

THE ACRES QUARTERLY

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LANDTRUST

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Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

A few weeks ago, I took a vacation day at Wing Haven Nature Preserve. Yes, I do realize that it's healthy for me to get away from ACRES on my time off (and I do), but it's also good for me to experience the preserves as a guest rather than as a manager. At Wing Haven, I sat on an ACRES' bench—not because I needed a rest, but just because it was there. Its presence invited me to sit, so I did.

The bench allowed me to become part of the scene rather than simply passing through it. I was suddenly passively situated within nature rather than dictating (by choice of trails and pace of walking) what I saw next. I became stationary, like the trees surrounding me. Rather than moving through the forest at my pace, I sat still and observed the pace of nature. I noticed that after I was still, everything else began to break into motion.

When we walk through nature's home, we influence the interaction between nature and us. Birds fly away in a panic. We glimpse only the white tails of the deer running away from us. However, when we sit still, nature's daily life begins to happen around us. Birds fly toward us and begin to forage nearby. Deer casually proceed along their normal commutes through the woods. We become just another landing pad for butterflies and dragonflies.

When we sit still on an ACRES' bench, we see a truer display of natural behavior among the preserve residents. We start to see the nature preserve as it normally functions—rather than a nature preserve on high alert due to the predator walking along the trail.

Next time you're in a preserve, consider pausing at an ACRES' bench. Even if only for a few minutes, let nature choreograph the scene. Nature will begin to act as if you are part of it—as if you belong within it. And you do, don't you?

Sincerely,

ason

Jason Kissel
jkissel@acreslandtrust.org

WELCOME

26newmembers!

Nate and Jackie Beemer
Jennifer Boyd
Mitch Day
Bill and Amy Fee
Mike and Marsha Flora
Gift from Tom and Mary Jo Bland
Alex Forsythe
William Frounfelter
Connie Glass
Gift from Sue Walkup
Sandra Hall
Bill and Mary Hohler
Julie Horney
John and Aileen Meier
Gift from Al and Sue Diefenbach
Michael McCartin
David Myers

Abigail Parsons
Matt Pollard
Gift from Sarah Rood
Charles Rodenbeck
Save Maumee Grassroots Organization, Inc.
James Scott
Cindy Trahin
Mary Verstynen
Rex and Laura Whiteleather
Daryl Yost
Kathy Zack
David Zent

life members

Betty Fishman



STILL NOT A MEMBER?

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

memorials

Irene Bobilya Hiatt
From James and Judy Frey, Kathryn Bloom,
Jerry and Conda Schenkel, Joe and Kathy
Schenkel, and Rosemary Werling
Jean Erin Powers
From Joanne Weber
Vera Dulin
From Dolores Tomusk
John Carsten
From James and Mary Martin
Arthur Thomas
From the Stearns family
Warren Fish
From Prudence Widlak
Louis Schafer
From Larry and Janis Lahrman

Matthew Shumaker
From Wave Express, Dawn Wiley, Mark
Carmin, David and Barbara Renner and
Sue and Jim Shumaker
Natalie Zellers
From Washington Center Elementary PTA,
the Schuch family, Harrison Hill Social
Committee, Anthony and Stacy Amstutz,
Fort Wayne Education Association,
Richard and Diane Arnold, Agra Sales Inc.,
Ron and Dee Delong, Jim Wellman, Steven
Durnell, Judy Hart, Steven Hart, Randall and
Melissa Irk, Dale and Penny Keuneke, Chad
and Hope Korte, Ben and Annette Melvin,
Frank and Dolores Oddou, Michael and
Gail Simone, and Richard and Nancy Till



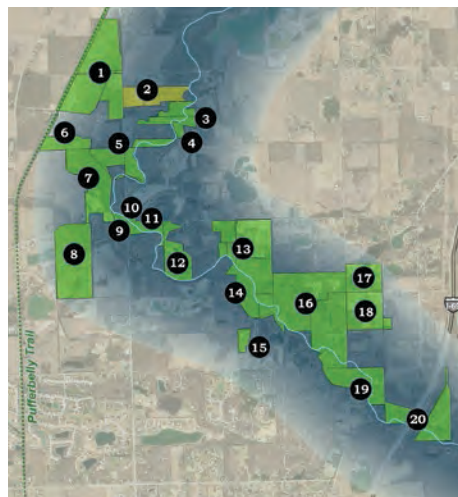
Photos by Shane Perfect

Another Piece of the Cedar Creek Puzzle Preserved

Over the summer, ACRES acquired 40 acres along the Cedar Creek Corridor. This alone is cause to celebrate. However, what makes this acquisition border on the incredible is that it links together 372 acres of preserved land!

