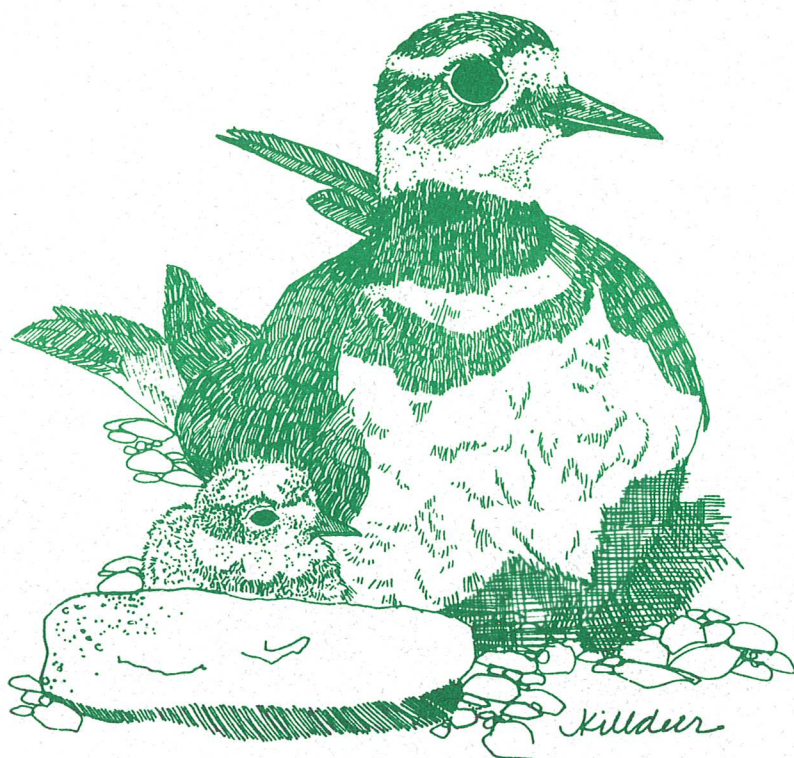




Quarterly

Spring - 1995
Volume XXXIV No. 2



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ACRES Active Members Make Things Happen!

News briefs from the Executive Director

Thank you to the following who responded to recent "wish lists":
John Bendik for two file cabinets and to **Alan and Donna Richards** for their help in making this gift possible.
Pat McNagny for a fax machine.
Doug Lewis for mugs.

Home and Garden Show - March 1-5, 1995

ACRES Land Trust had a booth at the Home & Garden Show in Fort Wayne. Thank you to all of the volunteers who staffed the booth and to **Tom and Karen Bennett** for their help in transporting and setting up the display.

John and Marcella Ellenwood
Sam Schwartz
Nancy Malis
Dick Sorg
Mary Berghoff
Tobi Van Dyck
Ted and Pat Heemstra
Alan and Paulette Bremer
Tom and Karen Bennett

Claire Tobin
Carolyn Hurley
Larry and Karlann Bieberich
Doug and Irene Lewis
Marcia McNagny
Art Eberhardt
Sue and Tim Diefenbach
Ron and Rosemary Baber

WORK DAYS

In February, **Michael Hawfield** and **Bob Miller** held a work day at the **Lonidaw Nature Preserve** near Kendallville. They removed downed trees and cleared out the trail for the spring hikers. **Bob and Linda Miller** are stewards of the Lonidaw Preserve. **Michael Hawfield** and **Jill Borkenstein** are stewards of the **Detering Nature Preserve**. Thanks to all for their hard work!

On February 19, members of **Cub Scout Pack 3443**, led by **Joe Corah**, completed requirements for a World Conservation badge by doing trail work at the **Vandolah Nature Preserve**. **John Ellenwood** organized the work day.

continued on page 10

This issue's cover was done by Cindi Brunner of Carbondale, Colorado.

ACRES Welcomes New Members:

Alison R. Adams
Gordon Ash
Mark Berghoff and Mona Yoder
David B. Cole
Charles and Sylvia Dart
Alan, Sue and Tim Diefenbach
Jack and Elaine Drummond
Steven Fortriede and Donna Byall
Sharon Geyer
Don and Renee Gorney
Pam and Pete Johnson

Albert McSweeney
David Greene and Susan Tuori
Scott A. and Susan C. Miller
Michael and Amy Murphy
Mr. and Mrs. Emmett Steininger
John Nichter and Susan Thompson
Jeffrey Raff
Sox Sperry and Lisa Tsetse
William and Martha Wilczynski
Loyal R. Yoder

Membership Reminder!

