

THE ACRES

QUARTERLY

PRESERVING NATURAL AREAS
IN NORTHEAST INDIANA



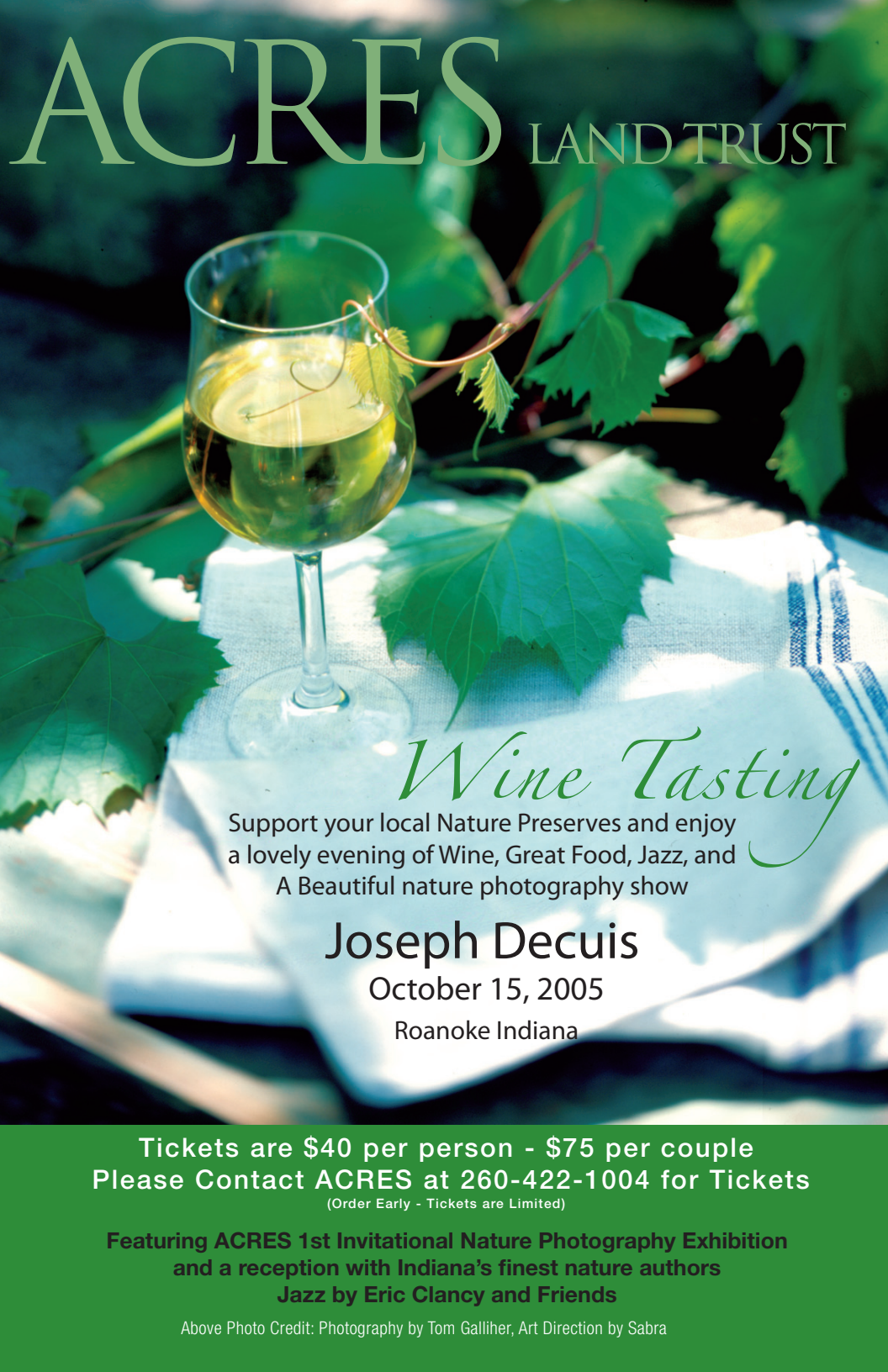
Joseph Decuis Wine Tasting
Lady's-slipper Orchids
Flowers of Kokiwanee
Birdathon
Nature Trust Expands to Indianapolis
Benefactors: W. Glenn Fogwell and Sam Ropchan
Mars

SUMMER 2005

Volume 44 - No. 3



ACRES LAND TRUST

A photograph of a wine glass filled with white wine, sitting on a white cloth. Green grape leaves are scattered around the glass, and some are draped over the rim of the glass. The background is a soft-focus green, suggesting a vineyard setting.

