

THE ACRES

QUARTERLY

PRESERVING NATURAL AREAS



2003 Land Acquisition
First Lifetime Members
New Members & Tributes
Mushrooms and Fungi
Gifts From Members
Field Trips & Events

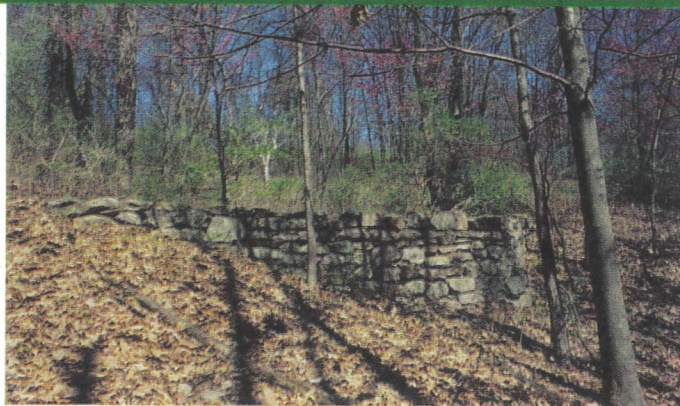
Marsh Wren Preserve
6th Annual Birdathon
Canterbury Volunteers
McClue Reserve
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Culp Open House

S U M M E R
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Volume 42 - No. 3



POKAGON STATE PARK ADDITION



Partnership project of ACRES and the IDNR Division of State Parks and Reservoirs

By Carolyn McNagny,
Executive Director

ACRES owned the 1955 Pokagon Motel and 29-acres for about an hour on June 17th. Then the

land was transferred to the IDNR Division of State Parks and Reservoirs. Thank yous are in order to **Fred Wooley**, Interpreter at Pokagon State Park, for gathering information and initiating the project, to **Ted Heemstra**, ACRES Vice-President, for all of his work with the closing, and to **Bob Bryan**, Acres Director, for his trip to Indianapolis to sign paperwork.

The 29-acre property has dramatic topography, with a high bluff overlooking a wetland and v-shaped hillsides for spring-time streams. The biggest surprise with the property is that the area did not become a water park, strip mall and condos as planned.

During the 1930's depression, the Civilian Conservation Corp. employed men for improvements in the state and national parks. Hoosiers are familiar with the

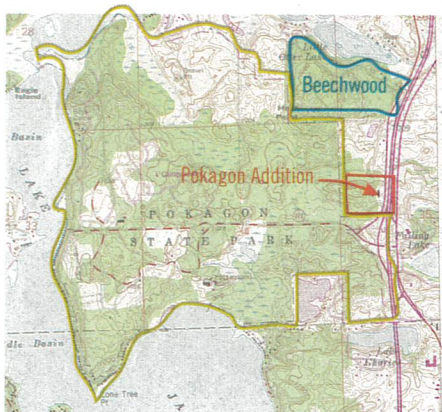
admirable craftsmanship of the CCC workers. Their stonework is especially prized for adding charm to our state parks with hand-hewn stairs, walls, and bridges. When Fred Wooley, Interpreter at Pokagon State Park, first hiked the 29-acres, he was puzzled by the massive square-cut stone in the ravines. The work seemed too much to attribute to even the most ambitious property owner and it turns out that the CCC, in one of their very few mistakes, began the granite walls when they thought the property belonged to Pokagon State Park. Once they realized their error, they abandoned the project. Now that the land really does belong to Pokagon State Park, if any former CCC members want to come and finish their walls, we would welcome them back.

The project is expensive, with \$625,000 needing to be raised and a minimum of \$50,000 from Steuben County and northeast Indiana. More than \$12,000 has been raised locally, including:

- Honor Society, Angola High School
- 6th Grade in candy sales, Angola Middle School
- Board of Directors, McClue Nature Preserve
- More than \$5,000 given by individual donors

All donors will be thanked in the ACRES Fall Quarterly. Please send donations to:

ACRES Land Trust, 2000 North Wells Street, Fort Wayne IN 46808.
Designate for Pokagon State Park project.



