

QUARTERLY

Spring—1996
Volume 35—Number 2



Spring Wildflower Hikes...

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NEW LAND PRESERVATION OPPORTUNITIES!

Dear ACRES Members,

ACRES is involved in two new exciting land acquisition projects in 1996! We can't do it without you!

ACRES is working to acquire 40 acres in Allen County from Jeannette Kent. The property has a spectacular older growth woods, wetlands, a pond, and the fast-flowing Ely Run stream flows through it. Under huge oak trees, hepatica, dutchman's breeches, rue anemone, spring beauty, wake robin, trillium, bloodroot, violets (yellow, blue and white), woodland phlox, salt and pepper, and two kinds of trout lily (both yellow and white) bloom.

The preserve is to be named after Jeannette Kent's father, Emanuel M. Popp, and the land has been in the Popp family's name for many years. Jeannette's grandfather, Friedrich Popp, came to America from Germany in 1845. He worked to establish a farm in what was then the wilderness of Allen County. Friedrich did not send for his wife from Germany for almost ten years because he wanted the farm ready for her.

Emanuel M. Popp purchased the property from his family in 1936. When Jeannette was growing up, she remembers playing in the fields and woods all around the property. Playing down by Ely Run, she had a wonderful time as a child. She said "there would be muskrats in the stream and I'd surprise them and they would surprise me!" There were islands of grass in the stream and she played being an Indian maiden and would weave baskets of burdock stems.

After she married Dr. Richard Kent in 1941, Jeannette remembers the two of them looking forward to seeing the Popp property on the weekends. "I wanted to save this land and I will always have a soft spot in my heart for this place," Jeannette said.

ACRES is working to raise \$158,000 to purchase a portion of the property, for maintenance, and to acquire buffer areas. At this time, the property is not open to the public.



THE JEANNETTE KENT PROPERTY (Photo by John Ellenwood)

The second project is to purchase 135 acres in LaGrange County along the Fawn River. Any river in Indiana that still has trout in it deserves to be protected. Negotiations are still proceeding on this property, so we will give the location at a later date.

This little studied river flows clear and winding, back and forth across the Michigan/Indiana line. Mussels live in large numbers in the river and ACRES is planning a scientific expedition in June to identify which mussel species are present. Mussels are one of the most threatened animals in Indiana, fifteen species are listed as endangered, twelve as species of special concern, and ten species extirpated (absent from the state over 15 years). ACRES will have an article in the 1996 Summer

LAND PRESERVATION Continued

Quarterly about the mussel study.

To purchase the 135 acres, we will need to raise \$110,000 for acquisition, maintenance costs, and to acquire buffer for the property. On both properties, any funds raised from ACRES Members will be matched by grant funds.

We hope you'll be able to support these projects. The properties are listed on the enclosed remittance envelope, if you can help. Thank you.

Carolyn McNagny
Executive Director

*Indiana's Rare Plants and Animal: A Checklist of Endangered and Threatened Species, Indiana Department of Natural Resources. 1993.



FAWN RIVER

Remember to Renew!

Please renew today and consider renewing at a Share-the-Expense, Patron, or Benefactor level. As ACRES continues to grow, we need the people who care about ACRES to renew their commitment to its growth. Your Membership is very important.

Your donation helps ACRES to:

- acquire new preserves,
- manage our existing preserves,
- provide havens for our native plants and animals,
- preserve natural areas for all to enjoy and cherish,
- offer environmental education programs to area schoolchildren,
- give special events, hikes, concerts, and canoe trips for our Members and the public.

ACRES Membership has grown in the last few years. Our goal is to reach 1,000 members by the year 2,000! If you would like to recommend a friend to the organization, call the office at (219) 422-1004. We will be happy to send them membership information.

Remember that ACRES, Inc. is a 501 (c)(3) corporation and gifts and donations to the Land Acquisition and Management Fund or the acquisition of specific preserves are deductible to the extent allowed by Federal Income Tax laws. Your remittance envelope has a box to check if you would like to receive a receipt.

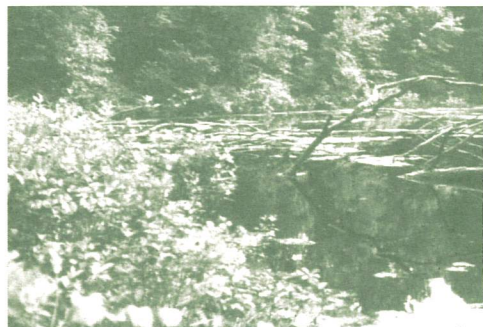
Mary Anna Entwisle, Membership Secretary

Thank you
to our foundation
and corporate sponsors!