Wine Tasting

Support your local Nature Preserves and enjoy
a lovely evening of Wine, Great Food, Jazz, and
A Beautiful nature photography show

Joseph Decuis

October 15, 2005

Roanoke Indiana

Tickets are \$40 per person - \$75 per couple
Please Contact ACRES at 260-422-1004 for Tickets
(Order Early - Tickets are Limited)

Featuring ACRES 1st Invitational Nature Photography Exhibition
and a reception with Indiana's finest nature authors
Jazz by Eric Clancy and Friends

Above Photo Credit: Photography by Tom Galliher, Art Direction by Sabra

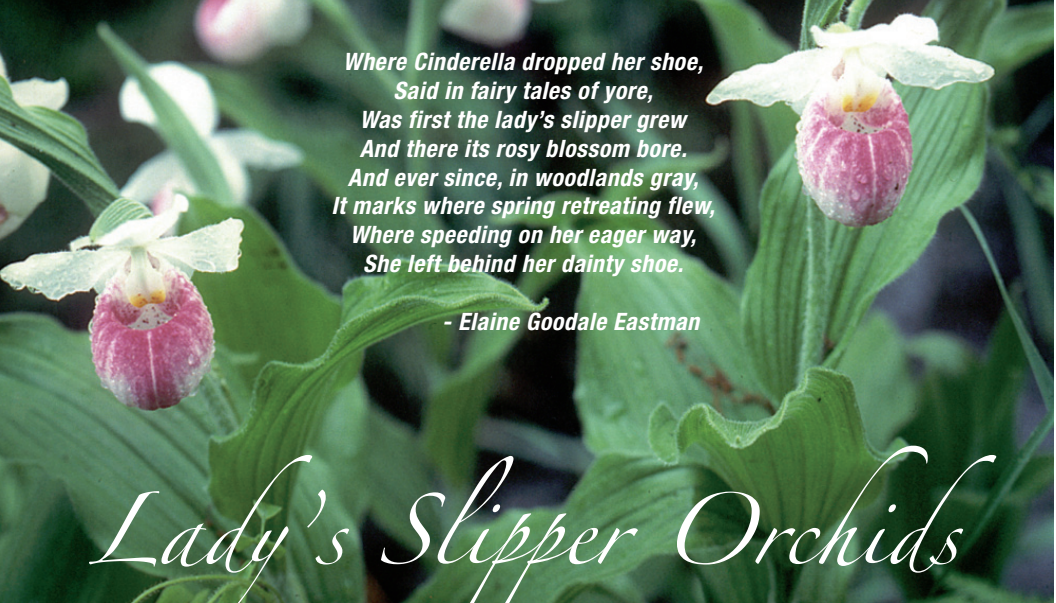
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hanks



*Where Cinderella dropped her shoe,
Said in fairy tales of yore,
Was first the lady's slipper grew
And there its rosy blossom bore.
And ever since, in woodlands gray,
It marks where spring retreating flew,
Where speeding on her eager way,
She left behind her dainty shoe.*

- Elaine Goodale Eastman

Lady's Slipper Orchids

by Sue Kern

Did you know that Indiana has more species of orchids than the state of Hawaii? The most beautiful of these would have to be the Lady's - slipper. I have seen these orchids numerous times at shows, greenhouses and in gardens surrounded by perfectly manicured lawns. None of these places though, can compare to seeing this plant in the wild. Imagine walking along the edge of a wetland immersed in a cloud of mosquitoes. Suddenly, nestled in a sea of green, is a stunning yellow, white, or white and rose, colored flower. When you learn, as I have, the process involved in bringing the plant to this stage in its life, and that it is probably over 10 years old, you will consider yourself quite lucky.

The Lady's - slipper orchid is a perennial. In the spring, if the plant is old enough to bloom, the flower is produced at the same time as the leaves. If pollination occurs, the fruit will mature through the summer and into fall, at which time the leaves die back. In the latter part of the summer, the next year's flower and leaves are produced. They will wait out the winter underground as a short white spike attached to roots.

The shoe-shaped flower on the Lady's - slipper is not just for our enjoyment. It is a very intricate mechanism for pollination. The sac-like structure we know as the flower is designed to attract insects, namely mining bees. Upon entering, the in-rolled edges, slippery surface and downward

pointing hairs prevent the insect from escaping. There is but one way out - down. The hairs lead the bee towards two exit holes at the base of the slipper. Light coming into the holes also help direct it. On the way, it must crawl past two points where the passageway narrows. At the first point, it must squeeze under and rub its back against the surface of the stigma, the female part of the plant. It is here that any pollen collected from a previous lady's slipper is deposited. The second point is near the exit holes. An anther, the male part of the plant, is located beside each exit. The bee cannot leave the plant without first contacting the anther and carrying away pollen on its head and thorax. The process then begins again.

