawnee Hills, from the special flora and fauna of the glades and barrens to the mysteries of the cave community. Field trips to many of the natural areas mentioned in the presentations will follow in the afternoon. Afterwards, there will be a barbecue at Wyandotte Woods State Recreation Area.

Contact the Division of Nature Preserves for registration forms and a finalized schedule of speakers and field trip locations. Limited space is available for the conference, so please sign up early.

**Division of Nature Preserves
402 West Washington Street
Room 267
Indianapolis, Indiana, 46204
317-232-4052**



Clean-up at Crooked Lake!

Seven illegal dumpsites were removed from the Crooked Lake Nature Preserve.

In two Saturdays, Community Service Workers did a great job ridding the preserve of numerous eyesores. Every thing from bed springs to a pot-bellied stove to a washing machine were hauled out. Barbed wire fences were removed and the wire and glass were taken to a recycling center. Everyone who likes the preserve will appreciate not having to look at the trash.

Thanks to Paula Worden, Community Service Coordinator, Doug Eber, Work-Crew Supervisor, and Rich Dunbar, DNR Regional Ecologist, for their work in organizing and supervising the clean-up. Special thanks to the hard working Community Service crew who took pride in their efforts.

- Carolyn McNaghy

Rain Mixed with Sleet

Rain mixed with sleet
plops into the grass.
The hungry wind gnaws
my ankles.
In a wild rose bush crowd
twenty-eight sparrows and
three conspicuous redbirds.
The sparrows gossip noisily,
filling the bush in all its
interstitial spaces with
their chirping natter, constructing
thus a bubble of sound.
Their cries spin hundreds of
tiny filaments, binding
the air into a gel
to slow the bitter wind.

- Thomas Meek
ACRES Member

ACRES Contributions!

Work Projects:

- Boy Scout Troop 302, Roanoke, Indiana. Jeremy Moses, Eagle Project.
- Paula Worden - preserve clean-up.
- Doug Eber - preserve clean-up.
- Rich Dunbar - preserve clean-up.
- Carolyn McNaghy - preserve clean-up.
- Regina Floth - historical research.

Board Member Contributions:

Pat Pichon of rural Howe, Indiana, steps down from the ACRES board of Directors after 16 years of service to ACRES, primarily in area management. Pat is replaced on the Board by David Gall of Leo, Indiana.

Lee Casebere, Assistant Director of the IDNR Division of Nature Preserves steps down from ACRES Board of Directors after 14 years of service to ACRES in natural area identification and land acquisition. For the last six years of service, Lee was the Nature Conservancy's appointee to the ACRES Board. Lee is replaced by Nancy Kasdorf, of rural Huntertown, as TNC's appointee.

THE BACK PAGE ...



When I wrote this column for the last **Quarterly**, our country was on the verge of war. And now, a short 3 months later, the war has come and gone. We were blessed that it was relatively short, but the havoc it wreaked will be with us for a long time. It is nearly unimaginable how one man can be the cause of so much death and devastation. On top of that carnage is the tremendous degradation of the environment and ecosystems of the Gulf area. To think what was in balance for eons, one man can destroy in such a short time.

So now, countless men and women must come together to repair the damage. It will not be easy. But if one person can do so much damage, many people should be able to do much good. Truly it is time to strengthen our support for natural systems like never before. Some ways are quite easy, such as joining groups like ACRES, The Nature Conservancy, the Environmental Defense Fund, and others.

On March 6, I had the pleasure to speak to a group in southcentral Indiana called the **Sycamore Land Trust**. This is a new group similar to ACRES, Inc., but just beginning to organize. These are individuals who see the need and are taking action. We wish them well as they become another helping hand in the world workforce for environmental peace.

- Fred J. Wooley, Editor

The **ACRES Quarterly** welcomes letters, articles, artwork, black & white photos, and anything else of interest to our readers. Send any and all items to **Fred J. Wooley, Editor, ACRES Quarterly, Rt. 2, Box 108, Angola, Indiana, 46703**. Deadline for the Summer issue is **June 1, 1991**.

ACRES
P O BOX 140
1802 CHAPMAN ROAD
HUNTERTOWN, INDIANA 46748

Directors: Ted Heemstra, President; Robert C. Weber, VP; James M. Barrett, VP; Ethyle R. Bloch, VP; Jane Dustin, Secretary; James L. Shearer, Treasurer; Edward H. Eberhardt, John Ellenwood, Arthur Eberhardt, Mary Anna Entwisle, Judy Esterline, James D. Haddock, Thomas M. Kimbrough, Sam Schwartz, Sharon Partridge, David Gall, Nancy Kasdorf, David J. Miller. Membership Secretary: Mary Anna Entwisle. National Advisory Board: Howard Michaud, Alton Lindsey, M. Graham Netting, Richard H. Pough, Durwood Allen, Lynton K. Caldwell, Frank Kirschner, John W. Klotz. **ACRES Quarterly** is published by ACRES, Inc. at 1802 Chapman Road, Huntertown, Indiana for the interest of its members, friends, and others similarly dedicated to the preservation of natural lands in northeast Indiana. ACRES, Inc. is a non-profit corporation, incorporated under the laws of Indiana. Contributions are deductible for tax purposes. Fred J. Wooley, Editor. **MEMBERSHIPS:** Patron, \$100.00; Sustaining, \$50.00; Family, \$10.00; Regular, \$5.00; Senior Citizen, \$2.00; and Student, \$1.00. Payable Annually. Membership year is July 1 to June 30.



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