To members and Friends: It is time to renew your membership if the date over your name reads 6/95 or 6/94. If you do not have an expiration date, we invite you to join ACRES Land Trust. Your membership dollars are used to provide land acquisition funds, printed materials, programs, Quarterlies, staff, headquarters rental, and insurance. We encourage you to renew early. Do come to the ACRES events we have planned for you and be sure to visit us at the Wing Haven Open Houses on the first Sunday of every month.

- Mary Anna Entwisle, Membership Chair



On February 4, 1995, Boy Scout Troop 180 from Hamilton, Indiana, under the leadership of Eagle Scout candidate, Jerry Ordway, built this bridge at the Ropchan Wildlife Refuge. More details on page 10. Pictured left to right are: Matt Ordway, Andy Miller, Adam Hulbart, Jerry Ordway, Helga Lingo, James Lingo and Pat Miller.

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.

Regina C. Flath

From the Flath family and
her niece, Florence S. Klotz

(Regina Flath faithfully kept
the ACRES scrapbook for over
10 years and enjoyed being
involved with ACRES!)

Alma Waikel

Karen and Bob Griggs

Fred Fish

Karen and Bob Griggs

Cleon L. Fleck

ACRES Land Trust has received a generous bequest from the estate of Cleon L. Fleck, a long-time ACRES member and Fort Wayne resident. Mr. Fleck passed away in February, 1994. An educator, journalist, and world traveler, Mr. Fleck started his career as a high school teacher at Columbia City in 1930, teaching history, English, and journalism. In 1937 he joined the faculty at Central High School in Fort Wayne.

Born in Whitley County in 1908, he inherited his father's love of teaching. As a young boy, Cleon often accompanied his school superintendent father as he made his rounds of the one-room school houses by horse and buggy. Cleon's nephew, George Fleck, said, "Like his father, he views teaching as a profession... not limited to the classroom and not terminated by retirement."

Closing out his teaching career at North Side High in 1974, Mr. Fleck and his wife, Ruth, enjoyed their lake home at Loon Lake in northwest Whitley County. Cleon served as editor of the **Bulletin**, the publication of the Whitley County Historical Society.

One of the defining characteristics of Cleon Fleck throughout his life was his love of people and our natural heritage. ACRES appreciates his interest in our organization and the wonderful gift he left for our care and use.

ACRES' Wish List....

As our organization continues to expand, so, too, do our needs in our office. If you have any of these items to donate, or if you wish to purchase them directly for the office, they would be put to immediate use and be much appreciated:

Lap top computer (IBM compatible)

Four hanging baskets for the porch - red or white geraniums

Fire proof safe

Overhead projector.

THANK YOU!

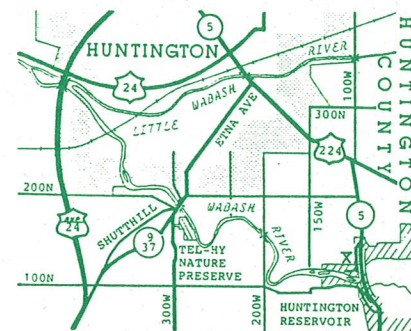
A New ACRES Preserve!

Introducing the Tel-Hy Nature Preserve

by Carolyn McNaggy, Executive Director

There are very few places in Indiana where you can stand on the edge of a bluff and look down at a river winding through tree-lined banks. For that matter, there are very few places in Indiana where you can stand and look down on anything. Our state is not famous for its mountains or ocean beaches, but Indiana can surprise you with a place so quietly beautiful that you would not trade it for all of the big and showy places in our country.

Hy and Lorry Goldenberg have donated 30 acres of steep bluffs and ravines overlooking the Wabash River to the ACRES Land Trust. The nature preserve is the first in Huntington County and a generous gift to the people of Indiana.



Lorry Goldenberg was born and raised in Indiana. Hy (or Hyman) was born in Massachusetts. They met in Colorado. After they were married, they settled in Huntington, Indiana. Hy, an engineer, began work at Huntington Laboratories and quickly rose to become

Vice-President. He served on the ACRES Board of Directors for 10 years. Both Lorry and Hy are dedicated members, contributing time and many efforts to the organization.