Pokagon photos by Ron Everhart

life membership

ACRES' first Lifetime Members! Leading the way by example, ACRES Membership Secretary **Mary Anna** and her husband, **Fred Feitler**, donated \$1,500. The Lifetime Membership category is new. Those who donate at this membership level will be given special recognition in the Quarterly. **Thank you Fred and Mary Anna!**



Canadian Mayflower by Ron Everhart

Tributes

James M. and Patricia D. Barrett's

50th Wedding Anniversary
from Betty G. Fishman
for the ACRES Land Acquisition and Management Fund

Michael and Dinah Keeterle

Congratulations on their wedding
from Kim and Jeff Milleman

Dave and Laura Reynolds

Congratulations on their wedding
from Kim and Jeff Milleman

Elizabeth Snyder

from Mitch Harper and Dawn Wilson

Annamarie N. Yager,
born on February 19, 2003

and her proud parents, Kirk and Tonya
from James and Gwen Seely
for the Evelyn and Wendell Dygert Nature Preserve

Thanks To:

Robert Binder

For his unfailing generosity
to the different projects

Marvin and Kate Hall

For giving unselfishly to a
large variety of projects

Carol A. Thomas

For her generous help to Wildwood,
Maplewood, the Wing Haven Endowment,
and other projects

Dr. Edwin and Mrs. Phyllis Stumpf

For their gifts of stock and great support
of ACRES land acquisition projects

welcome new members

Helmke Library
Fern Baldwin
Gary Baltzell

Gift of Kathryn Bloom

Mark Bish
Marybeth Bollinger
Roy and Karen Buskirk
Dr. Jerald and Mrs. Alexandra Cooper
Sharon L. Dietrich
Andy and Dayna Frantz
Conrad Getz
Greg and Karen Gunder
Claire Hunter

Gift of Patricia A. McNagny

Anders and Marcia Johnson
Kitt and Karen Johnson
Frederick and Pamela Jordan
Michael and Dinah Keeterle

Gift of Kim and Jeff Milleman

Kirk and Karen Kundelberger
Jeffrey, Kimberly, Kyle and Carter Milleman
Leslye Mohrman
Norman R. Myers
Sophie Parkison
Robert and Joan Pauley
Rob Preston

Bill and Claire Pynchon
Gift of Carolyn McNagny

Perry and Lilian Ramsey
Dave and Laura Reynolds
Gift of Kim and Jeff Milleman

James and Linda Seney
Lisa Silvey

Nancy J. Simonds
John Jay and Joann Smith
Phillip R. Smith
Robert Sondeen

Gift of Muriel Majneri

Beverly Stine
Gift of David and Becky Gall
John Thistlethwaite and Kay Feichter-Thistlethwaite
Gift of Mitch Harper and Dawn Wilson

James and Margaret Townsend
Michael and Sarah Trittippo
John, Jonathon and Charlotte Wuepper

Mushrooms and Fungi

by Sue Kern, ACRES Member

How many times have you been hiking through the woods and have come across a mushroom? Most of the time we rarely give it a second thought unless its odd-shaped or distinctly colored. Did you ever stop to admire it for the way in which it gains nutrients or reproduces? What about the valuable ecological impact on the forest we love so much? Take a minute and read about what you've been missing.

AMANITA

Considered one of the most beautiful, yet one of the most deadly mushrooms in North America, the Amanita, or Death Cap, can be found throughout Indiana. At maturity, it can be pure white, salmon-pink, yellow, or brown with white gills that are free from the stalk. That is, there's a small space that separates the gills from the stem. Very young Amanitas are enclosed in an egg-like sac, called a universal veil. As the mushroom breaks through the ground, this membrane sometimes forms an underground sac around the mushroom's bulbous base, or it takes the shape of a boot-like cup. This structure is one of the best ways to identify the Amanita. In fact, it has earned the nickname, Cup of Death. In spite of its terrifying reputation, the Amanita is actually very beneficial to forest ecology. This mushroom forms a symbiotic relationship with its host tree. The tree could be either a hardwood or a conifer, depending on the species of Amanita. Through the mushroom's mycorrhizae, nutrients are exchanged and both the tree and the Amanita benefit.



