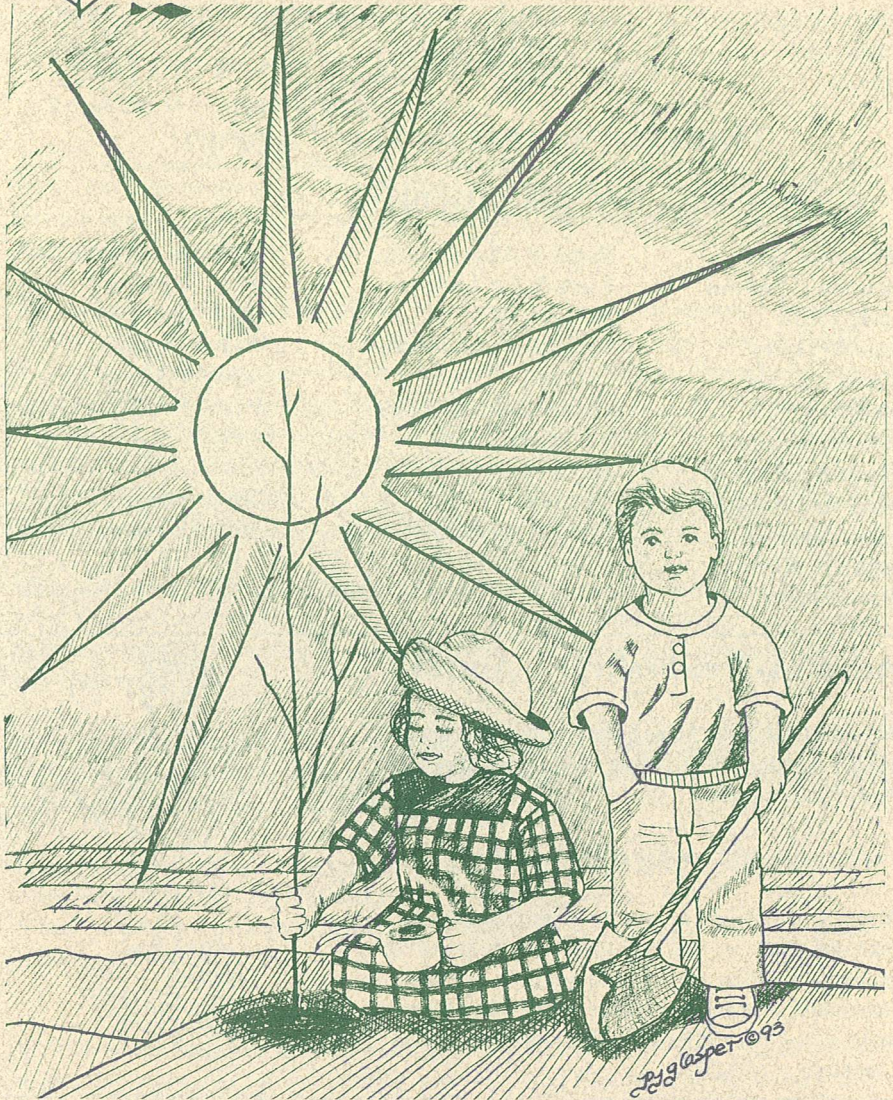




Quarterly

Spring - 1993
Volume XXXII No. 2



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Time To Renew

Springtime is the time of renewal in the natural world and it is also the time of renewal for your ACRES membership. This year the ACRES' Board regrets to report that a dues increase is necessary. It's been years in coming, but like all things, it reflects the higher costs of operation. It's still a good deal and does so much good! The New Dues:

Student (through High School)	\$10.00	Share-the-Expense	\$ 50.00
Senior Citizen	\$10.00	Organization/Club	\$ 50.00
Individual	\$15.00	Patron	\$100.00
Family	\$25.00	Benefactor	\$500.00

Thank you for your continued support!

ACRES Welcomes New Members:

William S. Bailey	Roger & Alice Golden
Rebecca J. Zastrow	Larry & Sue Lantzer
Laura Doerr	Max Hobbs
Jennifer Doerr	Douglas L. Bruinsma
Michelle Doerr	Family
Mike Doerr	David Ruetschilling
Kim M. Spielman	Marcia McNagny
Velma Rautenkranz	Jane Papsdorf
Mary Ann Anderson	Tom Hurst
Bruce Matasick	Lila C. O'Connell
James A. Kindraka	Greg & Kathie Irk
Travis Smith	Mr. & Mrs. David H. Young

George & Doris Mather
David Deimling
Jeff & Sue Testin
Gene R. Stout
Parks M. Adams
Ronald & Marsha Eschbach

Organizations:
Rails to Trails.