The Goldenbergs have three children: Ellen, Sherman, and Nan. They had a summer home from which, "we got evicted by the Salamonie Reservoir", said Lorry. They started to look for a new home site and bought the "Back 40" of a farm. In 1966, with plans to build a home overlooking the Wabash River in hand, Hy hired a work crew to start construction. He decided an outhouse was needed for the crew and drove to Monument City, which was one of a couple of towns about to "go under" for the Salamonie Reservoir.

The Monument City's houses had been removed, but lonely outhouses still marked the sites of several farms. Hy bought a "no-longer-new" outhouse for \$2.00 from a farmer and drove back to the work site. He sent a man down to pick it up and the worker came back with not one, but two outhouses in his truck. As Lorry said, "two of anything is a collection", and so began Hy's famous outhouse collection.

The Goldenbergs have lived for 29 years at their Wabash River home. Nan Goldenberg Plasterer remembers seeing fox, deer, osprey,

See Tel-Hy on page 10

Field Trips & Special Events

Saturday, April 22. Sixth Annual Adopt A Tree Festival!

Come out to the Wing Haven Nature Preserve as the spring wildflowers come to bloom! Take home a free native tree to plant, build your own bird house or feeder, make a decorated T-Shirt, do an orienteering tree trail or treasure hunt, or sit on the back porch of the art studio and enjoy the view! Art Eberhardt, Jim Shearer, Dave Syler, and John Ellenwood are the faithful volunteers who make it all happen!

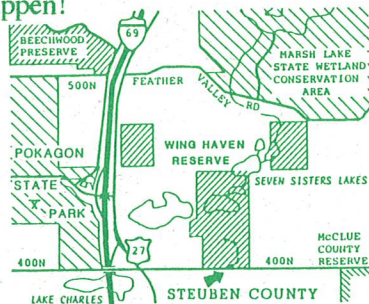
When: 10:00am to 5:00pm

Where: Wing Haven Nature Preserve.

See map at right.

Bring: Family and Friends.

Contact Person: Art Eberhardt,
219-665-2421.



Saturday, May 6. Tiptoe through the Wildflowers... and Pull Garlic Mustard!

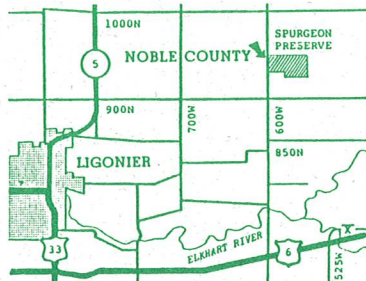
Else Matott will lead a wildflower walk at the Edna W. Spurgeon Woodland Preserve, protected by ACRES since 1961. Stay for some great exercise by pulling garlic mustard, an invasive alien plant.

When: 11:00am.

Where: At the Preserve. See map.

Bring: Picnic lunch, friends, and work clothes.

Contact Person: Else Matott,
219-745-7877.



Sunday, May 7. Wing Haven Nature Preserve Open House (1pm to 5pm) Discover Interesting Facts about the Rare Cisco.

IDNR Fisheries Biologist Larry Koza, will share why this fish is rapidly disappearing from Indiana's lakes. Wing Haven's Gentian Lake is fortunate to still have some of these unique fish.

When: 2:00pm

Where: Wing Haven Nature Preserve. See map above.

Bring: Appropriate clothing and walking shoes if you would like to hike the trails after the program. It's a great time for spring flowers!

Contact Persons: Carolyn McNagny,
219-422-1004.

Saturday, May 13. Olin Lake Nature Preserve Work Project.

Help protect our native wildflowers! This garlic mustard pulling work day will be near the height of the wildflower season, so we will be also enjoying the view. Please join us!

When: 10:00am to mid-afternoon.

Where: Meet at the Olin Lake Preserve parking area, LaGrange County. CR 125 S, one-half mile north of CR 600 S.

Bring: Picnic lunch, work shoes, long pants and sleeves, and gloves.

Contact Person: Rich Dunbar (IDNR Regional Ecologist) 219-691-3401.

Sunday, May 28. Tel-Hy Nature Preserve. NEW PRESERVE!!!