Panther Cap *Amanita Pantherina* by Bill Krebs



Turkey Tails *stereum insignitum* by Bill Krebs



Fly Agaric *Amanita regalis* by Bill Krebs



Shaggy mane *Lepiota* sp. by Bill Krebs

SHAGGY MANE

The Shaggy Mane is about six inches tall. Its grayish-white barrel cap covered with shaggy scales makes it easy to identify. The cap never opens to release its spores; instead, it auto-digests, allowing the spores that cover its gills to drop freely and be carried off by currents of air. As the Shaggy Mane ages, its gills dissolve into a black fluid, giving this mushroom family its common name, Inky Cap. Shaggy Mane mushrooms are frequently spotted as they spring up in lines across our lawns, especially after a heavy rain.

TURKEY TAIL

Resembling the tail of a strutting Wild Turkey, the Turkey Tail fungus is one of the most common mushrooms that you will see while hiking through ACRES preserves. Their colors range from rust, to yellow, gold, brown, cream, or green. Turkey Tail is a polypore, which means that their spores are produced in tubes on the underside of the fungus. Polypores are never shaped like the mushrooms we have come to know. Instead, they were given the name Bracket Fungi due to their resemblance to shelves that grow on trees. Turkey Tails can be found on the rotting logs and stumps of hardwood and conifers. They get their nutrients from that wood. Wood is primarily composed of lignin and cellulose. A fungus that consumes cellulose leaves behind lignin, which gives the wood

a brown color. Turkey Tail fungus consume the lignin, leaving behind the cellulose and causing a bleached appearance on the wood called "white rot." Biodegradation fungi like Turkey Tail are of major importance to forest ecology. Scientists have begun using Turkey Tail fungus and other "white rot" fungi in the paper and pulp industry to cut down on the use of environmentally unfriendly chemicals and reduce mechanical energy costs.



Turkey Tails *trametes versicolor* by Bill Krebs

BIRD'S NEST FUNGI

Sometime in autumn, long after the young birds are grown and their nests abandoned, we can still be reminded of spring. This reminder comes in the shape of



Bird's Nest Fungus, *cyathus striatus* by London Coleman from Simon & Schusters Guide to Mushrooms

fungi, Bird's Nest fungi to be exact. It so closely resembles a bird's nest complete with eggs that one has to look closely to be able to tell the difference. "Closely" is an understatement, because this "nest" would barely cover the eraser on a pencil. The "nest" is usually only 1/4" diameter and the "eggs" only a couple of millimeters. The "nest" itself is brown, gray, or white and the "eggs" white or brown. You can find these little fellows in damp, shady areas on mulch, wood chips, or rotting wood. As if their structure wasn't interesting enough, the way these fungi release their spores is truly amazing! The "eggs" themselves are actually the spore-containing structures. Attached to each "egg" is a small, coiled, sticky cord. When the spores are ripe, there is only one thing that is needed for dispersal- a heavy rain. When raindrops hit the bottom of the "nest" the "eggs" are catapulted out to distances of a yard or more. As they sail through the air the cord unwinds allowing the "egg" to adhere to grass, trees, etc. When the "egg" dries, it splits open, releasing its spores. These are just a few of the many species of fungi to be found in Indiana. Each fungus has its own interesting method of survival and reproduction. Take the time to learn about them and discover, as I have, that there no such thing as a plain old mushroom.

Land Acquisition and Management Supporters!

Thanks!

Dr. Jerald and Mrs. Alexandra Cooper
Lonnie E. Hanson
Steve and Lynn Hossler
Diane S. Humphrey
David and Judith Ruoff

Cheryl Allen
Gary and Barbara Baus
William and Carol Berning
Robert Binder
Ethyle R. Bloch
Larry J and Elizabeth R. Burke
Linda Bustamante
Karen Buuck
Tim and Nancy Eviston