ROPCHAN MEMORIAL BOG, Part II: Paleoecology and Development

by Anthony L. Swinehart



The landscape that we see today, with its lakes, forest, prairies, and fields, is only a snapshot in time—a reflection of past events and an indicator of changes yet to come. Given our relatively short-lived existence, we are not able to witness in person the slow, yet dynamic processes that shape our natural world. Fortunately, these fascinating changes are often revealed to us indirectly in the form of geologic features and fossils. Although most of us are familiar with fossils, such as dinosaur bones which are millions of year old, relatively few are aware of the younger “fossils” that have been produced and preserved in our bogs.

The Latin term *fossil* means “dug up”. Scientists generally define a fossil as the remains or evidence of plant or animal that over time has been replaced by minerals (turned to stone). This mineral replacement is thought to take millions of years to occur. However, some organisms which have been preserved in bogs over 15,000 years ago have not yet turned to stone. They still consist of the same substances that made up the living organism. We call these organic remains *subfossils*.

Bogs are excellent places to recover the ancient remains of plants and animals because

they are very poorly oxygenated, and many decomposing bacteria are absent. Dead organisms simply build up and form peat. Ropchan Memorial Bog is such a place, and the remains of its inhabitants have been accumulating for the past 12,000 to 14,000 years.

During the summer of 1995, Ropchan Memorial Bog was one of the 16 bogs and fens across northern Indiana to be studied. The peat of these bogs was probed with segments of metal rod to map the original basins and locate the deepest areas. The deepest Indiana bog is about 60 feet. Ropchan Memorial Bog was found to have a maximum depth of about 28 feet. It was in this deepest part that a special-

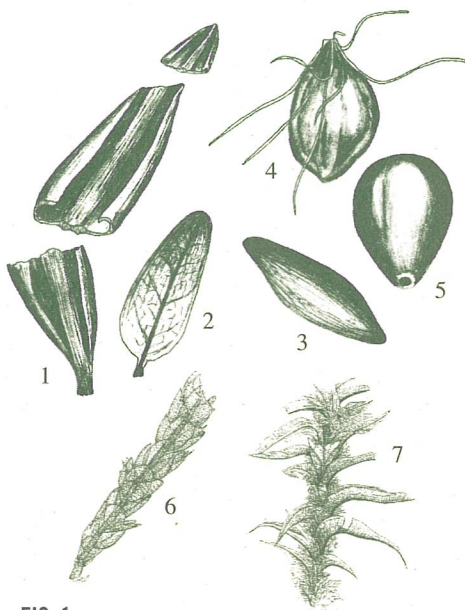


FIG. 1
Subfossils recovered from Ropchan Memorial Bog: 1) Leaf of Bog Rosemary 2) Leaf of Cranberry 3) Seed of Bushy Pondweed 4) Seed of Bulrush 5) Seed of Yellow Water Lily 6) Moss (*Calliergon trifarium*) 7) Moss (*Meesia triquetra*). [Illustrations by the author].

ized coring device was inserted to recover the remains of plants and animals that have lived and died there since the recession of the great glaciers.

Fifteen species of organism were recovered from the depths of Ropchan Memorial Bog (see Fig. 1 for examples). The deepest sediments contained remains of submerged aquatic plants such as stone-worts and bushy pondweed. Their presence suggests that the area was once a small lake. As peat began to accumulate, the water became shallower, and seeds of the yellow water lily tell of its development into a marsh. When the peat had finally filled the basin, and no open water remained, bulrushes colonized the wet muck. Interspersed between the stems of the rushes and sedges, brown-mosses grew. These mosses are characteristic of hard, alkaline waters. But, as the peat clogged the basin and prevented significant influx of mineral-rich groundwater, the wetland became more acidic, and *Sphagnum* mosses became established. With the colonization of *Sphagnum* came the cranberries which at one time would have formed an almost pure carpet over the bog. In wet areas, bog rosemary took residence. All of these species have since died out from Ropchan Memorial Bog. The only evidence of their previous existence lies as fragmented remains in the depths of the peat. Eventually, tamarack and then red maple formed a canopy over the bog and the forest of today was created. With time, all of the tamarack will die out, along with some of the remaining bog species, until all that is left is a lowland forest dominated by red maple, swamp oak, and elm.

