QUARTERLY

Summer 2015 | Vol. 54 - No. 2





Surprise Bequest
Following Swainson's Thrushes
Fund Development
Cricket Thermometer
Lonidaw Nature Preserve
Programs & Events



Photo by Jarrid Spicer

Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Friends.

Preserving land forever—every day. That phrase is my latest attempt to express concisely the tension between ACRES' message of forever paired with the urgency of today.

ACRES' mission, values and decisions are guided by our dedication to forever. For the past 55 years we have done well associating ACRES with forever. We manage our properties, relationships, and money with forever in mind. Forever demands stability, and by definition, longevity. However, forever does not instill urgency.

Preserving land occurs daily. This point is often missed. The first day of our commitment to forever is the day a deed transfers to ACRES. Each day after closing is another opportunity to preserve the land for one more day. This is the tension we struggle to convey. Forever requires daily attention.

ACRES is proud to be the oldest local land trust in Indiana. To remain the oldest local land trust in Indiana, we have to stay in business today and again tomorrow. Our commitment to forever—and to ACRES' place in history—depends on our actions today.

ACRES does everything within our ability to ensure forever. We place legal protections on the nature preserves. We make a commitment to grow our endowment to anticipate our continued acquisition of land. We continue to ensure ACRES remains important to the next generation.

Forever requires vigilance, dogged determination, attention to detail, alertness, and the ability to adapt. Forever requires urgency. Forever is not only the distant future. It's a daily commitment to preserve ACRES' nature preserves and new properties.

This tension between forever and today motivates me. Our combined efforts today will continue forever only if we are willing to do the work of preservation again tomorrow.

Forever is a long time, but our obligation to forever is now. Thank you for investing in forever—today.

Sincerely,

Jason Kissel jkissel@acreslandtrust.org 260-637-2273 ext 2 WELCOME

77**neW**members!

Lynne Jury Isenbarger

John Amos Beth Anderson Kathi Anderson Alan Ash Greg Banicki Patricia Baumgardner Sandy Blilie Mary Boswell Katie Bowman Rhonda Breischaft Dennis Brink Heather Burkett Linda Burrell Judd, Joanne and Gabriel Case Ken Cater Debra Charles David and Sharon Crabill Katrina Custer Jessica Deathe Marcia Denton Heather Duling Melissa Fey Marquerite Fowerbaugh William Freeman Rob Galbraith Janet Gibson Jay and Allisson Griffith Tim and Cindy Heffley Jill and David Heller Jayne Hickman Cody Highland gift from Ron and Harriet **H**ighland Mary Alice Hulbert gift from Therese Hulbert Rob Hummer

Beth Jamieson Richard Juram Michael Kline Stephen Knight Ward and Devona Krause Sr Flise Kriss Camille Kruse Debra Leinker Linda Lonati Teri Luce Calvin Madsen. 2015 Science Fair Winner Jan Meloy Teresa Michaelis Jeff and Michele Michel Albert Mills Kim Miser **Brad Nokes** Tim Orman Mona Peniston Adam Probst gift from David Schnepp Gary Probst gift from David Schnepp Ken Purdy Tricia Ragle Mitch Robison Angela Rosalez Kathy Schall Ron Snider Mark Souder, MD John Stanley Theil Family Ashley Thorpe Jim Van Every

Larry and Lana VerHage Susie Watson Jean Wells Susan Whittington Darrell Will David Winebrenner Jeremy and Catherine Wright Kim Zylla

life members

Larry Bieberich

new corporate members

Albright Clark Financial Group of Raymond James & Associates Orchard House



BE PART OF OUR GROWTH.