As spring turns into summer, the fruit of the pollinated flower begins to grow. At summer's end, it is almond-shaped and about an inch and a half long. When the capsule dries, it splits open, releasing billions of sawdust - like seeds that drift into the wind. Orchid seeds do not develop like most plants. They contain very little nutrition inside of them. They need help from an outside source in order to germinate and grow. This help comes in the form of a mycorrhizal fungus. These fungi formed a symbiotic relationship with the seeds. A symbiotic relationship is like one good neighbor helping another. Unless of course your neighbor borrows your gardening tools all the time and never returns them. That would be an example of parasitism, but that is another story. Anyway, the fungus invades the cells of the orchid seed. If all goes right, the seed absorbs some of the nutrients that the fungus draws from the soil and begins to flourish. There is always a

Photo credits: Yellow Lady's-slipper by Sue Kern,
White Lady's-slipper by Lee Casebeere
Showy Lady's-slipper (left and above) by Ron



is that you would have a better chance winning the lottery and buying a commercially grown orchid with your money. Do not ruin the chances that others might have of seeing this beautiful plant in the wild. Hoosiers can boast of four species of Lady's - slipper orchids found in Indiana.

Pink Lady's-slipper (*Cypripedium acaule*)

The pink Lady's-slipper or pink moccasin flower is found in bogs in the northern one-fourth of the state. The 1 to 2" long flower is pink with red veins. It blooms on an 8 -16 inch stem around mid-May until mid-June. This plant is common in the northeastern part of the country but uncommon in Indiana. The rapid destruction of bogs throughout the state has put this orchid in jeopardy.

Yellow Lady's-slipper (*Cypripedium calceolus*)

There are two variations of this plant, the small yellow Lady's-slipper (var. *pariflorum*), and the large yellow Lady's-slipper (var. *pubescens*). The small Lady's-slipper is found near wetlands or in moist forests. The flowers, 1" long, are yellow, often with purple veins and spots near the opening. These delicate flowers are heavily scented, somewhat like vanilla. They are borne on stems 6 - 24 inches tall. Blooming time is from mid-May until early June. The large Lady's slipper requires a well- drained, but moist habitat on east and west-facing slopes. Its flowers are larger, 1 - 2 inches long; the stems 6-24 inches tall. The stems are also yellow with purple veins. Blooming time is from late April to mid-June.

White Lady's-slipper (*Cypripedium candidum*)

This orchid is the most shade-intolerant of all the Hoosier *Cypripediums* occurring in the northern half of the state. It can be found in calcium rich meadows, prairies, and marshes. The flowers are lightly scented, 1- 2" long found on a stem 6 - 12" tall. It blooms from mid-May to late June. 150 years ago, the white Lady's-slipper was quite common. Today, it is becoming quite rare due to limited undisturbed habitats.

Showy Lady's-slipper (*Cypripedium reginae*)

Its common name, queen lady's-slipper, says it all. It is the largest of all the Indiana orchids, standing two or more feet in height! The flowers are 1 - 2" long, white with a "wash" of rosy pink on the side, and a "fuzzy" yellow throat. They can be found in muck, often deep muck, in the northern half of Indiana and bloom from mid-May to late June.

Your membership with ACRES is helping to preserve the vanishing habitats that orchids need to survive. Treat yourself next spring and go hiking in search of one of these beauties. You will be convinced that these are among the most stunning wildflowers in the state of Indiana.

chance that the fungus may digest the seed if the correct balance is not achieved. That explains why there are so many seeds and so few orchids. This symbiotic relationship remains as the orchid grows. The mycorrhizal fungus, obtains from the seedling, foods that are made photosynthetic ally. They will continue helping each other for about two to three years until the orchid can sustain itself by photosynthesis. In the wild, it will take this little seed about 10 - 17 years to become a mature plant capable of blooming. I hope that by reading this you will realize what a mistake it would be to remove an orchid from its natural habitat with the hopes of transplanting it into your garden. First, an orchid needs such special conditions to grow that it will probably not live long no matter how hard you try. Secondly, if the orchid does produce seeds, it has to have that special fungus and the right balance in order to germinate. The bottom line

Birdathon success!

By Fred Wooley, Interpreter for Pokagon State Park



The 17th Annual Southwest Michigan Team Birdathon is history, having run on the beautiful day of May 21, the latest possible date (always the third Saturday in May) the birdathon could run. For the 8th year, I had the good fortune of leading a team representing the ACRES Land Trust - The "ACRES Avocets" we call ourselves. Over our previous 7 years, we have raised \$10,000.00 for ACRES, benefiting the Wing Haven Nature Preserve and most recently the additions to Pokagon State Park.