So, the next time you walk through the Ropchan Memorial Preserve, look out into the dense tangle of wetland trees and shrubs and turn back the pages of time in your mind—you just might hear the sound of waves lapping against an ancient shoreline or see the sun sparkling or a fish jumping. You might imagine a treeless

glade carpeted with bright green hummocks of *Sphagnum* and cranberries. And, as you consider the ecosystem we see today, you might agree that it is truly a reflection of a fascinating past and an indicator of changes yet to come.

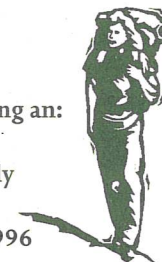
Anthony L. Swinehart is a Ph.D. Candidate at Purdue University.



BACKPACKERS!

ACRES and
Earth Adventures
Unlimited are offering an:

ACRES Members Only
Backpack Trip
September 26-29, 1996



Big Manistee River Trail

Important: You must attend the Pre-trip meeting on Sunday, May 5th at Wing Haven to come on the Backpack trip! (see page 7)

Judy Esterline and Judy Hestermann, trip leaders for Earth Adventures, will be the hike leaders. The trip will be 2 nights in the backcountry and 2 1/2 days along the trail. You will hike through areas of hardwoods and hemlocks, see a clay based waterfall, and travel along the spectacular bluffs overlooking the Manistee River.

Field Trips & Special Events

Saturday, April 20. Seventh Annual Adopt-A-Tree Festival.

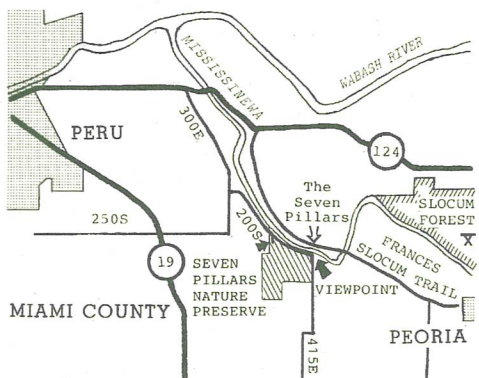
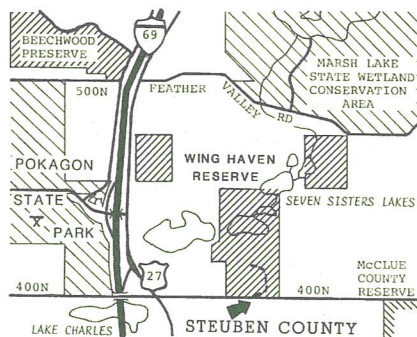
Come out to Wing Haven Nature Preserve as the spring wildflowers bloom! Take home a free native tree to plant, build your own bird house or feeder, make a leaf T-shirt, do a tricky treasure trail, or watch Else Matott's program on bluebirds. **Art Eberhardt, Jim Shearer, Dave Syler, Dave Snyder and John Ellenwood** present the Festival every year!

When: 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

Where: Wing Haven., Steuben County, on CR 400 North, just east of SR 127.

Bring: Family and Friends!

Contact Person: Art Eberhardt at (219) 665-2421.



Saturday, April 27. Wildflower hike at Seven Pillars Nature Preserve.

Hike Leader: Gary Helmke, Naturalist. The 150-acre preserve has hillsides of rue anemone, dutchman's breeches, trillium, toothwort, putty root orchid, and many other beautiful native wildflowers.

When: 2:00 p.m.

Where: Seven Pillars Nature Preserve. Miami County. Take US 124 (3 miles east of Peru) to 300 E, turn onto 200 S and preserve is located in 1 mile.

Bring: Walking shoes, camera if you want to photograph wildflowers, and friends.

Contact: ACRES office at (219) 422-1004 for more information.

Sunday, April 28. Dygert's woods in Whitley County.

For many years, Wendell and Evelyn Dygert have generously opened their woods to the county's schoolchildren for hikes. The woods has over 25 species of wildflowers, including a spectacular valley of blue-eyed Marys. The Native Indiana Plant and Wildflower Society members will be joining us for this hike.

Hike Leaders: Nancy Malis, Else Matott, and Evelyn Dygert.

When: 1:00 p.m.