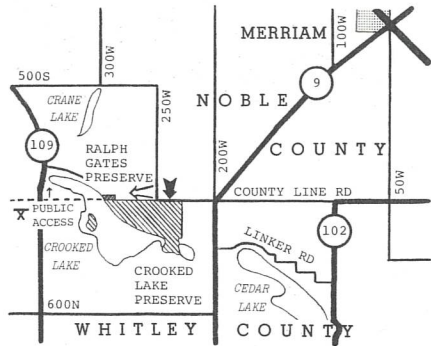
Betty G. Fishman
Tony Fleming and Victoria Ferguson
Dayna and Andy Frantz
Robert and Nancy Gebfert
Steve Hammer
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Frances W. Headings
John W. Heilman
Mary Lee Hosey
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Robert and Janet Joesten
Anders and Marcia Johnson
Alex and Sharon Jokay
Robin and Mary Lemberger
Mary Loeschner
John and Lavone Miller

Scott and Frances Nevin
Everitt J. Padgett
Sophie Parkison
Mark G. Petit
Bill and Judy Regadan
Barron Renkenberger
Ben and Renee Roush
Mary Jane Slaton
Michele Souder
Sox Sperry and Lisa Tsetse
Jean B. Stevenson
Gene Stout
Wilbur J. Stump
Carol L Summers
Carol N. Telschow
Allen Wetter
Jan and Riet Zwiep

KAYAKING, CANOEING AND SWIMMING AT CROOKED LAKE

Saturday, July 19th

Presented by: Debby Meade and Ken Millikan, ACRES Members.



We will paddle along the 146-acre IDNR Crooked Lake Nature Preserve on the north shore of the lake. Ken will be cooking hot dogs and Debby providing snacks at her home on the lake. Come out for a day of fun and sun! **When:** 3:00 p.m. **Where:** Crooked Lake, Whitley/Noble County line. Take US 30 to Columbia City and take SR 109 north for seven miles. Go to the IDNR access site on the east side of the road and we will put our boats in there. **Bring:** Canoe or kayak, paddles, life jackets, sunscreen, swim suit (or not), and sunglasses.



Contact: ACRES Office at 260-422-1004.



KAYAK CHARITY PADDLE FOR POKAGON

Sunday, July Sunday, July 27th

Pokagon Outfitters

Tim Barry, Owner of Pokagon Outfitters, is hosting a Charity Paddle for the 29-acre Pokagon State Park addition. We will paddle through undeveloped Marsh Lake, Little Otter, Big Otter, Snow Lake, to the first basin of Lake James where we will stop to have late lunch/early supper at Pokagon State Park's beach. Eight mile round trip and will be fast and slow groups. **When:** 2:00 p.m. to approximately 6:00 p.m. **Where:** Marsh Lake Nature Preserve Access Site, Steuben County. Take I-69 north of Angola to the Pokagon State Park exit (Exit 154), turn north on SR 127 go to Feather Valley Road. Turn east onto Feather Valley and go about 1 mile. Access Site is on south side of road. **Bring:** Kayak, paddle, sunscreen, swim suit (optional), sunglasses, water, and **PACK A LUNCH!** Pokagon Outfitters has 10 kayaks to rent. **Contact:** Pokagon Outfitters at 260-495-9436 or ACRES at 260-422-1004 with questions. **SPONSOR PADDLE SHEETS:** Call Tim at Pokagon Outfitters or Carolyn at ACRES for sponsor paddle sheets. Bring your pledge on day of event and all participants will be thanked in the ACRES Quarterly. Prize for largest donation!



Pokagon State Park Addition by Ron Everhart

BACKYARD BIRDS WITH CONRAD GETZ

Sunday, August 3rd

Presented by: Conrad Getz, Bird enthusiast. Video filmed at Conrad's impressive backyard feeding station



with seventeen feeders. Hear and see (on a big screen) some of the beautiful local migrants or resident birds, like orioles, bluejays, and indigo buntings. Also learn to identify the sparrows: white-crowned, white-throated, fox, tree, chipping, and field. Conrad gave the popular "Charlie the Bluebird" program in March. **When:** 2:00 p.m. **Where:** Wing Haven, Steuben County. Take I-69 to Pokagon State Park exit (Exit 154). Turn south on SR 127 and immediately left onto 400 N. Preserve located on north side of 400 N in 1 mile. **Contact:** ACRES at 260-422-1004.