Scan this QR code with your smart phone to join today!

tributes

Angie O'Neill from Alice Kopfer

memorials

Bob Burdick from David and Barbara Kissel, Jay and Pam Sagers

Gregg Burdick from David and Barbara Kissel, Jay and Pam Sagers

Evelyn Dygert from Doris Tower Miller and family

Lillian Harding from Daniel Harding

John D. Stearns from Jeanne Cardone, David and Linda Stearns, John and Shawn Stiver, Fort Wayne News-Sentinel Chris and Jim Smith from Sharon Pool-Smith

Samuel Thompson, MD from Chris and Robert Jensen, MD, Janet and Robert Joyce

Ed Will

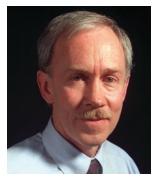
from Nancy Chiavetta

Betty Seddon from Andria Thomas

Art and Betty Seddon from Lucy Hess, Don and Mary Gilliom

Janet Weber from Dan and Angie O'Neill

Surprise \$1 million bequest from Robert Pence preserves land forever



ROBERT PENCE courtesy Steve Linsenmayer

Robert Pence, 73, of Fort Wayne's historic West Central neighborhood, died in late 2012, leaving a surprise \$1 million beguest to ACRES.

Bearing in mind our mission to preserve ACRES' lands indefinitely, we chose to invest Mr. Pence's unrestricted bequest in our endowment*, elevating it to just over \$3 million. Dividends from the endowment now provide the financial sustainability to ensure that we can protect our properties—forever.

With this gift we could have made purchases including equipment or even property that might have been beneficial today. As with everything at ACRES, we carefully considered options, then chose to invest in our long-term strategy.

Of course, with community support and the drive of our

members, ACRES operates beyond the bare minimum of simply setting aside currently owned land forever. We acquire new preserves, provide trails, manage the properties, raise funds and share our story. Mr. Pence's legacy challenges the ACRES community to participate in a shared vision of protecting our most significant natural areas.

Robert Pence grew up on a farm in Wells County and explored the outdoors through gardening, bicycling, hiking, and canoeing. Fascinated by how things worked, Pence worked as a toolmaker for General Electric and computer technician for Lincoln Life. He had a passion for photography, collecting J.I. Case tractors, transportation, and nature.

"His bequest to ACRES is brilliant. A perfect fit," said Jon Allmandinger, Pence's West Central neighbor who remembers his friend genuinely cared about community development and preserving land. Bob was a country boy transplanted to the city. He loved springtime with all the wildflowers. When we hiked the woodlot on his family farm, he pointed out Dutchman's breeches and trillium. He valued and respected the land as a steward of agriculture, as well as having an innate curiosity and appreciation for nature."

Angie O'Neill, ACRES board member, remembers talking about ACRES with her West Central neighbor. "Bob was an avid bicyclist back before it was in style, and he would bike to work. He was kind and quiet. and we watched over each other's houses when we were gone."



"This Sycamore tree stands on the bank of Six Mile Creek on my family's farm, in Wells County, about five miles southeast of Bluffton, Indiana. I photographed it in late April or early May, 2002, using a Nikon FM Camera and Kodachrome 64 film.

HOW IT WORKS

Pence's legacy comes together with endowment contributions of all sizes, including two significant life estate gifts. As we celebrate Pence's generosity, we also remember the legacies of Art Hammer and Jim Barrett. The estates of these three major benefactors account for momentous boosts in endowment growth.

Keepsakes from each of these benefactors line the walls of executive director Jason Kissel's office. Hammer's walking stick rests near Barrett's hat and portrait. These are now accompanied by Pence's photo of a sycamore tree on his family's farm (shown on page 4). We reflect on the trust demonstrated through their investment in ACRES' work with the land.

Hammer, Barrett and Pence have made real their shared vision of protecting land. Their contributions create new energy for endowment support, our work and within the ACRES community.

Pence's gift demonstrates in many ways how ACRES works, how major gifts join the collective gifts of many. His gift is the story of community: how his friends, ACRES members, introduced him to our preserves and our organization and simply expressed their love for our natural places and ACRES' results.

Pence was listening.