Building on past successes preserving land along Cedar Creek, ACRES is now focused on growing existing preserves and linking them within this corridor. Larger areas of preserved land bring many benefits that isolated nature preserves cannot:

- providing habitat for animal species that require larger ranges
- expanding natural corridors for plants and animals
- creating functional forest systems rather than individual woodlot systems
- giving ACRES the ability to create both small loop trails and long linear trail systems
- offering a larger scale that gives visitors a sense that—rather than approaching the edge of a natural area—they are deep within it.



#2 New acquisition; green = protected land

The newly acquired Cedar Creek property contains three primary vegetation types: an old field becoming a forest through natural succession; a 40–50 year-old hardwood forest; and mature floodplain forest. Because of the property's frontage on Coldwater Road (SR 327) and great views overlooking the Cedar Creek valley, it had very high potential for residential development. Although the owner, Kurt Hayden, had offers from real estate developers, he chose to sell the property at a discount to ACRES so the land will remain in a natural state.

Mengerson Nature Reserve Expanded!

Mengerson Nature Reserve is a natural oasis—an island of nature within northeast Fort Wayne. This summer, that island expanded from 36 to 46 acres. ACRES purchased the 10-acre expansion through a bargain sale from Steining Real Estate Investors with support from the Bicentennial Nature Trust and Indiana Heritage Trust. The purchase preserves woodlands and a wetland system that extend between the expansion and the original property.

Until the 1970s, the property was a farm owned by Carl and Ursula Mengerson on the northern edge of Fort Wayne. The Mengersons saw the tide of development moving toward them and wanted to save a portion of their farm. In 1973, they worked with ACRES to permanently protect 36 acres by creating the Mengerson Nature Reserve. These 36 acres (plus the newly acquired 10 acres) are now all that remains intact of the original Mengerson Farm where Carl was born in 1903. Carl and Ursula both died in 1987, but their foresight has left us a natural remnant within an urban environment.

The reserve can be accessed through a parking lot and hiking trail that begins at 5895 Stellhorn Road, Fort Wayne, IN 46815. Visitors are rewarded with older and larger trees the further they venture into the preserve.



Exploring the Unsaturated Zones of Glaciated Environments

by Shawn Naylor, Hydrogeologist

Increasingly, environmental scientists are turning their attention to issues related to Earth's critical zone—the boundary layer that includes everything from high forest canopies to the bedrock. This critical zone is in dynamic flux as organisms interact with the water, carbon, and rock/mineral cycles. Climate change adds yet another variable. If we are to successfully adapt, humanity must improve our understanding of critical-zone elements.

Glaciers that covered much of the Great Lakes Region deposited over the bedrock layers of sand, gravel, and clay. Below the water table, these layers are saturated with water and include our aquifers. Above the water table, unsaturated layers form a crucial component of the critical zone, because 1) they form our rich soil ecosystems, 2) they are commonly less than 10 feet thick, which limits their ability to reduce floodwaters, and 3) their physical characteristics determine the rates that contaminants reach our groundwater resources. Accurately determining water and heat fluxes in the unsaturated zone is also important in analyzing aquifer sensitivity, in planning water resources, and in understanding the impacts of climate change on the critical zone.

Investigators at the Center for Geospatial Data Analysis and Indiana Geological Survey developed a network of 10 automated monitoring stations. These measure thermal and hydrologic properties in glaciated environments such as 1) end moraines where an ice front once existed; 2) outwash terraces where sand and gravel were deposited by meltwater; and 3) supraglacial environments near a glacier's terminus.