Blue Jay by Paul McAfee

OLIVER, OLIN, AND MARTIN LAKES CANOE TRIP

Saturday, August 9th

Presented by: Ken Millikan

Starting at the public access site on Oliver Lake, we will canoe through Olin (one of the largest undeveloped lakes in Indiana) and then through a beautiful winding stream to Martin Lake and onto Smith Hole. Great fun to go from lake to lake. **When:** 10:00 a.m. **Where:** North of Wolcottville on SR 9 to 450 S, turn west on 450 S and go 1 mile to Oliver Lake public access site. **Bring:** Pack a Lunch. Canoe or kayak, paddles, life jackets, sunscreen, swim suit (or not), and sunglasses. **Contact:** ACRES at 422-1004.



ACRES' members do as they are told. "Wave!."



2002 Oliver, Olin, and Martin Canoe trip by Ken Millikan

BOB and BATS

Saturday, August 23rd

Presented by Bob Walton, Bat Rehabilitator - Great for Kids! Taking in orphan pups for the last year, Bob Walton has become an expert on bats of all kinds - from crevice-dwellers like little



Big Brown Bat by Merlin Tuttle of Bat Conservation International

and big browns to solitary woodland species as are the red, silver-haired, and pipistrelles. In a 45 minute slide program, Bob will show you how to identify species, how to keep them in your neighborhood eating mosquitoes, and keep them out of your house. **When:** 10:00 a.m. **Where:** Bob and Ann Walton's home, 3422 Chapman Road. Take Coldwater Road north of Fort Wayne, approximately six miles past where Coldwater crosses Dupont. Turn east onto Chapman Road and go 1 3/4 mile. Look for yellow mailbox with photographs of owls. **Contact:** ACRES Office at 260-422-1004.

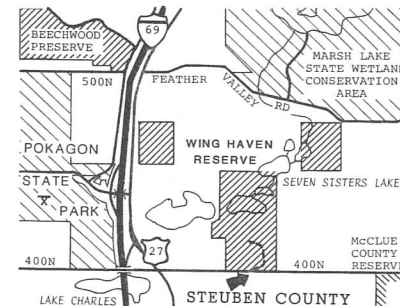
PLANTS AND PEOPLE, PAST AND PRESENT

Sunday, September 7th

Presented by: Erik Vosteen, researching ancient uses of plants for 7 years. Come explore some of the ways our local woodland plants and trees have been utilized by ancient people. We will have some wild food prepared to sample and will learn how we can use several plant species for food, utilitarian items and crafts. We will begin with a plant walk focusing on some of the plants we will use, then back to the cabin for some

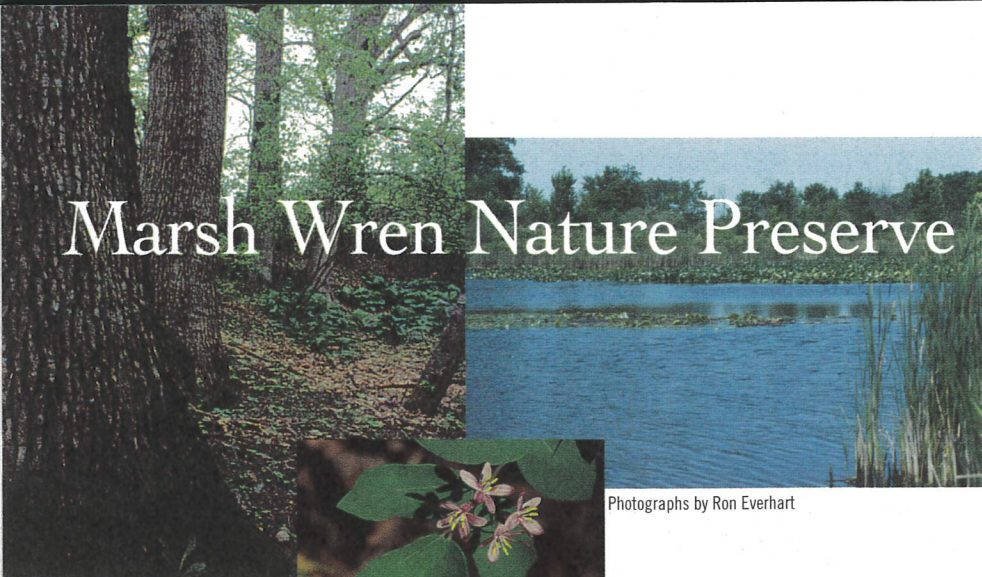
tasty treats and hands-on nature projects for all ages. **When:** 2:00 p.m.

