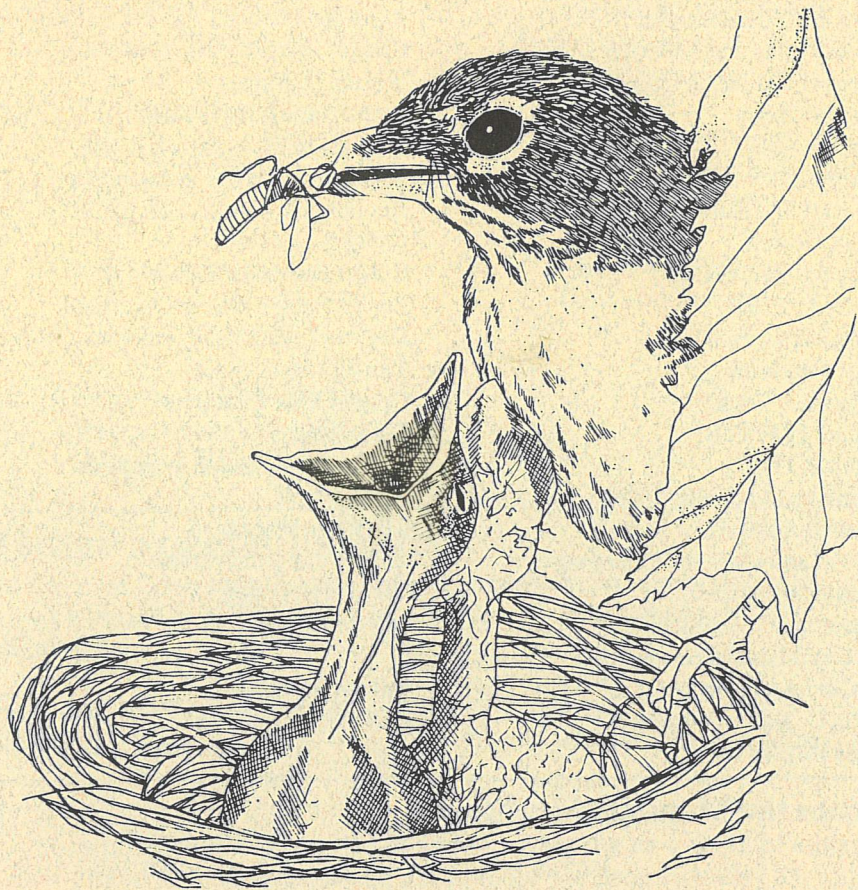




Quarterly

Summer - 1994
Volume XXXIII No. 3



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ACRES Stewards

ACRES Welcomes New Members:

Jerry Amstutz
 Bernard and Patricia Ampe
 Dale and Sandra Barkey
 Judy Beckwith
 Jessica A. Boyd
 Ruth Brake
 Ingrid and Stephen Briody
 Paul and Susan Burnett
 Gregory and Joellen Copp
 Richard and Diane Daniel
 Charles Davis
 Stacey Davis
 Charles Dick and Judy Archer-Dick
 Richard and Kandy Dold
 Mary Dowell
 Gail and Ardith Eley
 Harry L. Ertel
 Lois Jeanne Fahl
 Kate Ferguson
 Roberta J. Frick
 Daniel L. Friedly
 Linda J. Gaff
 Frank and Maureen Goyette
 Jean Gronendyke
 Edwin and Marilyn Harmening
 Marian A. Hedrick
 Catherine S. Henschen
 Jack and Lauana Humbrecht
 Joe and Ann Jenney
 Scott D. Karr and Family
 Russ Kayser

Frank Knight
 Don and Sue Kruse
 Dr. and Mrs. K. M. Lehman
 Greg and Susan Mauk
 Christopher and Tracy Meihls
 W. Eldo Miller
 Kenneth C. Millikan
 Ken Moudy
 Charles Muckle
 Warren D. Munro
 Richard and Margie Parker
 Virginia Petit
 Ann and Bruce Reidenbach
 Jim Renth
 Cathie L. Rowand
 Robert Smith and Family
 Dr. and Mrs. Frederick Spurgeon
 Darlene L. Stucky
 Tim and Mary Stucky
 Dr. and Mrs. E. Stumpf
 Diane Taner
 Katherine and Susan Waggoner
 Susan Wahls
 Mary Lou Walda
 Shirley and Bill Weldon
 Richard K. Young
 J.R. and Riet Zwiep

Patron Member:
 ADMETCO, Inc.