Where: Wendell and Evelyn Dygert's. Whitley County. Take SR 109 to 400 N, turn west onto 400 N and turn north onto 50 W. First house on left.

Bring: Walking shoes, camera if you want to photograph wildflowers, and friends.

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



Saturday, May 4. Edna W. Spurgeon Woodland Reserve Wildflower Hike.

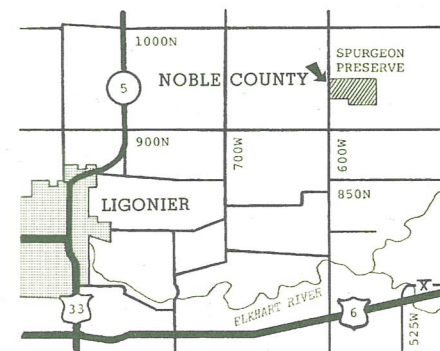
Hike Leader: John Roush, Steward for the Edna W. Spurgeon Woodland Reserve. ACRES oldest preserve, the Edna W. Spurgeon Woodland Reserve, is always a joy to see in spring! Come out for a relaxing and fun morning. We may have a brief work time after the hike to pull garlic mustard, an invasive alien plant that threatens our native wildflowers.

When: 10:00 a.m.

Where: Spurgeon Nature Preserve, Noble County. Take SR 6 to 600 W, turn north on 600 W and preserve located between 900 N and 1000 N.

Bring: Walking shoes, picnic lunch, work gloves and trash bags.

Contact: ACRES office at (219) 422-1004.



Sunday, May 5. Wing Haven Open House (1-5 pm)

Plus Special Event: Judy Esterline and Judy Hestermann, Trip Leaders for Earth Adventures will talk about the Manistee River backpacking trip for ACRES Members and give pointers on backpacking. The first part of the program will be 45 minutes on backpacking in general, including first aid, foods, and equipment. We will then discuss the Manistee River Trip. Come out if you are interested in backpacking or in the fall trip!

When: 2:00 pm

Where: Wing Haven, Steuben County. On CR 400 North, just east of SR 127.

Bring: Walking shoes if you want to hike the trails after the program.

Contact: ACRES office at (219) 422-1004.

Field Trips & Special Events Continued..

Field Trips & Special Events *Continued...*



Saturday, May 11. Olin Lake Nature Preserve Work Project.

Work Day Leader: Rich Dunbar, IDNR Regional Ecologist.

Help protect our native wildflowers! This will be near the height of wildflower season, so we will be able to enjoy our native wildflowers, as well as helping them to survive. We will be pulling garlic mustard most of the day, so you can be a big help even if you have to come late or leave early. Look for a map on the registration box to find the group. Please join us!

When: 10:00 a.m. until mid-afternoon.

Where: Olin Lake Nature Preserve parking lot. From Wolcottville, go north 2 miles on SR 9. (From LaGrange go south about 6 miles on SR 9). Turn west on County Road 600 S. Proceed 2 miles, turn right on County Road 125 E and go north 0.5 miles to the parking lot.

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

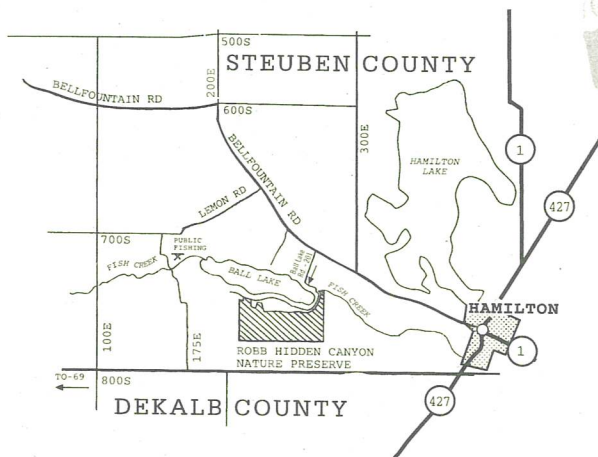
Contact person: Rich Dunbar (IDNR Regional Ecologist) (219) 691-3401.



Saturday, May 11. Open House

at Robb Hidden Canyon Nature Preserve.

New Preserve!



Thanks to the generosity of Robert and Phyllis Robb, ACRES is proud to have an **Open House** at this beautiful new preserve. **Samhradh will be playing their Irish and Scottish dance music.** Join us for a day of celebration with guided hikes, food and fun!