Where: Wing Haven, Steuben County. Take I-69 to Pokagon State Park exit (Exit 154). Turn south on SR 127 and immediately left onto 400 N. Preserve located on north side of 400 N in 1 mile. **Contact:** ACRES at 260-422-1004.

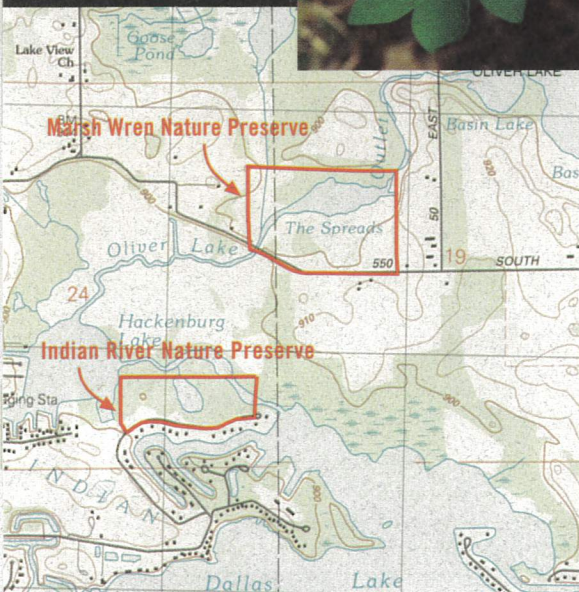


False Solomon's Seal by Ron Everhart

Marsh Wren Nature Preserve



Photographs by Ron Everhart



Acquired in 2001, the 50-acre Marsh Wren Nature Preserve has been seen by only a handful of ACRES members, all hardy canoeists. Acquired with the generous help of the Indiana Heritage Trust Fund, Arthur and Anna Mae Parry, and the ACRES membership, the preserve is now a dedicated state nature preserve. Also acquired in 2001 was the 30-acre Indian River Nature Preserve.

Home to a lively crowd of the endangered Marsh Wrens *Cistothorus palustris*, the preserve is located north of Dallas Lake and south of Oliver Lake in LaGrange County. Part of the 3rd largest unprotected marsh in northern Indiana, these wetlands host Indiana's largest migrating population of blue-winged teal. The number and variety of ducks, shorebirds, and herons that visit this preserve is impressive, with green

herons being so numerous they nest in people's front yards on nearby Dallas Lake. Hooded mergansers, northern shovelers, bufflehead, common goldeneye, gadwalls, red-breasted mergansers, ruddy ducks - they all find refuge, along with the rarer and seldom seen least bitterns and king rails.

At Marsh Wren Nature Preserve, we have a sign thanking the Indiana Heritage Trust Fund for its support. Please remember, if you visit this property, that the 50 acres would now be mini-estates without their help.

INDIANA LICENSE PLATE

Please remember your Eagle plate!

Your donation will go directly to land acquisition projects all over the state, including ACRES' new preserves.



The Birdathon

The 6th Annual Birdathon to benefit the 264-acre Wing Haven Nature Preserve was a great success! Thank you to all who gave and to our intrepid team of **Fred Wooley, Brad Bumgardener, and Michael Klingerman**. Starting at the ghastly hour of 3:00 a.m., the team heard Screech, great-horned, and Barred owls within 10 minutes of each other, and continued on until 7:00 p.m. with an impressive 116 species.

The \$1.00 a Bird Club
Diane S. Humphrey
Robin Lemberger
Paul and Marla McAfee

John Bacone
Kathryn Bloom
Lois Booth
Rosemarie Bostelman
Jeff and Susan Britton
Steve and Ingrid Brody
Brad Bumgardner
Ed J. Campau
Eva Claphan
Lee Casebere
Willard and Nena Clark
Mrs. Edward H. Cook
James and Linda Crouse
Lorraine Davis
Pat Douglas
Tom and Jane Dustin
John and Marcella Ellenwood
Judy Esterline
Mary Anna and Fred Feitler