From the Membership Chair....

Thanks to all of you who have renewed prior to the June expiration date. As you will note, we have many new members -- A hearty welcome to you all. We hope that you visit some ACRES properties and enjoy being a part of this fine organization. If you have someone you would like to introduce to ACRES, we would be pleased to send information. Simply give us a call at 219-422-1004, or write to us at the address shown on the back of this **Quarterly**. Remember, if you have a 6/94 on your label, your dues are due now! Please renew soon! Thank you. - Mary Anna Entwisle, Membership Chairperson

About the Cover - This issue's cover was done by Cindi Brunner of Carbondale, Colorado.

In Memory

From time to time people remember and honor loved ones and special people by making gifts to ACRES in their names. We feel it is appropriate that they be recognized in the **Quarterly**. We respectfully submit the following names and proudly carry on our important work in their names.

Marjorie Geiger
 Marcia McNagny

Larry Moore
 Employees at Bentler Industries

Mick Thornton for The
Bicentennial Woods
 George and Nancy Kasdorf
 Tom and Jane Dustin

Robert E. Gates
 Bill and Ethyle Bloch
 Dr. and Mrs. E. Wade Adams

Letha A. Falls for The
Bicentennial Woods
 Dorothea Falls Larsen

Paul R. Yoder for The
Bicentennial Woods
 Gretchen Yoder
 Loyal and Ruby Yoder
 Shirley and Michael Meighen
 Larry and Ilse Yoder

William Redin Woodward for
The Bicentennial Woods
 Art and Else Matott

John W. Edyvean
 Tom and Jane Dustin

Other Special Friends...

In the past three months, several organizations have made special contributions to ACRES projects, programs, and operations. We thank you!

Edward and Hildegard
Schaefer Foundation

Fort Wayne
Community Foundation

M.E. Raker
Foundation

Pike Lumber
Company



Kroger Donates Trees

In addition to the above contributions, Kroger Company has donated five nice trees to ACRES. Thank you Kroger.



A New ACRES Preserve!

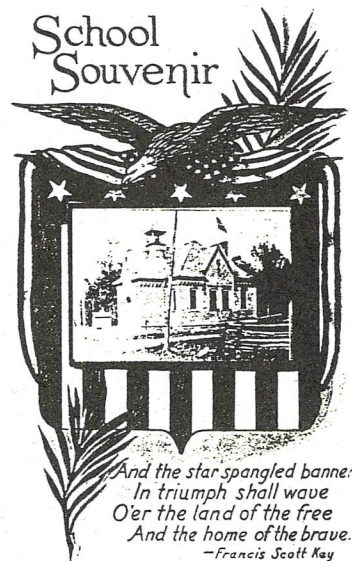
Munro Nature Preserve donated by Mrs. Esther Munro Cooper and Mrs. Agnes Munro

ACRES receives a gift of a new preserve! Mrs. Esther Munro Cooper and Mrs. Agnes Munro have generously donated 24 acres of woods in Adams County. The Munro Nature Preserve is ACRES' first in Adams County. The new preserve, located at the northern boundary of the historic Limberlost Swamp, was at one time owned by Charles Porter and Gene Stratton-Porter.

ACRES is honored to be the recipient of this gift, which includes the Brushwood Schoolhouse. The school, Hartford Township District No. 6, was built in 1903 and is the only remaining one-room schoolhouse left in the District. The brick school is elaborate in detail, including arched doorways, a slate roof, and an interior stage. Gene Stratton-Porter featured the Brushwood School in the novel *Girl of the Limberlost*.