When: 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Where: Robb Hidden Canyon Nature Preserve, Steuben County. Please see map.

Bring: Friends and Family!

Contact person: Carolyn McNaghy ACRES (219) 422-1004.



Sunday, May 12. Tel-Hy

Hike Leader: Nancy Malis, Naturalist

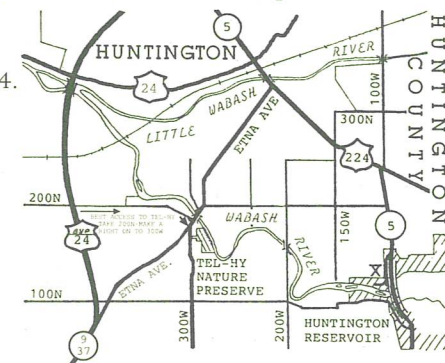
We will hike along the high bluffs of the Wabash River and see the showy display of wildflowers under the huge beech and maple trees. Come out for a fun day!

When: 2:00 p.m.

Where: Tel-Hy Nature Preserve, Huntington County. Please see map.

Bring: Friends and Family! Wear boots, the preserve can be muddy in spring.

Contact: ACRES office at (219) 422-1004.



Sunday, June 2. Wing Haven Open House (1-5 pm)

Special Program: Scott Johnson, IDNR Nongame Biologist, will talk about the reintroduction of River Otters (*Lutra canadensis*) to Indiana. Hunting and destruction of habitat removed otters from the state for over 50 years.

Hear how the IDNR Nongame Division would like to restore this playful and intelligent animal to some of its former range.

When: 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

Where: Wing Haven. Steuben County, on CR 400 North, just east of SR 127.

Bring: Family and Friends!

Contact: ACRES office at (219) 422-1004.



Sunday, July 7. Wing Haven Open House (1-5 pm)

Sean Carroll (Steward) and Bob Weber. The Unusual Plants of the Indiana Bogs

Tour of Ropchan Memorial to see some of the interesting and unusual plants of this 80 acre preserve. Tamaracks, yellow birch, and tupelo grow along the edge of the bog and there is a large variety of ferns: ebony spleenwort, maidenhair, and sensitive fern.

When: 2:00 p.m.

Where: Either Carpool from Wing Haven or meet at Ropchan Memorial parking lot.

Bring: Insect repellent, walking shoes or boots (trail will be wet in some places), and a botany major.

Contact: ACRES office at (219) 422-1004.

Directions: Take I-69 to Pokagon State Park exit, turn north on 127 to SR 120. Take 120 west to 750W and turn north. The preserve is 1/4 mile on the right.



It is a small bird which carries the color of the sky on it's back: "The Bluebird"

Bluebirds!

by Else R. Matott

The eastern bluebird is a bit smaller than the American Robin (same family) and it is called the Bird of Happiness. It certainly brightens a late winter day! It is usually seen at the beginning of March. Some overwinter here, scouting the area for nesting sites. The Bluebird looks for open areas with small trees or bushes near for shelter. A common nesting site used to be the wooden fence posts along farm fields. Since wooden posts are a thing of the past, we do have to help the bluebird to find nesting sites, by putting up nesting boxes.



Scientists believe that the bluebird population has been reduced by 90% during the last 50 years. T. E. Musselman, a famous naturalist from Illinois, introduced the idea of "bluebird trails" in 1934. You can learn the basics of bluebirding by reading The Bluebird, written by Dr. Lawrence Zeleny, who founded the North American Bluebird Society in 1978.



Today, the longest, continuous trail runs for 600 miles in the prairies of Manitoba and Saskatchewan, Canada, with side trails adding another 2,000 miles. I believe we have "Canadians" spending the winter here!

A housing shortage isn't the only problem facing the bluebirds. In the summer the birds have all the insects they can eat, but in the winter berries are their best chance for survival. You can help the Bluebird by planting a few fruitbearing bushes in your yard. Just a few I will mention:

Hawthorne	Sumac
Pokeweed	Bittersweet
Wild Rose	Dogwood
Sassafras	Wild Grape
Eastern Red Cedar	

By planting fruitbearing bushes and establishing "bluebird trails", we can all help to bring the bluebird back!

Come out for the Seventh Annual Adopt-A-Tree Festival! Else Matott will be giving the program: Where have all the Bluebirds gone? with slides from the North American Bluebird Society, throughout the day.