His is a story of how single memberships, of just \$25 annually can generate a million dollar investment through shared core values.

The good work we individually and collectively are doing today does not go unnoticed.

ACRES was founded in 1960 by a small group of motivated people (including Jim Barrett) with a conviction that natural lands must be protected. 55 years of growing member support, community participation, of stories of moments spent in the woods, and hiking along our waterways. 55 years of preserving natural areas. Together.

Yet 55 years is a small moment in the span of forever. Similarly, annual memberships seem small in comparison to a million dollars. The value of a \$25 annual membership, however, is far more than monetary.

As a strong, growing nonprofit, we operate in response to the will of our community. Expressions of support and enthusiasm for preserving our natural areas send a clarion call throughout our region: We value natural lands! Membership expresses the will to see this work through. We can all participate in this grand legacy.

The trust Robert Pence places in our hands today will have a lasting impact for generations. We honor his generosity through our work.

Ours is a grassroots story in celebration of the land and community. We're writing this story together.

*WHAT IS AN ENDOWMENT? An endowment is a fund made up of gifts and bequests that are subject to a requirement that the principal be maintained intact and invested to create a source of income for an organization.

ACRES draws a 4% dividend from our endowment. While our endowment typically earns far more than 4%, drawing at this level allows us to weather storms in the market without significant fluctuations. With the addition of Robert Pence's gift, dividends earned will pay necessary assessments, drainage taxes and fees on the properties we currently own.



This chapter of Through the Seasons comes to you during Indiana's summer when the majority of Swainson's thrushes have settled down in their northern breeding grounds in Canada and the northern-most United States. Thus it seems an appropriate time to provide information from a resident of Maine, Dr. Herb Wilson, author of *Etymology of Some Bird Names* (Colby College, Web, 26 March 2015). Wilson's research takes us back to the 19th century when the Swainson's thrush was named.

Swainson's was named after an Englishman, William Swainson (1789–1855), who had an early interest in nature. In 1808, his father secured a post for him in Italy which gave him plenty of time to study animals, particularly fish and snails. Poor health forced him from the army in 1815, but by 1816 he felt well enough to travel to Brazil for a collecting expedition. He returned to England with 760 bird specimens and large numbers of other species.

Swainson developed skills as a wildlife artist by drawing the biological materials he and others had collected. In fact, he was a far more prolific wildlife artist than Audubon. Based on specimens collected by William Bullock in northern Mexico, Swainson drew and described a number of birds common in the United States including Acorn Woodpecker, Black Phoebe, Violet-green Swallow, Western Bluebird—and this article's eponymous thrush.

On a trip to England, Audubon visited Swainson and his family. Audubon asked Swainson to help write the *Ornithological Biography*, the text that would accompany Audubon's volumes of prints, *The Birds of North America*. Because Audubon would give him neither co-authorship nor a sufficient fee, Swainson refused.

Swainson's name is commemorated in three species: the widespread western raptor, Swainson's hawk; the southeastern Swainson's warbler, and our Swainson's thrush.

Excerpted with permission. "Etymology of Some Bird Names" by Dr. Herb Wilson

In the next, and final, chapter of this annual article, I will summarize previous entries as the Swainson's Thrush migrates back though our area to its wintering range in Central America. I will also share a way for you to record bird species that you've observed on ACRES' properties. — Casey Jones

funddevelopment

by Heather Barth

We are constantly awed by the outpouring of support extended to ACRES by our members and followers. Every day, individuals appreciate ACRES properties as they hike; they make the decision to invest in ACRES by joining as members; and they donate their time, skills, and expertise by volunteering in a variety of ways.

This level of dedication is truly the cornerstone of the organization. What is even more impressive is that many of you want to do even more.

One of the most helpful and valuable things you can do for ACRES is to tell others about how proud you are of what you are building. Tell a friend about an invigorating hike you took recently. Better yet, invite them along for your next hike! Share this *Quarterly* with a neighbor. Spreading the good word about the work of ACRES can make an impact today and well into the future.