Two monitoring stations are in the Cedar Creek Corridor in Allen County, one at ACRES' Dustin Nature Preserve (ice front end moraine) and one on the Yoder Farm north of Chapman Road (sand and gravel deposited by meltwater). Each site collects data about precipitation, wind speed, and solar radiation, all of which control the flux of water in and out at the ground surface. Most sites also include buried instruments (Fig. 1) that measure soil moisture, soil temperature, and matric potential sensors to determine how tightly water is held in pore spaces.

Figure 1. Installation of soil sensors at the Yoder Farm study site north of the Dustin Nature Preserve. Water content reflectometers (white) induce an electromagnetic wave with a travel time that is affected by soil moisture and measured by the instrument. Other sensors measure dynamic soil properties that change seasonally or in response to rain events. The trench sediments are glacial outwash. The lower depths consist of sand mixed with gravel (deposited by fast-moving water), and the upper section is a mix of sand and silt, which is often characteristic of overbank environments such as those found along modern river floodplains.



Photo by Paul Levy

Data are used in investigations that have direct societal implications: 1) Information about the rates that water percolates through the unsaturated zone is important in determining the rate of groundwater recharge. This is vital because it measures aquifer sensitivity—the potential of an aquifer to be contaminated based on its geologic characteristics. 2) Similarly, soil-moisture measurements are used to calibrate models that simulate drainage through sediments, and 3) the weather data help us to understand water-balance parameters. Data are available on our website (Indiana Water Balance Network); see link in the “further reading” section.

A vital component of the hydrologic cycle is evapotranspiration—the combined loss of water from the ground surface because of evaporation and plant transpiration. Data permits us to calculate reference evapotranspiration (the theoretical amount of water lost from a field) at each site; these calculations yield an important estimate of the stress that a plant ecosystem will experience during summer.

Soil-moisture data and measurements that indicate how close soil conditions are to causing plant stress are valuable to soil scientists, ecologists, and hydrologists. A major question following a flood event is: “What were the preexisting soil-moisture conditions?” Data from our stations can be used in flood-forecasting models.

Data and mathematical models help us understand the trends, outcomes, and decisions associated with climate change. (See the National Research Council publication listed below for more details.) Thus, data collected as a part of our study are key in answering questions related to the Earth's critical zone.

The geologists conducting this work thank ACRES Land Trust and the Yoder Farm LLC for providing locations for research. Such generosity and vision is of benefit to all.

FURTHER READING:

Center for Geospatial Data Analysis, 2014, *The Indiana Water Balance Network*: Indiana Geological Survey website, <http://igs.indiana.edu/CGDA/waterBalanceNetwork.cfm>, date accessed, January 15, 2014.

National Research Council, 2012, *Climate Change: Evidence, Impacts, and Choices*: PDF Booklet. Washington, DC: The National Academies Press, 38 p.



Photo by Andrew Gustin

Micrometeorological sensors at the ACRES Dustin Nature Preserve in Allen County, Indiana. Precipitation, solar radiation, wind speed, air temperature, and relative humidity data are logged using this sensor array. Data are collected remotely using telemetry, and a solar panel is used to power the data logger and sensors.

We're looking for artwork

We'd like to see your nature-based artwork depicting the beauty of ACRES' preserves. ACRES and the Garrett Museum of Art are seeking artwork to display next summer from July 17 to August 16. Entry fee is \$25 for up to three pieces, any medium. A percentage of the sales will benefit ACRES. As you visit the preserves, gather ideas, snap photos and create. For more information, please contact the Garrett Museum of Art at 260-357-4917.

DID YOU KNOW?

- ACRES' smallest preserve is 0.9 acres, the Maumee River Overlook.
- The largest preserve is 356 acres, Art Hammer Wetlands Preserve.
- Dr. John Klotz was ACRES' first president.
- ACRES' board meetings were first conducted in board members' homes with the hosts providing food for the meetings.

from the FIELD

Chances are that by now you've found some new signage out on the trails. In addition to what's listed on the signs, there are several reasons why some trails across our ACRES' service area are being closed.

First, in order to reduce disturbing flora and fauna in some nature preserves, human access is restricted to particular areas. For example, some trails through tallgrass areas have been reduced in an effort to protect migratory birds that raise their young later in the summer (Henslow's Sparrow, Bobolink). Maintaining these trail systems with mowers and spin-trimmers can create quite a disturbance for wildlife! But limiting our presence in these areas will encourage successful breeding and nesting.