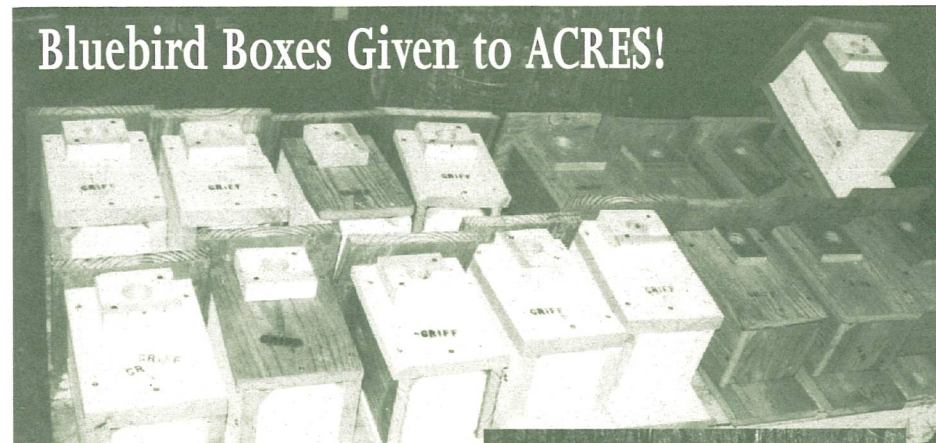
To Join the North American Bluebird Society,

write: P.O. Box 6295

Silver Springs MA 20916-6295

Web site http://wsp.com/na_bluebird

Bluebird Boxes Given to ACRES!



ACRES received gifts of over 20 bluebird boxes this year. In honor of the life of Barry Griffith, his friends and wife, Nancy Flennerly, built 17 boxes for ACRES preserves. The houses were made of barn siding and each one has the name "Griff" engraved on it.

Thanks to the following for the work in building and installing the bluebird boxes!

Beth Cooper

Wayne Cooper

Cindy Fink

Jeff Flennerly

Mike Flennerly

Nancy Flennerly

Carol Ort

Jim Shumaker

Geralynn Vonderhaar

Tori Wilkins

Troop Leaders Mary Quigley, Susan Mills and Kim Kelso organized the St. John the Baptist Brownie Troop #001 to build 7 robin's egg bluebird houses for ACRES. When you are hiking the preserves, you might look for the bluebird houses and see if they have any residents. *Thank you!*



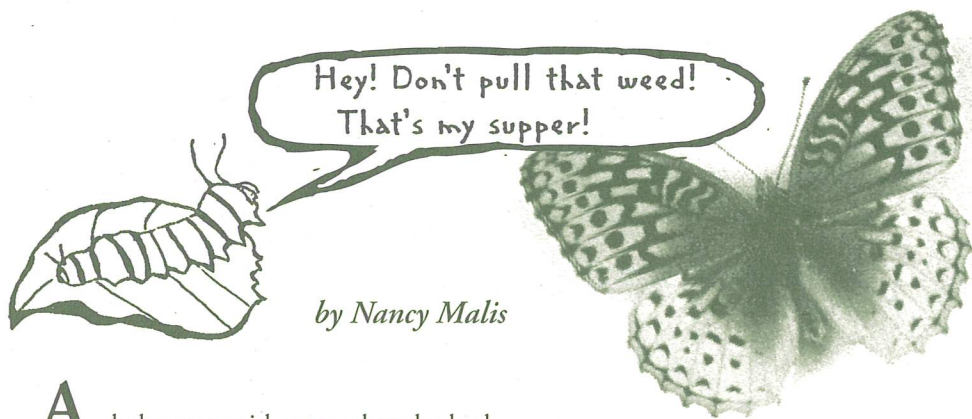
FRIENDS OF BARRY GRIFFITH PUT UP THE HOUSES

JUNK MAIL WASTES PAPER!

Americans receive almost 2 million tons of junk mail **YEARLY!** Fifty percent is never opened. To halt catalogs, you need to contact the mail preference service and send a written request, when you order anything, to the organization or company to not add your name to its mailing list except for specific billing purposes. Also, state that you do not want your name given or sold to any other mailing lists.

To have your name deleted with the direct marketing list, write to:

**Mail Preference Service
Direct Marketing Association
P.O. Box 9008
Farmingdale NY 11735**



by Nancy Malis

A lady once said to me that she had planted a butterfly bush and other flowers to attract butterflies and none came. I asked her if she had provided host plants for the caterpillars and she said, "No, I did not want green worms."