The story of Mr. Robert Pence's gift to ACRES is a perfect example of the power of sharing the ACRES story with others. An ACRES board member and neighbor of Bob's would, from time to time, pass along to him copies of the *Quarterly*. Another ACRES member and land donor took him out to hike preserves to photograph these beautiful places. Others he knew casually mentioned both their positive experiences with members, volunteers, and staff, as well as the organization's accomplishments.

Each of these individuals served as an ambassador for ACRES, and Mr. Pence noticed. He never joined, and he didn't attend ACRES events, but he watched us and learned about us. Hearing others speak so highly of the organization inspired him to leave a legacy that will last far beyond any of our lifetimes. His gift was significant enough for the organization to reach a milestone goal for growing its endowment to a level that ensures ACRES is now able to financially back its promise of "forever." This doesn't mean our work—your work—is finished. In fact, as Jason explains in his director's letter, we're just getting started. We renew our commitment every day.

You are ACRES, one link in the chain of this group working together.

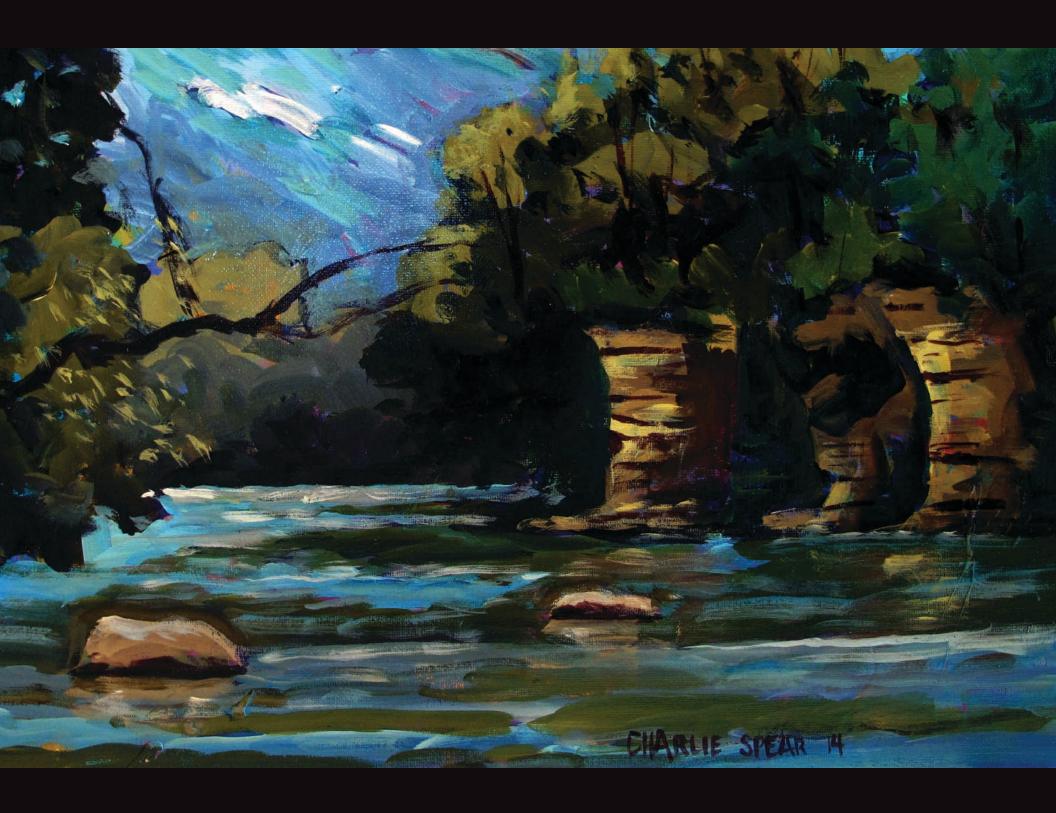
ACRES' mission of preserving natural areas isn't a mission that is just ours; it's yours. You are ACRES, one link in the chain of this group working together. Share with others your pride in what you are helping to accomplish. Share with others your joy and commitment to ACRES.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU!