It all began in the dark as birdathons do.... about 3:30am...(2:30am, Indiana time!). Our team of Brad Bumgardner, Michael Klingerman, and Fred Wooley started out with hot coffee and high hopes. Our first stop in recent years is Mr. McVicker's Woods. We were pleased to hear the distant call of a young great-horned owl. Rules don't allow the playing of tapes, so any attempt at attracting birds is by our own calling and to the limits of our own talents. Several attempts were made for screech

owls. About the time we were going to give up and move on, Michael heard something along the edge of the woods. Flicking on her trusty flashlight, she dropped the beam right on a small screech owl on a bare branch at the woodland edge. We were off and running!

Sixteen and a half hours later, we checked in with 112 species. Birdathons can be grueling at times and there are occasional lulls in the action, but for the most part the anticipation of something new and the drive for one more species is a thrill. You get to see both the uncommon and the common. It might be just one grebe, but a group of grosbeaks. Each year seems to provide numerous looks at not so common birds. This year the uncommon was the Wilson's Warbler. Each year, some of you put down a special bird for an additional \$5.00, if we see it. I think Osprey, Chat, and Bald Eagle were on that list and we saw none! Had you put down Chuck Wills Widow or Eurasian Collared Dove, we could have collected as we saw those two, which happened to be firsts for the 17 years of that birdathon.

Once all of our ACRES pledges are in, we will have raised \$2,575 ! Many thanks to all of you who contributed and supported our ACRES Avocets team. We raise money to protect lands for all birds, common and uncommon, breeding birds, winter residents, and those just migrating through. While protecting habitats for birds, we also protect land for all of the living things that call northeast Indiana home for some part of their lives.

ACRES welcomes new employee!

Shane Perfect joined the ACRES staff in March 2005 as a full-time employee with the title of Project Coordinator. With a background in surveying, a real estate license, and a degree in photography, Shane has become involved with education, land management and land acquisition projects. In addition to Shane, the ACRES staff now consists of Ethel McClelland, Land Management Specialist, David Homan, Land Management Specialist, Rachel Sherman, Administrative Assistant, and Carolyn McNagny, Executive Director.



2005 Birdathon - \$1.00 a Bird Club

Mona Berghoff
Leroy and Sharon Johnson
William C. And Judith Lee
Robin Lemberger
Paul and Marla McAfee

Jefferson Letter Service
Warren and Barbara Barnes
Edward and Aimee Bohman
Lois Booth and Alice Friend
Rosemarie Bostleman
Brad Bumgardner
Ed and Ruth Campau
Eva Claphan
Mary B. Clark
Willard F. and Nena Clark
James Covell
Wayne and Olga Davis
Lorraine Davis
Pat Douglas
Deborah Eberle
Art and Marion Eberhardt
M.A. Feitler
Tony Fleming and Victoria Ferguson
Delles Gerig
Paula Glasper
Barb Gorney
Terri Gorney
Marvin and Kate Hall
Joseph and Nancy Harber
Robert Hawley
Frannie Headings
Phyllis Kaiser

Dan and Judy Kaufman
Jerry Korchyk
Jerry L. Krick
Dick and Mary Lee
Donna Lesh
Margien L. Lund
Charlotte Lunde
DJ Lundquist
Mike Lundquist
Don Lutz
Pat MacWhorter
Dr. and Mrs. Donald G. Mason
Mary McCormack
Patricia McNagly
Carolyn F. Miller
Kip Miller
Ginger Murphy
Judith C. Nelsen
John Charles Nichter
Angie O'Neill
Dot Othersen
Allan Perry
Cathy Plummer
Ed and Cynthia Powers
Barron Renkonberger
Jean Sark
Mary Menge Scroggum
Stephen H. and Paulette Shambaugh
James L. Shearer
Jon & Karen Sigl
Don and Gretel Smith
Phillip R. Smith
William R. Smith



Carter Snider
Bonnie Snyder
Richard Sorg
Michele Souder
Beth Stander
Darlene L. Stucky
Lisa and Dick Teets
Dr. Samuel R. Thompson
Jannah Tucker
Beverly S. Wagner
Thomas Whaley
Dennis and Rhonda White
Phil and Sheri Wilcox
Tom and Hope Wilson
Fred and Jackie Wooley
Sue Wright
Jonathan Wuepper
Peg Zeis
Becky Zimmerman
Jim and Kathy Zimmerman

Bobolink and Yellow-headed blackbird
by Lang Elliott

Nominations Committee

It is time for the election of new board members. If you would like to nominate an individual to the ACRES Board of Directors, please do so by October 15th by contacting the ACRES office at (260) 422-1004.