Gene Stratton-Porter was a well known naturalist and best-selling novelist. She was also ahead of her time in her appreciation of nature and her independent spirit (as can be seen by the way she hyphenated her name long before that practice was customary). Mr. and Mrs. Porter owned the 240 acre farm west of Geneva, twenty four acres of which is

now becoming the Munro Nature Preserve.



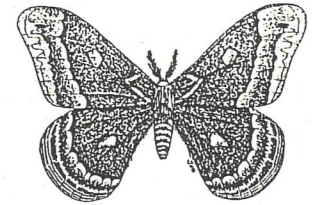
Gene Stratton-Porter began her career as a naturalist when she moved to Geneva as a young bride. She became fascinated with the Limberlost Swamp on her door step and began to study the many acres of swamp. Mrs. Porter would drive her little black buggy loaded with cameras, ropes, and ladders to her farm, stopping nearby to visit her friend, Mrs. Snow. There she would change out of her town finery and into high leather boots, knee length khaki shirt, and strap on a revolver for protection against snakes before she entered the Limberlost.

After spending the day in the Limberlost Swamp taking photographs and writing meticulous notes on her observations, Gene would return to Mrs. Snow's house to change for the trip back to Geneva. The local residents called her the "bird-woman". Porter's work for her books required years of patient, intensive field work. She worked for more than twelve years gathering material for *Moths of the Limberlost* and over five years for *What I Have Done With Birds*.

Today, she is better known for her novels *Girl of the Limberlost* and *Freckles*. In her time Gene Stratton-Porter was considered an authority as a photographer and naturalist. "When she took to the field, her equipment often weighed more than 100 pounds, and if Charles couldn't accompany her, she usually hired a man to help carry the gear. Gene always refused to use film, preferring 8 x 10 plates, and she never carried less than two or three dozen on her field trips. Sometimes the camera had to be slung on ropes between two trees in order to get close to an obscure nest" (Gene Stratton Porter: *The Natural Wonder*. By Jan Dearmin Finney)

By 1913, Porter's beloved Limberlost was being drained for farmland. As Warren Munro, younger brother of Mrs. Esther Munro Cooper, said, "when the Loblolly (ditch) was put in, that

pretty much took care of the swamp." The Porters decided to sell their farm and, in 1915, Asa C. and Edith Emma Munro purchased the farm.



Mrs. Esther Munro Cooper remembers how excited and surprised she was that her family had bought a farm from the famous Porters. "I had read *Girl of the Limberlost* and enjoyed it very much, so I was interested in the fact that the person who had written the book owned the farm my father had purchased", said Mrs. Cooper. Once the Munro family moved to Geneva, Mrs. Cooper never became acquainted with Gene Stratton-Porter, although she remembers seeing her in Geneva.

The property had 16 oil wells on it. Some were located in the woods which is now the Nature Preserve. Charles Porter had shrewdly sold the oil rights, the royalties from which enabled the Porters to build their beautiful "Queen Anne Rustic" style home in Geneva. The home is now an Indiana Department of Natural Resources State Historic Site. By the time the Munros moved onto the property, the oil wells

had been abandoned.

By 1917, the Munro family had moved from Illinois and into the farmhouse located on the property. The Munro children -- Esther, Lloyd, Clark, Ruth, and Warren -- set about exploring the woods and fields of their new home. The Munro farm was the typical family farm of the early 1900's. They raised cattle, hogs, sheep, and chickens and crops in the field. Without the modern farm equipment, a 240-acre farm was large and took a great deal of work to manage. The Munros had a hired hand to help, but Asa and the boys were kept very busy.

Lloyd and Ruth Munro attended the Brushwood Schoolhouse which was an easy walk from their farmhouse. The other children attended school in Geneva. The Brushwood Schoolhouse was not in use for many years, closing in 1919, a brief 16 years after it opened.

When he was a boy, Warren Munro recalls coming back from a threshing and driving a team of a Percheron and a Belgian through the woods. A storm came up quickly and he almost lost control of the team on the narrow dirt track through the trees. Warren also remembers his father, Asa, not wanting to work the team one day in the hot July sun -- afraid that the horses would overheat. That night, his father woke Warren and they

went out to harvest wheat by moonlight.