Thanks to Geoff and Josie Fox Family Foundation for their support of the acquisition of Spring Lake Woods and Bog, located at Allen County's only natural lake, Lake Everett. Their generosity pushed us to the finish line in our fundraising efforts for this property and ACRES vision to protect the lake, wetlands, and bog is now achieved. Thanks, Josie and Geoff!!

Center Spread: New England Aster, Bock Nature Preserve by Shane Perfect.

ACRES Land Trust 7



programs & EVENTS

NATIONAL TRAILS DAY

Saturday, June 6, 10 am - Noon

ALLEN COUNTY | Blue Cast Springs 21412 Bluecast Road, Woodburn, IN 46797

Celebrate National Trails Day with a docent-led hike. Enjoy vistas of the Maumee River and explore the ravines that run through the upland forest to feed the river. Blue Cast is the site of a natural spring once thought to have healthful properties. Guided hikes begin at 10, 10:45 and 11:30 or you may explore on your own. No registration necessary. Presented by Debbie Branfield, Chuck Lake and ACRES docents.



Photo by Jill Noyes

BIRDING

Sunday, June 7, 7 am

KOSCIUSKO COUNTY | Glennwood Nature Preserve 7008 W 650 N Etna Green IN 46524

Join fellow early risers on Sunday morning at Glennwood Nature Preserve for the chance to hear and see migratory songbirds. Attendees will receive a Sibley's Warblers of Eastern North America folding field guide. Plenty of extra binoculars will be available for those who don't bring their own. *Presented by Casey and Jennifer Jones*.

PROJECT LEARNING TREE

Workshop for Environmental Education with Children Saturday, June 13, 8:30 am - 2:30 pm

ALLEN COUNTY | Tom and Jane Dustin Nature Preserve 1802 Chapman Road, Huntertown, IN 46748

Project Learning Tree, an award-winning program, inspires students, teachers, families, and volunteers to gain an awareness and knowledge of the world around them and their place in it by using the forest as a "window to the world." Dress appropriately as part of the workshop will be outside. Fee for the manual is \$22. Presented by Mary Ibe and Nancy Eagle.



Photo by Jarrid Spicer

Pay at the event. RSVP by June 6: 637-2273 or acres@acreslandtrust.org

"DISCOVER ACRES" OPEN HOUSE AND HIKE

Wednesday, July 15, 9 am - 3 pm

ALLEN COUNTY | Tom and Jane Dustin Nature Preserve 1802 Chapman Road, Huntertown, IN 46748

Celebrate our community's natural heritage in coordination with the Three Rivers Festival. Enjoy light refreshments, meet staff in a casual open house atmosphere, and learn more about our work. Explore the preserve on your own, or join one of many docent-led hikes through Cedar Canyon. Newcomers and long-time friends alike encouraged. *Presented by ACRES docents and staff.*

CREEK STOMP VII

Saturday, August 1, 1 pm

WABASH COUNTY | Hathaway Preserve at Ross Run 1866 E. Baumbauer Rd., Wabash, IN 46992

It's that time again—time to get up close and personal with leeches, pinching crayfish and biting mosquitoes, fossils, waterfalls, cliffs, minnows, salamanders, and—if we are lucky—a snake or two. You'll get wet, dirty, and inspired. *Presented by The Kissel Family.*



Photo by Heather Barth

ACRES hosts a growing number of events. Read the full list online: www.acreslandtrust.org/events

Sign up for our monthly event newsletter at www.acreslandtrust.org/updates

PLEIN AIR PAINTING

Saturday, August 8, 4 pm

KOSCIUSKO COUNTY | Bock Nature Preserve 11630 S SR 14. Akron. IN 46910

Bock Nature Preserve hosts a prairie teeming with color in late summer. Thanks to support from the Auer Foundation, we'll provide bold yellow and lavender oil paints to render the Rudbeckia and Monarda flowers blooming among tall grasses. Bring only your artistic expression. *Presented by Casey and Jennifer Jones*.