Adopt-A-Tree Festival April 17

Join us at the Wing Haven Nature Preserve for our Fourth Annual Adopt-A-Tree Festival on April 17, from 10am to 5pm.

Participants will receive a free native tree!

You will also have a chance to build a bird house, hike one of the several beautiful trails, help with the prairie restoration project (pull weeds!), and enjoy refreshments and entertainment. Bring a lunch and make a day of it! For further information, contact Art Eberhardt at 665-2421.



About the Cover - This issue's cover was done by Angola, Indiana artist Paula Jean Glasper. Paula contributes often to the **Quarterly**. She is an art instructor and frequently uses the Wing Haven Nature Preserve for class location and inspiration.

BICENTENNIAL WOODS

ACRES INC.

ACRES Introduces a New, Exciting Project.... The Bicentennial Woods!

In 1994, Fort Wayne will celebrate its Bicentennial. There will be many tributes to prominent citizens and events on this auspicious and happy occasion. But what tribute will be paid to the land the settlers found when they came to the Three Rivers area?

The Bicentennial Woods is our chance to commemorate the old-growth forests which the settlers found covering a large portion of Indiana. Many people think that old-growth forests are ecosystems of the great northwest, where they have received so much attention, or the vast pine forests of the great northwoods. Right here in Indiana, however, we also had vast tracks of tall timber, featuring mighty oaks, walnut, hickories, beech, maples, tuliptree, and other hardwoods. The key word here is "had." ... There are so few, precious parcels remaining of these stately stands of old-growth forests. Enter, the **Bicentennial Woods Project**.

Dave Gall, an ACRES Board Member, has been directing this challenging project. Dave has been searching for an old-growth woods since the summer of 1992 and has been instrumental in creating the beautiful, color brochure which has accompanied this **Quarterly**.

The support and interest of the ACRES Membership, as in so many times in the past, will be instrumental in the success of the Bicentennial Woods Project. We need your help to acquire and protect a tract of land.

In 25 years, or even less, it may not be possible to protect an old-growth forest. By considering the needs and hopes of future generations, we also benefit ourselves. When you contribute to the Bicentennial Woods, you, your children, and your grandchildren will see the results.

ACRES would like to thank the following friends for their wonderful donation of the artistry, color separations, and printing of the beautiful Bicentennial Woods brochure:

Craftline Printing
Excel Color Graphics
Patterson-Riegel Associates

Field Trips & Special Events

April 4 Wing Haven Nature Preserve Open House (1pm to 5pm).

April 4 Beechwood Nature Preserve Hike.

See this nice yellow birch swamp and old field/orchard succession.

Where: Meet at the Wing Haven Nature Preserve Visitor's Center.

When: 1:30pm.

Bring: Walking shoes and friends.

Contact Person: Else Matott (745-7877) .

April 17 Fourth Annual Adopt-A-Tree Festival.

Receive a free native tree, build your own bird house, hike a trail, help in the prairie project, and enjoy refreshments and entertainment.

Where: Wing Haven Nature Preserve. Steuben County, on 400N.

When: 10:00am to 5:00pm

Bring: Your family and a lunch.

Contact Person: Art Eberhardt (665-2421).

April 25, 26, & 27 Spring Nature Photography Workshop

A workshop, by Indianapolis photographer, Tom Potter, at the Pokagon State Park Potawatomi Inn. Cost is \$35.00 (seminar only), \$55.00 (seminar and meals), \$148.47 (seminar, meals, 2 nights at Inn), \$198.50 for 2 people (seminar, meals, 2 nights at Inn). For further information contact Ginny Hayes, Inn Activity Director, 219-833-1077.

April 25 Edna W. Spurgeon Woodland Reserve Wildflower Walk.

It just doesn't get much better than this- wildflowers, spring and Spurgeon. May hike Bender Memorial Forest in afternoon.

When: 11:00am

Where: At the preserve. Noble County, on 600W, north of US 6.

Bring: Friends and a lunch.

Contact Person: Else Matott (745-7877).

April 25 Earth Day Festival at IPFW Campus, Fort Wayne.

A special afternoon of speakers, workshops, music, educational displays, and refreshments. Sponsored by the IPFW Biology Club.