Thanks to the generosity of Hy and Lorry Goldenberg, ACRES is proud to have an Open House at this spectacular new nature preserve. Join us for a day of celebration with guided hikes, food and fun! David Rezits, of the Fort Wayne Philharmonic, will provide music and we will have a tour of Hy's unusual outhouse collection.

When: 2:00pm

Where: Tel-Hy Nature Preserve. See Map on page 5.

Bring: Friends and family.

Contact Person: Carolyn McNagny, 219-422-1004.

Sunday, June 4. Wing Haven Nature Preserve Open House (1pm to 5pm) Indiana Native Plant and Wildflower Society Gathering.

Come and enjoy Wing Haven with this state-wide group of wildflower experts and enthusiasts dedicated to promoting appreciation, conservation, preservation, and scientific study of our native flora of Indiana.

When: 2:00pm

Where: Wing Haven Nature Preserve. See map on page 6.

Contact Persons: Carolyn McNagny, 219-422-1004. Or, Bill Brink of INPAWS at 317-255-0166.

(If you are interested in an additional hike with this group, they will be hiking at Pigeon River Fish and Wildlife Area on June 3. Call Bill Brink for details.)

Sunday, July 2 Wing Haven Nature Preserve Open House (1pm to 5pm) The Nature Conservancy's Fish Creek Project.

Guest Speaker and Fish Creek Project Director, Larry Clemens, will first discuss this unique area on the far southeast side of Steuben County. He'll then lead a carpool tour to the Douglas Woods (bordering Fish Creek, near Hamilton, Indiana) and hike through this unique area.

When: 1:00pm at the Wing Haven Preserve.

Bring: Walking clothing and shoes.

Contact: ACRES Office, 219-422-1004.

(Program and tour to Douglas Woods will take most of the afternoon.)

Forks of the Wabash

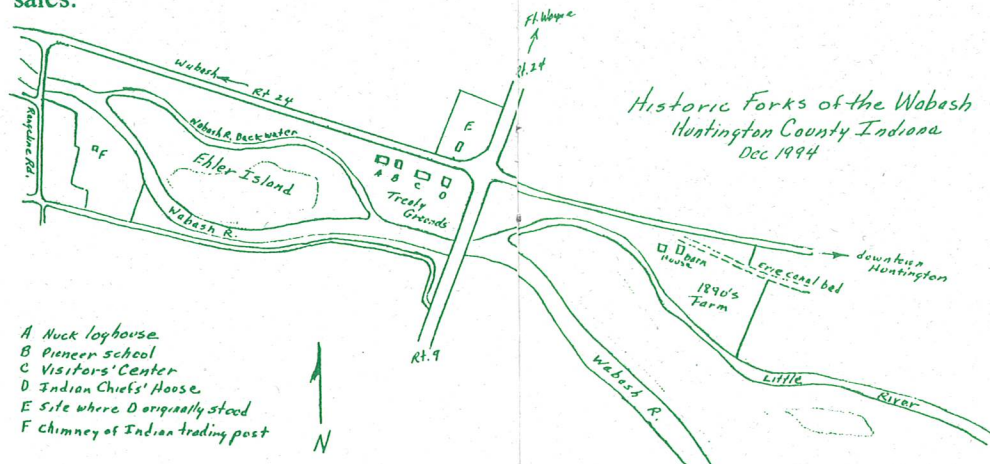
by Robert C. Weber

Just at the west edge of Huntington, Indiana, is an area called the Forks of the Wabash. This name stems from the geography of the meeting of two rivers - the Little River coming in from Fort Wayne and the Wabash River, which starts in the area of the Limberlost, comes through Bluffton and Markle before arriving at Huntington and passing all of the way across Indiana. It goes through Wabash, Logansport, Lafayette, and Terre Haute before forming the southwest border of the state and joining the Ohio River at the very tip of Posey County. The Wabash River is truly a jewel for the Hoosier State and wonderful plans are being made by the Wabash River Heritage Commission to interpret it and to preserve its natural features.

Little River has an interesting history going back to the age of the last glaciers (10,000 -14,000 years ago) and the subsequent, huge, wide torrent of water racing through its valley from the melt waters released from glacial Lake Maumee. In more recent history, the Little River valley became a major portage route for the Indians and fur traders, a passage way for the Wabash and Erie Canal and, later, an interurban route between Huntington and Fort Wayne.