Limit 6. RSVP by August 1: 637-2273 or acres@acreslandtrust.org

14TH ANNUAL WING HAVEN CANOE TRIP

Saturday, August 15, 2-4 pm

STEUBEN COUNTY | Wing Haven Nature Preserve 180 W. 400 N., Angola, IN 46703

Relax as you explore the Seven Sisters Lakes with Nate as he leads an interpretive program. Bring your own canoe or kayak. *Presented by Nate Simons*.



Photo by Miranda Davies

ART FOR ACRES

Artist's Reception July 17, 6-8 pm

As you visit ACRES preserves, gather ideas, snap photos, create! Show runs July 17-August 16. All 2D and 3D art accepted. \$25 entry for up to three pieces. Cash awards totaling \$400. A percentage of sales benefits ACRES. For details, please contact the Garrett Museum of Art at 260-357-4917.



DUSTIN BARN EVENTS

ALLEN COUNTY | Tom and Jane Dustin Nature Preserve

Entrance to the barn is east of the main entrance to the ACRES office, 1802 Chapman Road, Huntertown, IN 46748

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DINNER

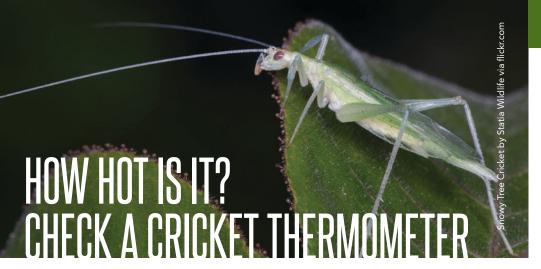
Thursday, October 1, 6 pm

OCTOBER BARN SERIES

Join us on Thursdays in October from 6-8 pm. October 8, 15, 22.

Made possible by the Edward D. and Ione Auer Foundation.

O ACRES Land Trust 11



By Jason Kisse

Want to amaze your friends with an uncanny ability to tell temperature without a thermometer? All you need is a little know-how and a cricket!

Like all insects, crickets are cold-blooded animals so their body temperature and activity levels vary with their environment's temperature. As temperature increases, their activity increases, including the rate of their chirping. This correlation between temperature and chirping rate, along with their easy to recognize sound, makes crickets readily available thermometers.

To tell temperature from a cricket, count the number of chirps a cricket makes in 13 seconds, then add 40 to get the temperature in degrees Fahrenheit.

CHIRPS HEARD IN 13 SECONDS + 40 = TEMPERATURE (°F)

This formula was based on the chirping of the snowy tree cricket—luckily for us, they are common in our region. (You'll get good results even if you're counting chirps from another type of cricket.)

As you use this formula, keep in mind a few things. Be sure you can isolate the chirping of a single cricket; counting chirps from several crickets will overestimate the temperature. Remember that the cricket is reacting to the temperature where it is, not where you happen to be. Because the cricket is likely in the shade and next to cool, moist soil, its temperature may be a degree or two cooler than where you are, even though you are standing only a few feet away.

Your cricket thermometer should get you within a degree or two of actual temperature—not accurate enough for the national weather service, but likely close enough to convince your friends that you have a sixth sense. Be sure to think of a good reason why your special ability doesn't work below 55° though, because that's when crickets tend to stop chirping. Every superpower has its kryptonite.