Charles Foster
Delles Gerig
Marvin and Kate Hall
Lonnie E. Hanson
Frannie Headings
Judy and Dan Kaufman
Paul and Patricia Kocsis
Judge William Lee
Margien L. Lund
Charlotte Lunde
Don and Nancy Lutz
Pat MacWhorter
Nancy Malis
D. G. Mason, M.D.
Ethel V. McClelland
Carolyn McNagney
Patricia McNagney
Pamela Orcutt
Jane Papsdorf
Cynthia Porter
Ed and Cynthia Powers
Rodger Rang
Bill and Judy Regadanz
Janel Rogers
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen H. Shambaugh



Meadowlark by Carl Sams II from *Music of the Birds* by Lang Elliot

Jim Shearer
Kathy Shuman
Lisa Silvey
Gretel Smith
Phillip R. Smith
Rita Jean Smith
Carter Snider
Richard Sorg
Mindy Taylor
Carol N. Telschow
Sam Thompson
David and Faith Van Gilder
Robert and Janet Weber
Frances Wilder
Fred and Jackie Wooley
Jonathan Wuepper
Jim and Kathy Zimmerman



Scott Hurley

CANTERBURY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS VOLUNTEER WITH ACRES

Since 2000, ACRES has benefitted from Canterbury High School's public outreach program of volunteering for nonprofits. Canterbury students have given more than 300 hours working at

ACRES nature preserves and in the ACRES office. At the 87-acre Acres along the Wabash Nature Preserve in Wells County, Scott Hurley and Mike Dusman installed posts to mark the trail system, improved the trail and painted the preserve's sign along SR 116. Ethel McClelland and David Homan, ACRES Land Management staff, worked alongside on a productive day in June.



Mike Dusman (left) and Scott Hurley (right) photo by Ethel McClelland

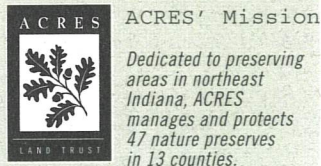
McCLUE RESERVE IN MAY

By Tom Hendrick

You have passed this way before, into a
Whimsical pause between sunlight and rain,
Down the sodden, winding path, littered
With scraps of trampled leaves and
The bare earth bones of root and rock,
Wading through trillium valleys and
The emerald umbrellas of May apples,
Under the glint of arboreal jewels:
Tanager, bunting, bluebird, and goldfinch,
Past white-crowned sparrows, flitting through
Fresh green, and pecking at last year's fruit
In a thicket of multiflora rose, passing
The pregnant coon, worn out, and slung like a
Flung coat in the crown of a juniper tree, then

Clambering up the southernmost slope to the
Sill of the sky, and beyond, to a point where
Meddling clouds disperse as a sun-dazzled
Cardinal flares up into florid decor to
The damp, dark branch of a flowering
Dogwood tree, shaking down rain,
While all around him falls the
Gentle, floating snow of cottonwood
Where suddenly you know you've crossed
The threshold to another world.

This poem is dedicated to Fred Wooley, Interpreter at Pokagon State Park for his dedication to the natural environment.



ACRES' Mission

Dedicated to preserving
areas in northeast
Indiana, ACRES
manages and protects
47 nature preserves
in 13 counties.

2000 North Wells Street
Fort Wayne, IN 46808 -2474
260-422-1004
email: acreslt@fwi.com
Web site: www.acres-land-trust.org

Yo Yo PA!



ACRES offers canoe trips, hikes and concerts for children and adults throughout the year, free of charge.

Thanks to all the talented musicians and knowledgeable hike leaders who make these events worthwhile!

Forty people recently attended the Yo Yo Pa concert in front of the rustic barns at Wing Haven. Everyone had a relaxing afternoon.