There is now a not-for-profit incorporated group called Historic Forks of the Wabash, Inc. pledged to preserve, enhance, protect, and interpret a geographical area known as the Forks of the Wabash. Having formally organized in 1987, this is a

young group. Since its inception, it has acquired over 100 acres of land (see map). Between 50 and 60 acres of the property are scheduled for restoration to natural forest and managed as a nature preserve. Another 12 acres represent a turn-of-the-century farm with a barn and home to be restored and interpreted. Five more acres surround the remaining limestone chimney of the former Miami Indian trading post. On the remaining acreage, historic buildings and a visitor's center offer a beginning focal point for visitors. Two historic buildings, the Chief's House (former homes of Chief's Richardville and La Fontaine) and the Nuck House (log home of a pioneer family) have been fully restored and furnished much as they would have been in 1846 when the Miami Indians were mostly removed from the state. The visitor's center is a former fruit stand, but now is remodeled and orients visitors to this historic area and provides gift and refreshment sales.



I have been serving on the Board of Directors for the Historic Forks of the Wabash since 1987 and have become intimately acquainted with its growing pains. Until the grand opening last June, the efforts were nearly all involved with land acquisition and moving, restoring, and furnishing the buildings. Until last June, we were setting the stage, but had not gone too heavily into planning the play.

Now our board is preparing to hire a needed staff, plan activities and events, train interpreters, set up priorities for site development, and form a suitable fiscal plan for sustained operations. Nearly all good board of directors do these things, but I hope they are having as much satisfaction and fun as ours is in learning and meeting challenges.

People who came to the Forks from last June to October represented a broad spectrum: history buffs, school groups, tourists, civic clubs, and members of the Miami Tribe. They represented 22 states and 3 foreign countries.

So far we can offer visitors interpretive tours of the buildings, trail hikes along the old Wabash-Erie Canal, the Wabash River, and on Ehler Island, viewing videos and exhibits, picnic tables, plantings for viewing, games for children, and a schedule of special events. As soon as they can be readied, we intend to add a frontier school, a trading post, a restored segment of the canal, the late 1800's farm, additional educational and recreational activities, an amphitheater for outdoor programs, a canoe landing, more trail opportunities, and some measure of the old interurban railroad. If any of the present or planned offerings are of special interest to you and if you wish to volunteer your assistance, please do not hesitate to let us know.

The weekends from May through October are the times the Forks' facilities are staffed. If you want to visit at a different time, please phone ahead to the office at 219-356-1903 or to the home of the acting director, Jean Gernand, 219-356-4218.

As an ACRES member and friend, you are surely very interested in nature preserves. We intend to enhance 50 to 60 acres of this nature preserve at the Forks, and I invite you to join us in restoring what are now idle farm fields. There is plenty work to be done, but what is more satisfying than seeing young trees turning a former forest, now an old field, back into a forest?!

- Robert Weber is on the Board of Directors for both the Historic Forks of the Wabash and ACRES Land Trust.

Tel-Hy ... from page 5

sandhill cranes, pileated woodpeckers, beaver, and blue herons out her back door. Lorry says the hillsides are covered with hepatica in the spring.



Their neighbors to the north have been Loren and Pauline Fulhart, who owned 30 acres of the same spectacular topography. The difference, says Lorry, is that their woods have never been pastured. Nan said, "the Fulharts loved the land and took care of it." In 1989, after Loren died, Pauline put the land up for sale. The Goldenbergs purchased the 30 acres to "preserve it and keep it from development".

Lorry said, "from the beginning, we meant it for ACRES." For 16 years, Hy and Lorry have spent the winter months in Zichron Yaacov, Israel. When deciding on a name for the preserve, Hy chose "Tel-Hy". Tel means an "ancient site" and Hy means "life", according to Sherman Goldenberg.

Sometimes, land that seems unchangeable is the most vulnerable. The wildflower-covered slopes and huge beech trees of the Tel-Hy Nature Preserve are very fragile. By donating this property to the ACRES Land Trust, the Goldenbergs have ensured the preservation of a beautiful natural land.

On May 28, a preview, guided, field trip will be led to the new Tel-Hy Preserve. Details on page 7.

ACRES Active members.... continued from page 2.

Ken Millikan has been working at **The Bicentennial Woods** and at the **Vandolah Nature Preserve**. Thank you Ken!