CRICKETS:

- Make their chirps by rubbing specialized parts of their wings together
- Chirp if they are male; females are quiet
- Are omnivores, eating anything that doesn't put up a fight
- Live an average of 2 weeks to 2 months as adults

promotions/Announcements

WOODLAND BOG 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Please join us in celebrating Woodland Bog's 50th anniversary! This state dedicated nature preserve is part of a centuries-old bog and includes pin oak, red osier dogwood, swamp white oak, big tooth aspen, red maple, red elm, and a few tamarack trees. Numerous species of birds call this tropical-looking bog home, where you will also find cinnamon and royal ferns with fronds nearly six feet tall.

You can honor this unique property by making a gift to the ACRES Endowment Fund at the Steuben County Community Foundation.

Steuben County Community Foundation c/o ACRES Endowment Fund 1701 N. Wayne St. Angola, IN 46703-2356



Photo by Shane Perfect

SCIENCE FAIR WINNERS

Keyara Kessens and Calvin Madsen are this year's ACRES Land Trust Regional Science Fair Annual Award winners for projects demonstrating environmental excellence. Keyara, a Study Elementary 4th grader, experimented with effects of varying levels of sunlight on bean plant growth. Calvin, a Summit Middle School 6th grader, tested grass growth using a variety of water sources, from the tap to laundry water.

Congratulations, Keyara and Calvin!

5TH ANNUAL ALLEN COUNTY TRAILBLAZERS KICKOFF

Join us for the 2015 Kickoff on Sunday, September 6, at 2 pm at Metea County Park. ACRES Land Trust, Allen County Parks, Fort Wayne Parks and Recreation, Fort Wayne Trails, Little River Wetlands Project and New Haven Parks and Recreation partner to provide the trail network for this annual hiking rewards program.

www.allencountytrailblazers.org

TRAILBLAZERS





14

SAVE THE DATE!

ANNUAL DINNER at Metea County Park
Look for more information in the upcoming months!

12 ACRES Land Trust 13

LONIDAW NATURE PRESERVE

by Terri Gorney

On May 25 1968, a lease was signed and a now-familiar brown wooden sign was placed on Noble County's third ACRES preserve. It is very fitting that May was the month that Lonidaw Nature Preserve was established.



May is a lovely time to visit Lonidaw. The hillsides of the preserve are covered in large trillium and other wildflowers.

May is also the month when warblers and other songbirds are making music from the tree tops. Dave Reichlinger, a board member of the Stockbridge Audubon Society, conducts part of the annual bird count at this preserve due to its good habitat for Indiana's native birds. Dave explains: "While the flowers are definitely the main attraction, Lonidaw has a diversity of birds. I have birded there for many years on the second Saturday in May as a participant in the annual Big May Day Count sponsored by the Indiana Audubon Society. The count is designed to coincide with the peak of the spring migration. Birds are in their breeding plumage and are actively singing."

The preserve is a hidden gem on the northeast side of Kendallville. Dave says that, "While Lonidaw is smaller than many preserves, [30.2 acres], it rarely disappoints." Lonidaw is a Potawatomi name that means "Spirit Queen of the Woods" and was also the name of Chief Simon Pokagon's wife. Pokagon wrote a book by the same name in 1899.

This land of rolling wooded terrain was once part of 300 acres known as Whitford Woods. The property contains most of Little Whitford Lake. It is one of

Indiana's Dedicated Nature Preserves through the Department of Natural Resources' Division of Nature Preserves.

This preserve was originally purchased by Dr. Isaac Harry Lawson and his wife, Nora, in the 1930s. It was meant as a private retreat. Dr. Lawson, a native Hoosier, was a practicing physician who lived with Nora and their only daughter Katherine at 518 S. Main Street in Kendallville.

Katherine, preceded them in death in 1942. After Isaac's death in 1966, Nora made a request that ACRES care for the property. She wished to donate the land to honor her late husband but her financial situation created the need to sell it. The land was acquired by ACRES in 1979 after a successful fundraiser that raised the \$33,400 needed to purchase it.