Sam Boggs, Janet Kelly, and Steve Hammer are serving on the nominating committee.

If you are a current member in good standing, you will receive a return-by-mail ballot, or you may vote in person at the ACRES Annual Meeting, November 11th, 2005 at Concordia College, Fort Wayne.



Floral Fireworks at Kokiwanee

By Dr. David Hicks, Professor of Biology at Manchester College

I have been assembling a species list for the Kokiwanee Preserve. So far, I have found 302 vascular plant species in the preserve. (I have surveyed only the less disturbed areas, so this does not include a number of introduced plants in the area around the buildings, aquatic plants in the pond, etc.). All told, I estimate about 350 species will be found. This is a surprisingly high proportion of the plant species known for the entire state. For instance, C.C. Deam listed a total of 2140 native and naturalized species in his 1940 flora of the state. The best-represented groups are the sunflower family (Asteraceae), with 30 species; the grass family (Poaceae), 22 species; the sedge family (Cyperaceae), 19 species; the lily family (Liliaceae, as broadly defined), 17 species; and the mint family (Lamiaceae), with 17 species. The largest genus is the grass-like sedges (Carex), with 17 species.

Although I have not found any plant species that are on the state threatened and endangered lists, there are a number of plants that are interesting because they are uncommon in the state, or are uncommon in this part of the state. A few species that are common at Kokiwanee have spotty distributions in Indiana, for instance false hellebore (*Veratrum woodii*) and snow trillium (*Trillium nivale*). Others become common further south, but are usual in this part of the state. These species become rare as one goes further north. Some are on the Michi-

gan threatened and endangered list, such as Virginia bluebell (*Mertensia virginica*) and Virginia flax (*Linum virginianum*), or are absent from Michigan, such as wild hydrangea (*Hydrangea arborescens*) and dwarf larkspur (*Delphinium tricornis*). The relatively high level of diversity is due to a variety of habitats ranging from the riverbank and different types of wetlands (swamps and fens), through well-developed forests in protected

ravines and on the bluff base, to dry, open areas on the thin soil of the bluff. An interesting assortment of plants occurs in the rich soil on the slope and at the base of the limey bluff, including larkspur, twinleaf (*Jeffersonia diphylla*), Atlantic camas (*Camassia scilloides*) and green violet (*Hybanthus concolor*). The bluff also supports well-developed forest, which has some characteristics typical of old-growth stands in the Midwest. A study plot that I examined showed high biomass, tree diversity, large trees of valuable species, a wide range of tree sizes, and high diversity of non-woody plants. The only thing that doesn't fit an old-growth designation is that the largest trees aren't quite large enough.

Luckily, the preserve has relatively minor problems with invasive species. A fair-sized patch of dame's rocket occurs in one area, and occasional honeysuckle and multiflora rose are found.

Finally, Kokiwanee is a valuable biodiversity preserve because of its context. At the time of settlement by Europeans, Wabash County was about 95% forested. Now, forest cover is only about 10%. Kokiwanee is just across the river from Salamonie State Forest and close to forested areas in the Salamonie Reservoir area. This complex constitutes one of the largest blocks of forested land in the county.

Photos by Tim Kimmell - Fleabane (left page)
(Photos clockwise starting top left) - Yellow Hawkweed, Chicory, Firepink, Wild Hyacinth, Wild Coffee, Black Eyed Susan, Wild Rose, Milkweed



The Johnson Farm

By Kitt J. Johnson

Oh, what this land has given us...wild strawberries and raspberries, catching frogs, hunting rabbits, a place to sled, play on the ice and skip rocks, room to grow a garden, raise animals, race a go-cart, play ball and ride bikes, camp fires, the smell of Queen Anne's Lace in the heavy summer air, apples, walnuts and cattails, the sounds of knocking woodpeckers, the beating wings of great horned owls and the call of the bobwhite, flower gardens and garden spiders fed unsuspecting grasshoppers, catching garter snake (but running from blue racers), vernal ponds and streams alive in the Spring, brush to cut and leaves to rake, woods to walk, closeness to God, learning to respect nature and conserve its offerings... the eternal love of a place so dear, a place where memories and experiences form the foundation of our lives, now protected forever; so others can enjoy the bountiful goodness of this land.

By Georgean C. Johnson-Coffey

Well, this morning my brother, Kitt and I, sold our family home on Chapman Road to ACRES Land Trust. Although I am quite pleased these 12-plus acres will always be preserved, I also feel a bit of sadness in letting go of what had been my childhood home.