The members of Yo Yo Pa (left to right): Steve Black, Paul Fry-Miller, Tom Colvin, and Bob Savage

MEMORIALS

Thomas J. Schmidt

from Margaret Bunce
Thomas and Anita Carter
Patricia Click
Barbara Deer and Katherine Schoelkopf
Karen Ericson
Philip Eyermann and Jeanne Raines
Sarah and Rachel Eyermann
Sandra Lee Greenburg
Dr. Martin and Mrs. Judith Greengrass
Dale and Virginia Harter
M. Jean Havens
Chris and Jocelyn Ivancic
Teresa Kage
James and Marilyn Kleber
Barbara Linden
Vincent Maloney
Neil Meyer and Mary Berghoff
Charles and Susan Peterson
Ed and Cynthia Powers
Shiloh and Kathleen Reed
Carol and Anne Schmidt
William and Georgi Schneider
Richard and Betty Thiel
David and Alice White
William Whitesmith
for the Wing Haven Nature Preserve

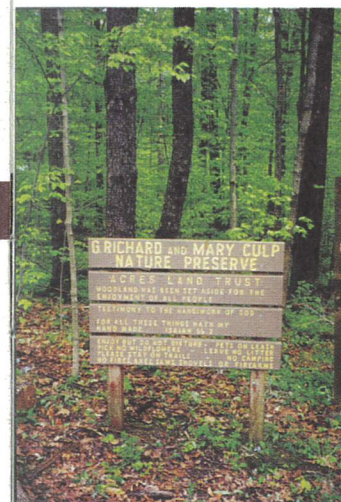
Marguerite Thurman Pennell

from Thomas and Jane Dustin
for the Cedar Creek Heron Rookery

*In Memory of
Special Friends in Settlers, Inc.
and the Fort Wayne Weavers Guild
from Louise A. Larsen
for the Pokagon State Park Addition*

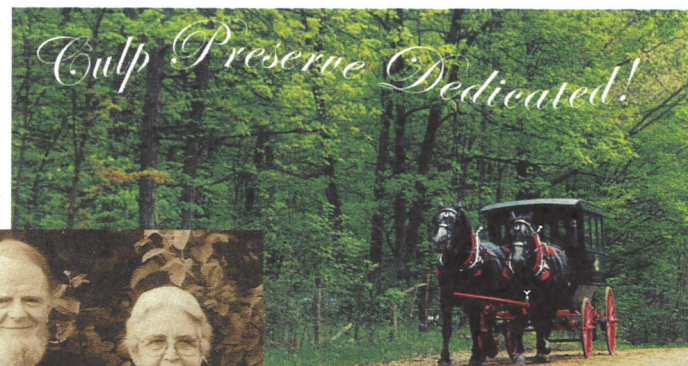


One of Tom's favorite wildflowers was the trillium. Photo by Ron Everhart.



On a stormy day in May, ACRES dedicated the 20-acre G. Richard and Mary H. Culp Nature Preserve. Acquired in December 2002, the preserve is located in the heart of Amish and Mennonite farms. Two Percherons horses, their red harness looking impressive with their black coats, brought people to the preserve. David Van Gilder, ACRES President since January 2003, and Ted Heemstra, ACRES Vice President and former President, attended the event.

A generous gift from a generous person. Our thanks to Dr. G. Richard Culp!





Yellow Lady's-Slippers
at an ACRES' preserve
by Ron Everhart

Lady's-Slippers

I was a dreamy little kid, but probably not much different than most. It doesn't really take much to get a kid going.

When I think back to early adventures, I used to imagine the woods filled with fairies, elves, and wood sprites. When mother told me to go to bed and the sandman would come and sprinkle a special sleeping dust in my eyes, I believed her. So...the first time I saw a lady's-slipper, it was like a dream come true. There, deep in the woods, beneath a shaft of golden light, stood a set of perfect yellow slippers. I couldn't help but imagine that I could put them on and dance with the leprechauns. I thought what it must be like to be small enough to sail down the stream in one, magically guided by some unseen hand. Best of all, I wondered what it would be like to crawl inside, curl up and take a delicious nap with yellow sunlight all around me.

Adults are more practical. These days I think more about the choice of bug spray, whether I look good in my shorts, or getting out to see these beautiful flowers without twisting my ankle.

But, in the end, I would much rather attend parties thrown by elves, beaming in a brand new pair of beautiful yellow lady's-slippers.

Oh well. Until Next time....

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 46808-2474. Deadline for the Fall issue is August 1. For information on ACRES call 260-422-1004. www.acres-land-trust.org

ACRES Land Trust
2000 North Wells St.
Fort Wayne, IN 46808-2474

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