The Munros are entrusting ACRES with more than their woods and fields. Their family is entrusting to ACRES their family memories of their life on this land. We can think of no better honor than to be given the chance to protect these memories along with the woods these special individuals choose to protect.

Thank you again to Mrs. Agnes Munro and Mrs Esther Munro Cooper for their gift to the citizens of northeast Indiana -- a beautiful nature preserve to cherish and protect!

by Carolyn McNagny
ACRES Executive Director

In April, the ACRES Land Management Committee held a work day at the new preserve. Steward Tom Hurst, Tabb Liechty, Rose Marie Bostleman, Karlann Bieberich, Dave Rezits, Ron Baber, Bob Weber, and John Ellenwood removed rusted fencing, old sheet metal pipes, and other trash from the preserve. A trail was set and the interior of the schoolhouse was cleaned. Many thanks to all of these people.

To visit the Munro Nature Preserve, take SR27 south to Geneva. Take Indiana 116 west from Geneva to CR 400 West. Turn south on 400 West to CR 1100 south. Park along 400 West near the the Brushwood School. There is a sign-in box and preserve sign.

Sandhill Cranes: Back Home Again

Visiting the Wing Haven Nature Preserve recently, I was startled to hear a deep rattling k-r-r-r-oo coming from the vicinity of Little Gentian Lake. When I asked property caretaker, Fred Wooley, what was making the sound, he said that there are a pair of Sandhill Cranes near the lake pier.

Little Gentian Lake has been home to a nesting pair of Cranes for several years, but this is the first year that we suspect two pair might be nesting. Unlike Great Blue Herons, whose nests are a flimsy mishmash of sticks high in the tree tops, Cranes nest on the ground. Working together the parents create a mound of aquatic vegetation to serve as a home for their two brown-spotted eggs.

Adult Sandhill Cranes are BIG, standing three-four feet high with a two meter (five foot) wingspan. The gray adults have a red forehead and a tuft of feathers over their tail referred to as a "bustle", which seems a ridiculous field mark for such an elegant bird.

As I hiked down to Little Gentian Lake, I could see the Sandhill Cranes flying over the marsh. In flight, the Cranes are easy to identify from the smaller Great Blue Heron. The Sandhills fly with their necks extended and their legs trailing behind, forming a "flying cross". Blue Herons cary their necks in a loop back to their shoulders.

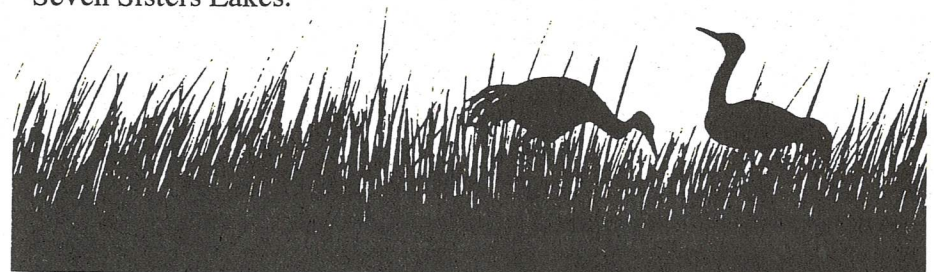


Sandhill Crane



Great Blue Heron

If you hike Wing Haven this summer, it is a wonderful gift to hear the Cranes calling. It is hoped that the parents will be successful in raising their young, and in the future there will be more nesting pairs on our Seven Sisters Lakes.



Field Trips & Special Events

Saturday, July 23. Stalking the Ferocious Butterfly.

Hike Leader: Gary Helmke, Naturalist and Insect Expert.

Join Gary for a 1 hour hike to learn about butterflies, beetles, spiders, and other arthropods.

When: 10:00am

Where: The Bicentennial Woods parking area. Take Coldwater Road north of Fort Wayne to Shoaff Road. Turn west on Shoaff, parking area is located on south side of the road.

Bring: Walking shoes. Long sleeved shirts, long pants and insect repellent recommended.

Contact Person: Carolyn McNagny, ACRES Office (219-422-1004).