How we will provide for the beautiful butterfly and tend to forget the unpleasant caterpillar. Yet the caterpillar must exist before the butterfly.

If you want to attract butterflies and experience the delightful sight of color on the wing, you must provide both a nectar plant for the butterfly and a host plant for the caterpillar. And you may find caterpillars are fun and interesting to watch, too.

Listed below are 12 butterflies and their nectar plants and caterpillar host plants:

BUTTERFLIES	NECTAR PLANTS	CATERPILLAR PLANTS
Eastern Tiger Swallowtail	coneflower, butterfly weed, teasel	wild cherry, ash, tulip tree
Giant Swallowtail	coneflower, clover	prickly ash
Black Swallowtail	coneflower, bull thistle, teasel	queen annes lace, lovage, carrots
Monarch	coneflower, goldenrod, bull thistle	milkweed
Silver Spotted Skipper	sweet pea, joe pye weed	locust, legumes
Question Mark	rotting fruit, sap on trees	nettles, elms, hackberry
Fritillaries	butterfly weed, thistle	violets
Diana	thistle, milkweed, mint	violets
Pearl crescent	gloriosa daisy	asters
Painted Lady	coneflower, thistle, hollyhock	legumes, hollyhock, mallows
Buckeye	snapdragon, aster, chickory, coreopsis	gerardea, plaintain
Red admiral	coneflower, apples	nettles

*Purple coneflower is the most preferred coneflower for butterflies.

Wildlife Watch



This is a new column to highlight the birds or animals that are seen at the different ACRES nature preserves. The purpose is to introduce members to the wonderful variety of animals that the preserves shelter and protect.

✓ Crooked Lake - Birds seen by Paul McAfee, Don Gorney, Marcia McNagney and Ted Heemstra

Woodcocks (March 1 and March 25)
Horned Grebes (March 29th)
Wood Ducks, Common Loon, and Scaup (March 31st)
Wigeon, Common Merganser, Red-head (March 29th)
Barred Owls (March 29th)
Mute Swans (4 adults and a juvenile were seen in November)

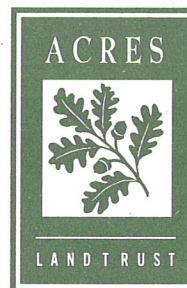
✓ Vandolah-seen by the Brittons

Barred Owl (April 2)
Hooded Mergansers (April 1)
Gray Fox (November)
Coyote (February)

If you see an exciting bird, animal or insect at a preserve, please give the ACRES office a call at (219) 422-1004.

ACRES ADOPTS A NEW LOGO!

After much searching, the ACRES Board voted to accept a new logo. Designed by Sue Britton, the logo depicts a white oak branch. Sam Schwartz, Art Eberhardt, Greg Craghead and Dave Miller of the Education Committee reviewed numerous possibilities for the new logo. Thank you to Sue Britton of Britton Design for her excellent work!



ELSE R. MATOTT RECEIVES OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER AWARD

The Environmental Education Coalition has awarded Else with a citation as an Outstanding Volunteer. For 10 years, Else has given her time and talents to ACRES in leading hikes for children and adults. Her enthusiasm and dedication have inspired many people to become involved in ACRES. [If you want to see another project Else has completed, drive by or stop in at the Three Rivers Co-op Natural Foods & Deli on Broadway. In the last few years, Else has planted hundreds of flower bulbs and perennial for the beautiful garden at the Co-op.]



PLANT SALE NOTICE:

Else is having a plant sale
May 11 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

At Art & Else Matott's home
3621 Indiana Avenue, Fort Wayne
Herbs - perennials -
baskets with flowers
Proceeds will benefit ACRES, Inc.

ACRES Founders work to protect land in Wisconsin!

By Carolyn McNagny

William and Ethyle Bloch, founders on the ACRES Board of Directors in 1960, have successfully worked to protect the Bloch land in Marinette County, Wisconsin. William Bloch encouraged his mother, Emma, to register her Pines Primeval with The Nature Conservancy in 1985. When a pair of Bald Eagles were observed nesting on the property in 1986, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources approached the Bloch family about protecting their land.