When: Noon to 6:00pm

Where: Walb Student Union, outside if good weather.

Contact Person: David Van Gilder (420-2273).

May 1 Hike at the New Seven Pillars Nature Preserve.

We'll hike and study the crazy names of wildflowers!

When: 1:00pm at preserve, or carpool at 12:30pm at Amoco Station, on US 24 and I-69.

Where: To Preserve, take US 24 (3 miles east of Peru) to 300E to 200S.

Contact Person: Carolyn McNagny (422-1004).

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

May 8 Acres Along the Wabash.

Enjoy a day afield and see some Shooting Stars! (wildflowers that is!....)

When: 11:00a.m.

Where: At the preserve. Wells County, SR 116, west of Murray.

Bring: Your lunch, family, and friends.

Contact Person: Else Matott (745-7877)

May 15 Olin Lake Preserve Work Project and Fun Exploring!

Help with the Garlic Mustard pull and save the wildflowers. Come and stay as long as you can for great exercise and a beneficial service.

When: 10:00am

Where: Olin Lake Preserve. LaGrange County. CR 125S, one-half mile north of CR 600S.

Bring: Lunch, walking shoes, garden gloves.

Contact Person: Else Matott (745-7877).

May 22 Crooked Lake/Crosslands

We will hike Crooked Lake in the morning, break for lunch, and hike the Crosslands Boy Scout Camp in the afternoon. Come see this established nature preserve and a unique natural area enjoyed by scouts.

When: 10:00am.

Where: Meet at the parking lot at the Crooked Lake Nature Preserve. Whitley County. On County Line Road, west of SR 9.

Bring: Picnic lunch and walking shoes.

Contact Person: Carolyn McNagny (422-1004).

June 6 Wing Haven Nature Preserve Open House (1pm to 5pm)

June 19 Kekionga Voyagers Canoe Club/ACRES Outing.

Paddle up the gentle Pigeon River in LaGrange County.

When: 10:00am

Where: Meet at the town square in Howe, Indiana.

Bring: Lunch.

Contact Person: Else Matott (745-7877). PLEASE CALL if you can come.

July 4 Wing Haven Nature Preserve Open House (1pm to 5pm).

Persons interested in work days, please call Bob Weber at 747-6030.



**For All ACRES Members in Kosciusko County
Attention Landowners....
Help Available to Create your own Wetlands!**

Attention Kosciusko County Landowner...

If you like the idea of seeing waterfowl and other wildlife again in the "back forty", AND you want the satisfaction of knowing that you are doing something to improve the groundwater quality of your area, then the Kosciusko County Soil and Water Conservation District has something for you! AND IT'S FREE!

The Kosciusko Soil and Water Conservation District is restoring wetlands on private land with all costs paid for by the Service. Only wetlands that are mutually-agreed upon by the landowner and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service will be restored. Landowners keep all of the rights to their land, including the control of hunting and trespassing. Since the beginning of the Wetland Restoration Program in 1988, over 450 wetlands have been restored in Indiana.

Wetlands offer a myriad of benefits. Besides providing opportunities for such recreational activities as bird-watching and photography, they offer outstanding habitat for fish and wildlife and are often utilized for interpretive and educational activities.

Restored marshes provide excellent habitat for ducks, geese, pheasants, songbirds, mammals, and other animals.

Wetlands do much more! They help control flooding downstream, contribute to groundwater recharge, decrease erosion, improve groundwater quality by utilizing nutrients which might otherwise become pollutants in runoff. In the right places they can be very important buffer zones for lakes.



The program's goal is to restore 30 wetlands by the summer of 1993. No minimum or maximum size for restoration exists, but restored wetlands in Indiana have ranged from approximately one-fourth of an acre to 40 acres in size. The program is designed to take depressional areas which have been previously drained or partially drained through the use of tiling or drainage ditches and restore them. Projects will not be attempted without the permission of neighboring landowners if their drainage system could be adversely affected.

If you are interested in the Wetland Restoration Program for Kosciusko County, please contact Dave Stratman at the Kosciusko County Soil Conservation Service (267-5726).

(Editor's note: If you do not live in Kosciusko County, but live in Adams, Allen, DeKalb, Noble, or Steuben, and are interested in restoring a wetland on your property, contact: Pete Klink, through your local Soil and Water Conservation District Office. If you live elsewhere in Indiana, call 812-334-4261. In Ohio, call 614-469-6923. In Michigan, call 517-337-6652.)