Because significant rain events can wash out highly erodible slopes in a geologically short period of time, it is especially important to prevent erosion there. How? One way is by reducing foot traffic in these areas, a reduction which will result in less soil compaction. Less soil compaction will, in turn, result in vegetation reestablishing, which will hold soils in place. And because trails in some of the more frequently visited preserves have been so beaten down by foot traffic, they do not need to be—and are not—trimmed.

Some trails have been closed due to safety concerns while others have been closed to simplify a confusing and exhaustive trail system. However, know that while trail closures will result in fewer miles of trails per acre, they will not restrict your access to a nature preserve's most impressive scenery. Even with these closures, ACRES continues to maintain over 70 miles of trails!

As the number of nature preserves being acquired throughout the area increases, it is clearly important to protect and maintain them as best and as efficiently as possible. For you, for nature, forever.

—Casey Jones, Land Management Specialist



funddevelopment

by Heather Barth

Please join us in celebrating the 50th anniversary of ACRES' first Steuben County property, Beechwood Reserve. Named for the beech trees found on the property, Beechwood was gifted to ACRES in 1964 by sisters Mildred and Garnette Foster.

Bob Weber, an ACRES' founder, described Beechwood as a "bewitching" preserve with rolling hills carved by glaciers, a peat bog, a walking loop trail, woods, and wildflowers.

Several generous individuals helped create this reserve that we enjoy today. Bob Weber, John Klotz, and John Ellenwood designed the first trail system and signs. Fred Wooley and Sam Boggs acted as the first volunteer stewards. In 2000, an additional 3 acres was added. To honor the Foster sisters and their generosity and dedication to the land, memorial trees were planted: an oak for Mildred and a sugar maple for Garnette.

Today Beechwood is still the bewitching home of a diverse forest that includes yellow birch, red maple, red elm, and blue beech trees; thickets of dogwood, elderberry, and spicebush; a fen; and countless birds and wildflowers. Several individuals now lovingly care for the preserve, just as their predecessors did.

ACRES is honoring Beechwood Reserve and celebrating its natural beauty with a fund drive for the ACRES' endowment at the Steuben County Community Foundation. These funds are used to help maintain the nature preserve and trail system. Gifts can be made directly to the foundation at:

STEBEN COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

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

Please join us Saturday, October 11 at 10 a.m. for a celebratory hike at Beechwood Reserve!



A big thank you to **Indiana Heritage Trust** for supporting numerous ACRES' acquisition projects since 1992. Please consider purchasing an Environmental License Plate—proceeds from plate sales are used by the Indiana Heritage Trust to support land preservation throughout Indiana, including new ACRES preserves.

Center Spread: Little Cedar Creek, Allen County, Shane Perfect

BEHIND THE SCENE

We were in the process of acquiring Founders Forest in 2010 to celebrate our 50th birthday and pay tribute to our founding members. It was at this time that I truly began to feel the bigger connection. This Nature Preserve was the puzzle piece that connected many other preserves within the Cedar Creek Corridor. Founders Vision could have been a close runner-up for naming this one. See page 4.



programs & EVENTS

ACRES' nature preserves host a growing number of events and activities—so many that we've decided to list only larger events in the *Quarterly*. You can read the full list of activities on ACRES' website where events are updated weekly, so check the website often at www.acreslandtrust.org/events

DUSTIN BARN EVENTS

Tom and Jane Dustin Nature Preserve, Allen County
1802 Chapman Road, Huntertown, IN 46748. Entrance to the barn is east of the main entrance to the ACRES office.

October 2 **Volunteer Appreciation Dinner, 6 pm,**
compliments of ACRES' staff and Board.
Please call to make reservations at
260-637-2273.

OCTOBER BARN SERIES

Join us on Thursdays in October from 6 – 9 pm for FREE food and drinks, good company and local artists performing live.

October 9 **Jeff Britton, locally known for his popular**
NPR radio series "Nature Trust," will present
nature tales accompanied by his banjo-playing
friend, Casey Neal.