I am flooded with memories of walking back to Cedar Creek with my dad and stopping at "the bee tree" where he courageously seized sweet honeycomb for us. I remember shearing the pine trees each spring for Christmas trees each December, taming a wild yellow cat who came to be known as Timothy, collecting eggs from our chickens, building a tree house in a wonderful apple tree, listening at night to the bullfrogs croaking in our wetlands, picking Bachelor Button flowers with my mom from one of her flower gardens, playing in the sand box with my brothers...

Tears that flow now -- I know from experience -- are from the grief of loss but also from the joy of these God-given memories of a place where part of my being will ever be. A place, thanks to ACRES, will forever remain preserved, and natural as God intends."

In June 2005, ACRES acquired 12.3 acres from Kitt Johnson and George Johnson-Coffey. The Robert C. Johnson Preserve is adjacent to the Whitehurst and Tom and Jane Dustin Preserves. Protecting a significant wetland, where Tom Dustin photographed a black-crowned night heron in the 1980s, the preserve fills in another piece in the protection of the Cedar Creek valley.

Johnson Farm grasses by Shane Perfect
Family Photo (Left to right): Georgean C. Johnson Coffey; Kitt J. Johnson; Father Robert C. Johnson; and Terry R. Johnson. Photograph taken by Mother Rosella Garey Johnson.
Wild strawberries by Tim Kimmell

Nature Trust

ACRES' Radio Show
expands to Indianapolis!

Listen for Nature Trust on WBOI in Fort Wayne and WFYI in Indianapolis. Nature Trust is a 3 1/2 - minute virtual hike. If you're stuck in your car, and we all get stuck in our car from time to time, at least you can fly with hummingbirds, learn about orchids or put your own hard-knock job in perspective when compared to...perhaps... woodpeckers (woodpeckers may have the worst job in the world - banging their heads on trees just to get a grub). To hear Jeff Britton's zany nature spots, just tune in to:

WBOI - Fort Wayne:

- **Wednesday at 12:35** during *Day to Day*
- **Saturday morning at 9:30** before *Car Talk*

WFYI - Indianapolis:

- **Wednesday at 12:35** during *Day to Day*

We are looking for a few nature heroes to sponsor Nature Trust episodes. If you would like to do so, please contact ACRES office at 260-422-1004. The radio station provides a mention after each spot to let the listener know who has graciously sponsored each and every one. Each show costs \$30, or sponsor a month of 8 spots for \$160.

The *Best of Nature Trust* is also available on CD, through the ACRES Office.

But, as Jeff Britton likes to say, "Whatever you do... take some time for yourself... get out there...take a hike!"



Painted turtle by Tim Kimmell

Tributes

Dan Butler and Butler Construction, Inc.

for his contribution with the access for the Terry and Nancy Brammall Nature Preserve

Chad Crowell and CENC Computer Consultants

for his help with the Access Database

Marvin and Kate Hall

for supporting many acquisition projects

Scott Hurley

for his graduation from Canterbury High School from James M. and Patricia D. Barrett

Janel A. Rogers

for serving as Land Acquisition Chairman and supporting the projects



ACRES' MISSION
Dedicated to preserving natural areas in northeast Indiana, ACRES manages and protects 57 nature preserves in 13 counties.

2000 North Wells Street
Fort Wayne, IN
46808-2474
260-422-1004
email: acreslt@fwi.com

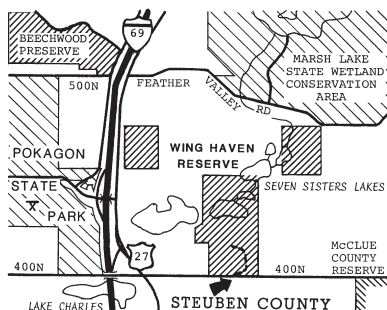
acres-land-trust.org

For Information on all programs contact: ACRES Office at (260) 422-1004.

CANOEING THROUGH SEVEN SISTERS LAKES

Sunday, August 7th - 2:00 p.m.

Presented by: Nathan Simons, Caretaker of Wing Haven and Director of Blue Heron Ministries. The Seven Sister Lakes chain at Wing Haven is one of the finest natural areas in Indiana. Nate Simons will lead the canoe trip and will introduce you to the ecology of the Seven Sisters. This is our 4th canoe trip at Wing Haven - always a good time! Where: Wing Haven Nature Preserve, 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.



OPEN HOUSE at the Terry and Nancy Brammall Nature Preserve

Saturday, August 20th - 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Come out and canoe and hike the new 80 acre Terry and Nancy Brammall Preserve! Protecting land along Pigeon Pond, Pigeon Creek and Pigeon Lake, you can canoe all three. We will be having a dedication ceremony with lunch at 12:00 p.m. Where: Terry and Nancy Brammall Nature Preserve, Steuben County. Take SR 20 three miles east of Angola. Preserve located on the north side of road.