Sunday, August 7. Wing Haven Nature Preserve Open House.

1:00pm to 5:00pm

Host: Mike Muchler.

Mike will show slides of Angola, Indiana from 1866 to 1966. Slides were gathered to help Angola celebrate its Centennial in 1966. Helpers: Stacey Davis, Michelle Doerr, and Chris Thomas.

When: 2:00pm

Where: Studio at the Wing Haven Nature Preserve.

Saturday, August 13. Cardinal Flower Canoe Trip

Canoe the beautiful and serene Pigeon River to see the Cardinal Flower. We have canoes available. Join us for a 2 hour paddle on the Pigeon!

When: 10:00am

Where: East side of SR 327, north of SR 20 (LaGrange County).

Bring: Picnic lunch and a change of clothes.

Contact Persons: Eva Claphan at 219-495-4605 or Carolyn McNagny at the ACRES Office (219-422-1004).

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Sunday, September 4. Wing Haven Nature Preserve Open House.

1:00pm to 5:00pm. Exploring Rare Sheep and Their Wools.

Neil and Connie Kentner of Mystery Acres will present a hands-on presentation of rare Jacob Sheep. Learn how wool is produced from start to finish through slides, wool products, and live animals.

When: 2:00pm

Where: Wing Haven Nature Preserve - Steuben County.

Bring: Children and adults. Special opportunity for spinners and weavers to learn about wools.

Contact Person: Carolyn McNagny, ACRES Office (219-422-1004).

Sunday, September 18. Seeking Early Fall Migrators.

Join Ted Heemstra, past President of the Stockbridge and Indiana Audubon Societies, for a 1 hour hike to look for migrating birds.

When: 3:30pm

Where: The Bicentennial Woods parking area. Take Coldwater Road north of Fort Wayne to Shoaff Road. Turn west on Shoaff, parking area is located on south side of the road.

Bring: Walking shoes and binoculars.

Contact Person: Carolyn McNagny, ACRES office (219-422-1004).

Saturday, September 24. Hike at Acres Along the Wabash.

Hike Leader: Bob Weber, Naturalist, past President of ACRES.

Come to a 1 hour hike to learn about trees, such as the record hackberry, oak, and sycamore trees located in the preserve.

When: 10:00am at car pool site, 10:30am at the Preserve

Where: Car pool at Roger's Market on Bluffton Road, in Waynedale, or go to preserve on SR 116, northwest Bluffton.

Bring: Walking Shoes and picnic lunch. (If time permits, we will also hike the Anna Brand Hammer Reserve).

Sunday, October 2. Wing Haven Nature Preserve Open House

(1pm to 5pm). Wild Wings Raptor Center program. Raptor rehabilitators Laura Edmunds and Janie Fink will give a live demonstration of hawks and owls and talk about the importance of protecting these beautiful and fascinating birds. Come to a one hour program.

When: 2:00pm

Where: Wing Haven Nature Preserve

Bring: Lawn chair or blanket to sit on, and your camera.

Contact Person: Carolyn McNagny, ACRES office (219-422-1004).

Sunday, October 9. Benefit Concert for ACRES.

Wing Haven Nature Preserve.

Presented by Members of the Fort Wayne Philharmonic.

Enjoy classical music in the beautiful and peaceful setting of the Wing Haven Nature Preserve. The one hour concert will be presented outside, in case of inclement weather, we will be in the Studio at Wing Haven.

Musicians:

David Rezits, Cello

Cindy Greider, Clarinet

Betsy Thal, Violin

Dessie Arnold, Violin

Ann Graham, Viola

Joe Kalisman, Cello

When: 2:00pm

Bring: Lawn chair or blanket to sit on, friends and family.

Costs: \$8.00 for adults, children under 12 are free!

Refreshments will be served.

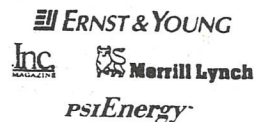
ALL PROCEEDS WILL BENEFIT ACRES - SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL LAND TRUST!

ACRES And an ACRES Board Member Recognized for Outstanding Work!