Emma Bloch died in 1990 and her five children inherited the family farm. In accordance to their mother's wishes and their own deep love of the land, they worked together to protect the entire Bloch farm. The land that 95 years ago Wilhelm Bloch, a German immigrant, had acquired for his family, now became the Bloch Oxbow Natural Area and Pines Primeval Natural

Area of a total 576 acres. The property is owned by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and is open to the public.

The property features an upland white pine forest and a floodplain forest with extensive frontage on the Pestic River. In the Bloch Pines Primeval Natural Area blooms a large bed of Lupine, a host plant for the Karner Blue Butterfly which is listed as an endangered species in Wisconsin. The Bloch Oxbow Natural Area includes the rare wetland forget-me-not (*Myosotis laxa*). The properties have active Bald Eagle nests.

Congratulations to William Bloch and his family for their dedication in protecting their family lands!



Phil & Jean Ross purchased and installed a new gate at Tel-Hy Nature Preserve. Thank-You from everyone at ACRES!

In Memory

From time to time people remember and honor loved ones and special people by making gifts to ACRES in their name. 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.

Linda Raudabaugh
Larry and Pat Pichon

ACRES Welcomes New Members:

Catherine H. Berg
Mark and Cricket Dolezal
Sandra M. Fazekas
Richard Fields
Edye Kay Guttmacher
Don Hoagland, PhD
Eric S. Horvath
Ethel Klopfenstein

Calvin and Diana Kuebler
Tab A. Liechty
Mark L. Mettert
Richard and Lois Safran
Doug and Ann Schwartz
Tanya Whitaker
Walt and Jean Zimmerman
Purdue Extension Educator

Hats off to

volunteers who staffed the ACRES Booth at the Farm Show and Fort Wayne Home & Garden Show! Every year, people join and we increase the public's knowledge of ACRES. Special thanks to Karen Bennett, who registered ACRES for these major shows.

Ron Baber
Mary Berghoff
Larry and Karlann Bieberich
Rosemarie Bostleman
Joy Chrisman
Rosemary Cortez
John and Marcella Ellenwood
Glenn Fogwell
Barb Hollinger
Doug and Irene Lewis
Nancy Malis
Else Matott
Barb Meyer

Mike Muchler
Pam Oleson
Everitt Padgitt
Tony and Traci Parks
Barb Parr
Mary Pinney
Jeff Raff
Sam Schwartz
Gretel Smith
Wayne Sponhower
Dick Sorg
Chris Thomas
David and Faith VanGilder
Bob Weber

The Back Page...

What makes any non-profit organization such as ACRES an effective and fully functional one is the level of dedication in it's members. An example of such dedication is Fred Wooley, who as of the last issue of the *ACRES Quarterly* stepped down as its editor.

We will all miss Fred's unique hand on the *Quarterly*. I especially enjoyed his personal touch on this; *The Back Page*. Fred's love for Indiana's natural resources, his professional expertise and his commitment to quality, showed in his unwavering service for eight years and thirty-two issues! How many people can you think of that would volunteer for anything for eight years? It was a privilege to have him edit our *Quarterly*. For that huge investment, Fred, we salute you!

As I was preparing to edit my first issue of the *Quarterly*, I was given a sampling of some of the earlier issues, as far back as 1967. I appreciate the many founding members who have put

their energy into past *Quarterlys* and into the ACRES organization. This group has a history. One that we can all be thankful for. Because of their dedication we can enjoy a hike or study in the many ACRES preserves, not only today, but in the many generations to come.

My family and I live next to the Vandolah Nature Preserve (My husband Jeff is the steward). The studio windows of Britton Script & Design; my commercial art business, look out across a pond into Vandolah. It is my hope that this ready access to the nature there can inspire some comments in these pages for your enjoyment and interest. I don't find myself professionally outdoors, like Fred over in Pokagon State Park and Wing Haven Preserve, but it's a start.

One more time..., Fred Wooley "We salute you! And...until next time... get out on the trails, enjoy the new flowers and clear those winter cobwebs out of your head!

-Susan Britton, Editor

P.S. Please send me your photos(They can be color). I love printing them for everyone else to enjoy!

The *ACRES Quarterly* welcomes letters, articles, artwork, photos, and anything else of interest to our readers. Send any and all items to Susan Britton, Editor, *ACRES Quarterly*, 2000 North Wells Street, Fort Wayne IN 46808. Deadline for the Summer issue is June 1, 1996.

ACRES

2000 North Wells Street

Fort Wayne, Indiana

46808-2474

Address Correction Requested

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