CHILDRENS' PROGRAM!



Les Gustafson Zook at Wing Haven

Sunday, September 4th at 2:00 p.m.

Les is an entertaining and energetic multi-instrumentalist performer for both children and adults. The 2001 International Autoharp Champion and the 1989 National Autoharp Champion, Les will perform his Songs of the Pioneers program at Wing Haven's log cabin studio. Where: Wing Haven Nature Preserve, 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.

Photo By Tim Kimmell

For Information on all programs contact: ACRES Office at (260) 422-1004.

STONER AND FITCH MILL SITES

Saturday, September 24th at 10:00 a.m.

Presented by: Dwight Fouts, President of Stockdale Mill Foundation. Mr. Fouts has restored a mill in Miami County. Join Dwight for a 1 1/2-hour hike and program on the two mills sites located at the Little Cedar Creek Wildlife Sanctuary and the Fred-erick and Alfrieda Mackel Nature Preserve. From 1827 to 1885, there were thirty-five water-powered mills that operated in Allen County, of which six were on Little and Big Cedar Creeks. Learn how the mills were built and operated as sawmills, grist mills and flouring mills. Refreshments served after hike. Where: Little Cedar Creek Wildlife Sanctuary, Allen County. Take Coldwater Road north of Fort Wayne to Fitch Road. Turn west onto Fitch and cross the bridge over Little Cedar Creek. Take Sunlight Lane to the south, which will dead-end into preserve.



WILD WALKERS HIKES



Presented by: Mike Graves, Outdoor Education Coordinator, Fort Wayne Parks and Recreation. Join this energetic group of hikers for friendship and fun times visiting ACRES nature preserves. Great exercise and beautiful scenery!



Photo By Tim Kimmell

Friday, August 26th

7:30 a.m. to Noon

Wing Haven Nature Preserve carpool from the Fort Wayne Parks and Recreation office, located at the corner of State and Parnell Streets OR meet at the Wing Haven Nature Preserve at 8:30 a.m.

Friday, September 9th

8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

Mengerson Nature Preserve

Meet at the Preserve entrance.

Contact: ACRES at (260) 422-1004

or Mike Graves at Fort Wayne Parks and Recreation at (260) 427-6005.



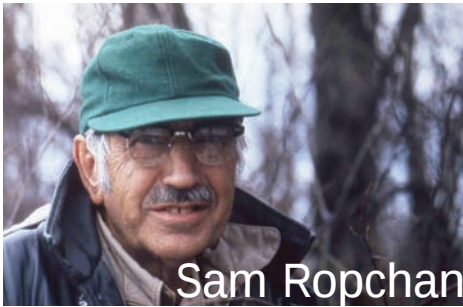
Fritallary By Tim Kimmell

Two ACRES Benefactors: Looking towards the future



ACRES has received a substantial gift from the W. Glenn Fogwell estate. Mr. Fogwell, with his two sisters Mabel Corville and Mildred Klopfenstine, gifted the original 30-acre Fogwell Forest Nature Preserve in 1976. An additional 28 acres were gifted in 2001 by the Fort Wayne Airport Authority.

In speaking with Miriam Black, Mr. Fogwell's sister-in-law, she said that "his love was that forest over there." Glenn said that he wanted to save the Fogwell woods, with its giant oak and beech trees, "to show people what was here, and to show them the beauty of what was here." "It truly is a really generous gift that others should emulate, says David Van Gilder, ACRES President.



Sam Ropchan continues to affect environmental protection in Indiana, even 18 years after his death. Mr. Ropchan established two of ACRES highest quality nature preserves, the 79-acre Ropchan Memorial Nature Preserve and the 184-acre Ropchan Wildlife Refuge, both in Steuben County. He also established the Ropchan Foundation, the only foundation in Fort Wayne exclusively dedicated to the establishment of nature preserves, the Ropchan Peace Fund thru Manchester College, and the Ropchan Meadowlands Preserve, managed by the Fort Wayne Chapter of the Izaak Walton League. It is not an overstatement to say that the Ropchan Foundation has helped establish

more than 25 nature preserves in Indiana. Ted Heemstra, ACRES Vice President and Board Member for the Ropchan Foundation, says "Sam also established a Ropchan Endowment for ACRES to use for managing the preserves. His foresight has been a benefit to ACRES." Sam and Adeline, his wife, would be pleased to know that the Ropchan Memorial Preserve may be home to bobcats, with two sightings taking place near the preserve in the last five years, and that Ropchan Wildlife's patch of blue flag iris and marsh marigolds continues to grow.