In April, ACRES received an award from the Fort Wayne Rotary Club. It was "**Presented in Recognition of Sustained Commitment to Environmental Excellence**". The award was made possible by ACRES members Alan Diefenbach and Donna Richards.

Dave Gall, ACRES Board Member, will receive a **Socially Responsible Award** at Indiana's 1994 Entrepreneur of the Year Program. The award recognizes excellence in Entrepreneurship and Dave is receiving his award for his work in locating, coordinating the fund raising, and developing a trail system for The Bicentennial Woods. Congratulations Dave!

Entrepreneur of the Year is sponsored by:



Eagle Scout Project at Seven Pillars Nature Preserve

Tique Vollmer, Eagle Scout, organized a work day at the Seven Pillars Nature Preserve in March. Two signs, a walk-through stile, and a gate were built. Congratulations and thank you for jobs well done.



Other Members Coming Through!

Thank you very much to:

- Richarg Sorg for the electric stapler.
- Brenda Collins for volunteering at the ACRES Office.
- Gary Helmke and Nancy Malis for offering educational programs for children.

Other needs the office has are: postage scale, coffee mugs, fax machine and an air conditioner (no wider than 25 inches).

ACRES LAND TRUST

Presents

A BENEFIT CONCERT FOR ACRES

Presented by
Members of the Fort Wayne Philharmonic

AT THE

WING HAVEN NATURE PRESERVE

Sunday, October 9th at 2:00 p.m.

Enjoy classical music in the beautiful and peaceful setting of the Wing Haven Nature Preserve. The one hour concert will be presented outside, in case of inclement weather we will be in the Studio at Wing Haven.

MUSICIANS

David Rezits, Cello	Cindy Greider, Clarinet	Betsy Thal, Violin
Anna Graham, Viola	Dessie Arnold, Violin	Joe Kalisman, Cello

Where: WING HAVEN NATURE PRESERVE, Steuben County
Take Exit 154 (Pokagon State Park Exit) to 127 S, turn East on 400 N.
Preserve located 1/2 mile down 400 N.

When: Sunday, October 9th at 2:00 p.m.

Cost: \$8.00 for adults, children under 12 are free!

Bring: Lawn chair or blanket to sit on, friends and family.

Contact Person: Carolyn McNaghy, ACRES office (219) 422-1004

ACRES Land Trust is a non-profit corporation, dedicated to preserving natural areas for future generations to enjoy. ACRES owns and manages 29 nature preserves in 9 counties in northeastern Indiana. All preserves are open to the public from sunrise to sunset for environmental education, scientific study and enjoyment. Public memberships in ACRES are welcomed and membership information is available at the ACRES office or can be mailed to you by calling (219) 422-1004.

ALL PROCEEDS WILL BENEFIT ACRES -- SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL LAND TRUST!



Hiking a Trail in The Bicentennial Woods

by Gary Helmke

Hiking the trails of The Bicentennial Woods is a fascinating and unique experience. Upon entering the forest, it seems as though you are being transported back to a time before Fort Wayne came into existence.

As you near the end of the preserve entrance trail, you come upon a trail post marked "Foot Bridge" and "Arnold's Oaks". The Arnold's Oaks Trail is approximately 22 yards in length ending in front of several huge old white oaks. These trees are 4 1/2 feet across and are more than 200 years old. Walking back to the trail post and following the "Foot Bridge" marker, then crossing Willow Creek, you will come upon a trail post marked "Eagle Scout". This trail follows along Willow Creek's south bank. While hiking the Eagle Scout Trail you can hear the soothing sound of Willow Creek's water rushing by on its way to Cedar Creek. On either side of the trail, an abundance of wild flowering plants and deciduous trees grow.

During the spring, you will find flowering plants such as hepatica, cut-leaf toothwort, toadshade trillium, large-flowered trillium, nodding trillium, jack-in-the-pulpit, wild ginger, bloodroot, various

species of violets, and many other spring wildflowers. As the year progresses into summer, you will see smooth aster, fire pink, cardinal flower, and spiderwort, all of which are beautifully colored in either white and yellow, red, or blue.