Discover the "Spirit of the Woods" while exploring Lonidaw's nearly 1 mile of trail in all seasons. Lonidaw is located at 987 N. Allen Chapel Road, Kendallville, IN 46755.



Lonidaw Trail by Jamie McCann

SPECIALthanks

All Birdathon donors

All Home & Garden Show volunteers

All our Quarterly distributors

B & J Rentals

sharpening chains and mower blades

Emma Barth

cleaning the ACRES office after carpet installation

Dave Brumm and Al Diefenbach coordinating installation of carpet

DeKalb County Retired Teachers Association donating bird seed, postage stamps and suet blocks

Michael Findley donating coffee makers

Pam George leading ACRES wildflower hikes

GM Foundation providing grant support

Kristen, Elijah and Noah Graves donating 8GB USB drive

Tim and Cindy Loos donating bird seed

Angie and Dan O'Neill donating dragonfly ornament and birding book

Carol Roberts revising and editing the Quarterly

David Schnepp donating drinking glasses Angela Mapes Turner reaching out to public libraries

Bill Smith

coordinating docents and donating supplies for Yoder's Sugarbush event

Mary and Ralph Campbell, Al McSweeney,

Laura Colpitts, Dick Pacer, Paulette Szkudlarek, David Williams, Don Thornton, Ron and Marge

Costa and Teresa Neuhaus

collating the spring Quarterly



Many thanks to the donors who fulfilled so much of our spring wish list!

wish list

Postage stamps Bird seed Coffee

Homemade cookies

M&Ms

Vacuum



Dedicated to preserving natural areas since 1960, ACRES manages and protects 94 properties totaling 5,717 acres.



Like our page at www.facebook.com/ACRES.LT



1802 Chapman Road PO Box 665 Huntertown, IN 46748-0665 260.637.ACRE (2273)

email: acres@acreslandtrust.org

acreslandtrust.org

DIRECTORS: Steven Hammer, President; Carol Roberts, Vice President; Joe Conrad, Vice President; David Schnepp, Treasurer; Norm Cox, Secretary; Craig Bobay, John Clark, Pam George, Connie Haas-Zuber, James Haddock, Mary Ibe, Ashley Motia, David Nugent, Angie O'Neill, Mark O'Shaughnessy, Angie Quinn, Adam Turner, Michelle Briggs Wedaman. Membership Secretary: Mary Anna Feitler; Recording Secretary: Sue Diefenbach.

STAFF: Jason Kissel, Executive Director; Shane Perfect, Director of Land Protection; Heather Barth, Director of Fund Development; Tina Puitz, Office Manager/Volunteer Coordinator; Casey Jones, Director of Land Management; Lettie Haver, Outreach Manager.

ACRES Quarterly: Published by ACRES, Inc., at 1802 Chapman Rd., PO Box 665, Huntertown, Indiana, for the interest of its members, friends, and others similarly dedicated to the preservation of natural areas. ACRES, Inc., is a non-profit, charitable corporation, incorporated under the laws of Indiana. Contributions are deductible for tax purposes.

MEMBERSHIP: Life Member, \$1,500; Sustaining, \$500; Corporate, \$500; Club/Organization, \$50; Family, \$40; Individual, \$25; Senior or Student, \$15. Dues payable annually.





We understand the *QUARTERLY* is beautiful—but it's not a museum piece.

Like our preserves, the *Quarterly* is meant to be experienced. Zoey, age 5, understands that perfectly, says her mom, Betsy. Zoey carries the *Quarterly* with her everywhere, even to school.

"You should see her eyes when the new one comes," Betsy says. "It's hers. We don't have access to our *Quarterlies*—they're all Zoey's." Betsy finds *Quarterlies* in Zoey's bed and in her backpack.

"I like how it's about nature," Zoey says. And Zoey loves nature, especially exploring preserves. What's her favorite part? "You can wear boots and get all splashy," she says.