Fogwell Forest, Bumblee and Cemetery Lake by Tim Kimmell;
Photos of Glenn and Dorothy Fogwell, Sam Ropchan by Bob Weber



Memorials



Thais Heinzerling

This tribute is for Thais, ACRES Member for 42 years, lover of nature and a fine lady. She wrote the following a month before she passed away at the age of 93:

"Thought you might like to hear about my friends the tree frogs (as per recent issue ACRES.) Many generations ago-44 years to me, the frogs appeared in my plants and under the planters on my little porch. Of course, I didn't realize that I brought at least one sleepy one in with the house plants in the fall. Occasionally one will wake up from hibernation and trill musically. They change location and many colors, even almost black to match the dirt they're sitting on. One time one was sunning himself on the window sill and my cleaning lady jumped a foot when she picked him up. She has gotten used to them now. I have heard his brothers this spring."

Howard Blood

for the Oliver, Olin, Martin Lakes

from Arthur J. Matott

and for the Terry and Nancy Brammall Preserve

from friends at "The Oasis", Scottsdale, Arizona

C. Nick Bloom

who loved fishing, the Yankees

and the Purdue Women's Basketball Team

for the Oliver, Olin, Martin Lakes

from Bill and Agnes Bopp

Bill and Barbara Bougher

Laymon and Nellie Hoskins

Harold and Glatha Neff

Dorman and Jane Stein

William J. Carr

who was a long-time supporter of ACRES

for the Pokagon State Park Addition

from Fred and Jackie Wooley

Earl "Slim" Davis

one of the original organizers of Kokiwanee Girl Scout Camp, for Kokiwanee Nature Preserve from Leelia and Thomas Cornell

Vera Ropchan Kindraka

for the Ropchan Memorial Nature Preserve from Alice Ropchan

Frances Nevin

*for the Scott and Frances Nevin Nature Preserve from Frank L. And Sara W. Deaton
Walter J. Williams*

Rosemarie Swaim Padgitt

*for my beloved wife
for the Kokiwanee Nature Preserve from Everitt J. Padgitt*

Mark "Bo" Petit

*for the Kokiwanee Preserve from Arlene M. Bolster
Charlene Bolster
Dorothy A. Burke-Burslan
Frank and Maritza Casagrande
Gordon W. Hawthorne
Dan and Tina Jehl
Linda A. Kotasek*

Alexander Ropchan

for the Ropchan Memorial Nature Preserve from Alice Ropchan

Thomas Schmidt

for the Wing Haven Nature Preserve from Karen Ericson

Gray tree frog by Sue Kern
Mushroom by Tim Kimmell

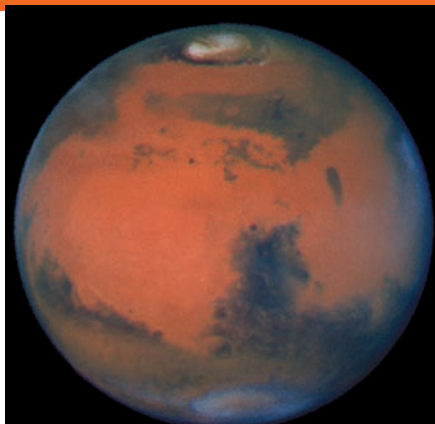
The Red Planet is about to be spectacular! This month and next, Earth is catching up with Mars in an encounter that will culminate in the closest approach between the two planets in recorded history. The next time Mars may come this close is in 2287. Due to the way Jupiter's gravity tugs on Mars and perturbs its orbit, astronomers can only be certain that Mars has not come this close to Earth in the last 5,000 years, but it may be as long as 60,000 years before it happens again.

The encounter will culminate on August 27th when Mars comes to within 34,649,589 miles of Earth and will be (next to the moon) the brightest object in the night sky. It will attain a magnitude of -2.9 and will appear 25.11 arc seconds wide. At a modest 75-power magnification Mars will look as large as the full moon to the naked eye. Mars will be easy to spot. At the beginning of August it will rise in the east at 10 p.m. and reach its azimuth at about 3 a.m.

By the end of August, when the two planets are closest, Mars will rise at nightfall and reach its highest point in the sky at 12:30 a.m. That's pretty convenient to see something that no human being has seen in recorded history. So mark your calendar at the beginning of August to see Mars grow progressively brighter and brighter throughout the month.

Share this with your children and grandchildren. **NO ONE LIVING TODAY WILL EVER SEE THIS AGAIN.**

*To view more photos of Mars, visit **hubblesite.org**. They can be downloaded for teaching projects.*



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