Continuing along this trail, you will eventually come to an easy-to-climb stairway that takes you to the top of a hill. While hiking this hill, you may discover, at rest on a small tree or shrub, a tiny 1 to 1 1/2 inch gray tree frog. This tiny, inconspicuous frog blends in well with its surroundings. To find this amphibian, one must have a trained eye for detail.

The Bicentennial forest seems to have a wide variety of wild animal life. While hiking the forest, you will constantly hear the sounds of various birds singing, chipmunks chirping, frogs croaking and other animals

scurrying about under the shrubbery.

On a day while I was out listing herbaceous plants, a hiker stopped me and introduced himself, then proceeded to tell me how the Bicentennial preserve reminded him of Fox Island County Park, Lindenwood Preserve, and Chain O' Lakes State Park all rolled into one. If you look close enough and think about it, in many ways it does.

On another day in the preserve, while listing plants and insects, I unknowingly frightened a 4-week old whitetailed deer fawn from its hiding place. It was one of the most fantastic encounters of nature I have ever had the pleasure of experiencing. During this same day, I was also fortunate enough to observe a pair of young red fox at play. They were running back and forth along the top of a large fallen tree.



Later that very same day, I was also fortunate enough to observe a moth that one does not see everyday. The "hummingbird moth" somewhat resembles the tiny bird for which it is named.

The body of the moth, from head to abdomen is iridescent green. The abdomen is reddish-brown.



The Bicentennial Woods preserve is definitely worth saving for future generations and a must to go see and study.

Gary Helmke has worked for the Fort Wayne Parks and Recreation Department as a naturalist and as a volunteer naturalist with Fox Island County Park for the last 8 years. He is now currently working as a volunteer for ACRES.

Antlers Found At the Bicentennial Woods!

For those who attended the exceedingly rainy preview openhouse of The Bicentennial Woods, the highlight of the day was Cindy Greider and David Rezits finding a set of antlers. While hiking through the rain, they found both racks near each other in the large field near the buttonbush wetlands. A herd of whitetailed deer are often seen in the field towards dusk.

Normally, fallen antlers do not last long as rodents quickly gnaw away at them for the minerals they contain. These antlers have been given to the ACRES office and will be used in our educational programs.

Stewards of ACRES' Preserves

The Heart of Our Management Program

by Bob Weber

Most of our members probably know that much of our land management tasks are handled by volunteers who freely offer their time and talents. Without such volunteerism our ACRES' operations would either require expending many dollars for more professional services than we now use, or else, the preserves would suffer more inattention and we would not have the signs, parking areas, and trails ready for people to enjoy.

Scout groups have been particularly appreciated for their help with land management. Lately, we have enjoyed a tremendous upsurge in cooperative arrangements with Boy Scout troops as their Eagle Scout projects are planned and carried out with our land management committee at several preserves.

We also have a plan of work with preserve stewards who volunteer to accept the responsibility for particular preserves. These people are the wonderfully dedicated individuals who have promised either to do management tasks themselves, or when that is too difficult, to advise the land management committee of needs. In the latter case, we rely either upon volunteer groups such as ACRES members, the Scouts, Church or student groups, or the Volksmarchers to come in. Or, we hire skilled contractors for bigger jobs.

Possibly you would be interested in taking on a preserve that is in need of a volunteer steward. Please look over the list, showing the stewards now in place, and let us know if there is a vacancy that fits with you.

Preserve	County	Steward(s)
Ropchan Memorial N.P.	Steuben	Jane Papsdorf
Ropchan Wildlife Refuge	Steuben	Ethel McClelland & David Homan
Beechwood Nature Preserve	Steuben	Sam Boggs
Wing Haven Nature Preserve	Steuben	Fred Wooley
Woodland Bog Nature Preserve	Steuben	
Lloyd W. Bender Memorial Forest	Noble	Alice Golden & Pam Etheridge
Ralph F. Gates Nature Preserve	Noble	Marcia McNaghy
Detering Farm Nature Preserve	Noble	Mike Hawfield & Jill Borkenstein
Art Hammer Wetlands	Noble	
Lonidaw Nature Preserve	Noble	Bob and Linda Miller
Edna W. Spurgeon Woodland	Noble	Else Matott & Carolyn McNaghy
Foxfire Woods Nature Preserve	Allen	John Ellenwood & Nancy Malis
Maumee River Overlook	Allen	Wendell Hall