On a very cold and blustery day in February, Boy Scout Troop 180, from Hamilton, Indiana, built their third bridge at the **Ropchan Wildlife Refuge** in Steuben County. **Jerry Ordway** will receive his Eagle Scout Award for this project. We are grateful for all of the work that Troop 180 has done in the Ropchan Preserve. See picture on page 3.

Many thanks to **Jim Carr, Mike Metz, and Scott Beam**, of the **La-Grange County Parks Department** for their hard work in offering the Maple Syrup Tour of the **Maplewood County Park**! Over 60 people attended and the day went smoothly with the help of ACRES members **Nancy Malis, Tobi Van Dyck, and Mary Anna Entwisle**.

Thanks to **Samhradh** for giving a great Concert at the **Wing Haven Nature Preserve**, March 5th. Board member and Open House host **Sam Schwartz**, said that **Bill Reeder, Ralph Reppert, John Brennan** and **Connie Halt** had everyone tapping their toes!

Woods Wanderings....

by Alice Golden

Today, I stopped in at Bender Woods just to be friendly... and to see if it really is still winter. Sure enuf. But Spring, well, it's throbbing just beneath my feet and around the next bend, and then I'm faced with a dilemma for sure. Which ACRES preserve to head for?...

I admit to being head-over-heals with the pieces close by our home here in Noble County. What will the wild and sweet delights be this Spring? So, "let me count the ways" of last Spring's feast...

Spurgeon Woods... the leeward spot early on the trail crammed with trillium, trout lily, Dutchman's Breeches, toothwort, and every manner of spring wildflower.

From the animal kingdom, we note the pileated woodpecker (we heard him first then caught a glimpse way up high), the wood frogs doing their clackety marble song down in the marsh (a mass of little, dark bumps sticking up out of the muddy water), and the wistfully beautiful song of two white-throated sparrows calling in the morning mist.

Alice Golden is an ACRES Land Trust member, and one who obviously enjoys the preserves in just the way they were intended! Alice and Pam Etheridge are co-stewards of the Lloyd W. Bender Nature Preserve.

Later in the season, we'll enjoy the wonderful yellow of the wood poppies trooping all over the hillside amid the spring green, and still later, the tender Blue-eyed Mary filling in the little valleys.

Bender Woods... fingers of early morning sun reaching from behind me and up a rise touching the scattered salt and pepper plant... finding myself down on my knees in the middle of a bank full of wild ginger in bloom... marvelling at the tiny and elusive bells of purple cress... stopped in my tracks on a wet morning by the flutey and cathedral tones of a wood thrush.



Then there is Crooked Lake with its meandering, hilly, wooded trails and big, beautiful beeches and board walk along a clear, deep water where the primitive horse tail plants grow.

That's only three. They just happen to be close by. How about all of the others? I would like to see every one of them every day of March, April and May! I know that whichever I pick, I will not be disappointed.

The Back Page...

My Newest Harbinger of Spring...

For some people, it is that delightful, cheerful call of the first robin to sing in the spring time. For others, it is that piercing "kill deer!... kill deer!" of the first killdeer darting through a dark, damp, early-morning, March sky. For a long time, mine was that ubiquitous red-winged blackbird. It is so common in summer marshes and roadside ditches, but a real breath of fresh air when first dropping out of a late February sky and into a semi-frozen marsh. As much as I love winter, the change is always good and Spring is right around the corner!

Since living at Wing Haven, however, I have come to develop a new herald of vernal yearnings... This year, it was March 6, at 7:35am. I heard that distinctive, primitive, loud, honk-like gurgle coming from the lake below. I bolted around the house just in time to see, through the leafless trees, the deliberate flapping and gliding of a pair of large sandhill cranes! They sailed with much commotion into the cattail marsh at the lake's edge. Their calls and the message they carried were

unmistakable.... the cranes are back and spring is here. It is so nice that ACRES can provide a breeding home for such a rare (in Indiana) bird. And it was so nice to be here when they arrived.



- 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, 1995.**



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Directors: Ted Heemstra, President; Robert C. Weber, VP; David Gall, VP; David C. Van Gilder, Secretary; Mary Anna Entwisle, Treasurer; David P. Deimling, Ben Roush, Arthur Eberhardt, James D. Haddock, Sam Schwartz, Greg Craghead, Paulette Bremer, James M. Barrett, Jane Dustin, David J. Miller, Janel A. Rogers. Carolyn McNagny, Executive Director. 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.