**A New Rails-to-Trails Project....
The Pumpkinvine Nature Trail!**

What is the proposed Pumpkinvine Nature Trail?

The Pumpkinvine Nature Trail is a potential, 17 mile-long "linear park" built on the abandoned Penn Central right-of-way between Goshen, Middlebury, and Shipshewana. It is a slice of local history and would create a much needed park in Elkhart and LaGrange counties.

What is a linear park?

A linear park is a long, narrow park with limited access that is ideal for activities such as bicycling, hiking, nature study, jogging, and cross-country skiing. The conversion of abandoned railroad right-of-ways into linear parks is one of the most exciting recreational developments of the century. Over 500 such parks are already in operation across the country.

What are the benefits of a linear park?

- A traffic-free, level path for family recreation that is close to home.
- A non-motorized link between Goshen, Middlebury, and Shipshewana.
- Unparalleled route for walking and jogging.
- A level, quiet area for the disabled, children, and seniors to enjoy nature.
- A pleasant corridor for cross-country skiing.
- A habitat for wildflowers, birds, and other animals.
- An opportunity to preserve a historic railway route.
- An economic boost to the area due to trail-related business.
- An ideal place for horseback riding.
- A wonderful resource for community events.

Who would manage the park?

The park would be under the cooperative management of the Goshen Park and Recreation Department, Elkhart County Park Department, LaGrange County Park Department, and the town of Middlebury.

Where would funds come from for creating the park?

Funds are potentially available from the Indiana Department of Natural Resources through 50-50 matching grants. Potential federal funds are available from the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA), an 80-20 matching program.

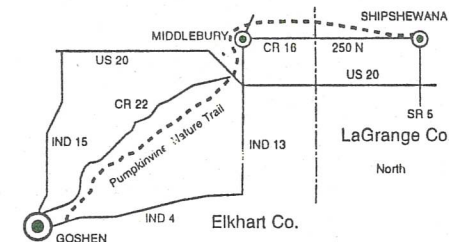
In both cases communities must raise the local match.

Who are Friends of the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail?

Friends of the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail are local citizens whose goal is to create a linear park on the former Penn Central right-of-way. Members include bicyclists, hikers, joggers, walkers, equestrians, seniors, cross-country skiers and those interested in nature study and non-motorized transportation.

How can I help?

For further information and a membership brochure, write: Friends of the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail, Inc. P.O. Box 392, Goshen, Indiana 46526



The Back Page...

There's an old and often used saying, "the only sure things in life are death and taxes". Everyone has their own additions to this saying ranging from "it's just as sure as God made little green apples"... to..."a bird will sure as heck deposit on your freshly washed car"... (or something of that nature!).

Sure things in the economic world include inflation. Simply put, prices go up, cost of doing business goes up, and.... membership dues go up....

Such is the case for ACRES, Inc. It was a tough decision, but someone had to make it....and that the present ACRES board did. It's been a long time coming and I, for one, was ready for it. Actually, I have been for sometime. It always amazed me that since I've been involved with this organization (1980), the dues have always been the same. Out of all of the organizations I supported, this was the least expensive. I wondered how the group could provide the basic services, much less have any money left for such things as land acquisition. The answer, mostly, was due to some very generous donors and supporting businesses. Time, however, has finally caught up with us.

The last dues increase was 1976. Think back to how prices have changed since then. About the only things that have gone down are calculators and the value of my old manual typewriter. Another old saying..., "times change". Stick with us. Help us grow. Renew your membership today.

- 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, 180W., 400N., Angola, Indiana, 46703-9502**. Deadline for the Summer issue is **June 1, 1993**.

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Directors: Ted Heemstra, President; Robert C. Weber, VP; James M. Barrett, VP; Ethyle R. Bloch, VP; Jane Dustin, Secretary; James L. Shearer, Treasurer; David P. Deimling, John Ellenwood, Arthur Eberhardt, Mary Anna Entwisle, James D. Haddock, David C. Van Gilder, Sam Schwartz, Joseph A. Christoff, David Gall, Nancy Kasdorf; David J. Miller. Carolyn McNaghy, Project Coordinator. 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 2000 North Wells, Fort Wayne, 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:** Benefactor, \$500.00; Patron, \$100.00; Organization/Club, \$50.00; Share-the-Expense \$50.00; Family, \$25.00; Individual, \$15.00; Senior Citizen, \$10.00; and Student (through High School), \$10.00. Payable Annually. Membership year is July 1 to June 30.