Mengerson Nature Reserve	Allen	Ed Eberhardt
Fogwell Forest Nature Preserve	Allen	Karen and Tom Bennett
Cedar Creek Bottoms	Allen	
McNabb/Walter Nature Preserve	Allen	
Herman F. Hammer Wald	Allen	Ron Baber
Vandolah Nature Preserve	Allen	Paul and Marla McAfee
Whitehurst Nature Preserve	Allen	Jane Dustin
The Bicentennial Woods	Allen	David Gall, Gary Helmke, & Ken Millikan
Hanging Rock Natural Area	Wabash	
Seven Pillars of the Mississinewa	Miami	Jim Pattison
Martin Lake Nature Preserve	LaGrange	
Maplewood Nature Preserve	LaGrange	LaGrange County Parks Dept.
Anna Brand Hammer Reserve	Wells	Peter and Pam Oleson
Acres Along The Wabash	Wells	Larry Bieberich
Bibler Nature Preserve	Jay	
Munro Nature Preserve	Adams	Tom Hurst

This list is the best to our knowledge. There may be some of you that visit a favorite preserve and pick up trash, clear trails of limbs and do work we do not know about or recall. We are sorry to overlook anyone. If you do such work or would like to be involved with a property's trail maintenance, sign repair, parking area mowing and upkeep, fencing needs, photography, and general property watch dog, please contact me, Bob Weber, Steward Coordinator, at 219-747-6030. Another organizational meeting is being planned for this fall.

Thank you all for such tremendous efforts and dedication to your local land trust!

Bob Weber is a founding board member of ACRES Land Trust and presently a vice president of the organization.

Two Preserves Get a Big Boost!

Mike Hawfield, Jill Borkenstein, Rose Marie Bostleman, Dick Young, and Linda Miller organized a clean-up and fix up day April 2 at the Lonidaw and Detering Farm Nature Preserves. The Detering sign and sign-in box were installed near the new access site at the preserve. AND over 12 bags of unsightly trash were hauled out of the preserve, including a mattress. Hats off to a job well done!

Congratulations to Eagle Scouts!

The following Scouts have completed their Eagle Badge requirements on projects done in ACRES nature preserves:

Tique Vollmer - gate, entrance stile, and signs for Seven Pillars.

K.C. Witte - stairs, trail signs, and trails at The Bicentennial Woods.

Justin Gerdorn - foot bridges and trail work at Anna Brand Hammer.

The Back Page...

Here We Grow Again....

It use to be we could get by with two pieces of paper making eight pages of the **Quarterly**. I even have one copy in my files from years back, that was a single tri-fold page. In some recent issues we crept in 3 pieces, 12 pages of **Quarterly**. You may have noticed this missive to be a bit heavier as you pulled it from the mail box --16 pages!

More new members, more projects, more reports, more volunteers, and yes, another new ACRES preserve! A few years back, ACRES eclipsed 30 years of age and now ACRES closes in on 30 preserves. It is quite exciting to see so much positive energy and tremendous activity from a group which, for the most part, is all volunteer.

It is not to say that each **Quarterly** from now on will remain at 16, or even 12, pages, but we will continue to try to keep members and friends informed the best we can as we continue to grow.

On another note, it was with great interest that I read of the acquisition of the Munro Preserve and its tie to Gene Stratton-Porter. I have the pleasure of being caretaker of this Wing Haven Preserve, which was the home of another talented woman and artist, Helen Swenson. Although Helen did not achieve the fame of Gene Stratton-Porter, their love of the land and desire to share it with others in very special ways were remarkably similar. It is great that ACRES can carry on their spirit in the lands they loved.

- 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 Autumn issue is **August 25, 1994**.  printed on recycled paper 

ACRES
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