October 16 **Family & Children's Night Fred Wooley,**
Pokagon State Park Naturalist, will discuss the
interesting world of animal scat. Distractions
will play throughout the evening.

October 23 **Jennie Renner, local artist, will display her**
nature photography. Audio Maximus will
provide sounds of nature through original
and popular music.

Come early, stay late. Enjoy a hike.

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



Dustin Barn



Fred Wooley by Dave Fox

POPP OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, October 19, 1 – 4:30 pm

Presented by: Larry Biggerstaff

Join us for an afternoon of hot dogs around the bonfire and a hike in the old-growth woods of this state-dedicated nature preserve, open only once a year.

WHERE: Emanuel M. Popp Nature Preserve, Allen County
12129 Tonkel Road, Fort Wayne, IN 46845

20TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS SING-ALONG

Sunday, December 7, 1 – 2 pm

Presented by: Art Eberhardt, Jim Shearer, Jeanine Samuelson and Steve Eyrich

Join us around a wood-burning stove for an old-fashioned sing-along. Enjoy festive refreshments and celebrate the holiday season at the Wing Haven Studio.

WHERE: Wing Haven, Steuben County
180 W 400 N, Angola, IN 47603



Sing-along by Lou Ann Homan

ANNUAL DINNER

Saturday, November 8

University of St. Francis - North Campus

2702 Spring Street, Fort Wayne 46808

Joel Greenberg: *A Feathered River Across the Sky: The Passenger Pigeon's Flight to Extinction*

Presented in partnership with



Joel Greenberg will discuss his new book—the first major work on the passenger pigeon in fifty years. Although in the early 20th century the passenger pigeon was the most abundant bird in the world with a population likely in the billions, it was driven to extinction over the course of a few decades. Greenberg also examines the larger lessons to be learned from such an ecological catastrophe.

4 p.m. Annual Meeting, Guest Speaker
and Election of New Board Members

6:00 p.m. Dinner, \$25/person. Members only.

Dinner Menu Pecan Crusted Chicken or Vegetable Stir Fry,
Fresh Garden Salad, Green Bean Almandine,
Red Velvet Cake

Beverages Water, Iced Tea and Coffee

For dinner reservations, visit www.acreslandtrust.org, call the ACRES office at (260) 637-2272 or stop by the office at 1802 Chapman Road, Huntertown, IN 46748 by October 31.

Check, Cash, Visa, Mastercard and Discover are accepted methods of payment.





by Dave Kissel, Landscape Architect US Forest Service, retired

Have you ever walked through the woods and noticed the beautiful view from the top of a ridge or across the stream? What was it that made it so appealing?

Landscapes all contain the elements of form, line, color and texture. "All four elements are usually present but exert differing degrees of visual influence, power, or dominance."¹ Landform (valleys, hills, and ridges) is normally the strongest element because it is more visible and majestic. In flat land, wood lots are often the strongest natural form in the landscape. Line is found in streams, breaks between vegetation and in individual trees and branches. Color varies greatly throughout the year but peaks in the spring and fall. Texture can be seen as rough, fine, smooth or something in between. Often it is a combination of these elements that produce the most scenic view. Picture a quiet meandering stream along a limestone cliff with redbud and dogwood blooms reflecting in the water under a canopy of shade trees. These elements are interesting individually but together they become stronger and often we find ourselves attracted to such areas.

FORM "Form is the mass of an object or of a combination of objects that appears unified."¹ In the winter, landform and line are the dominant landscape elements and it's a great time to spend in the woods. Bluffs and ridges may reveal rock outcrops, cliffs, and other features not visible when leaves are present. The terrain makes sense as streams and valleys dissect the landscape. Taking a closer look, tree shapes become more visible prior to leaf appearance. Each tree has a unique form, and once you study the shape you can often identify the tree without looking at the buds or leaves. As spring and summer approach, the landforms are changed to green masses. Landform is partially hidden by vegetation and becomes less dominant.



LINE "Line is a point that has been extended. It is anything arranged in a row or sequence"¹ Lines can be seen in ridgelines, streams, trees and individual branches. Lines in the landscape are best observed in the landscape during the winter but can be noticed throughout the year, especially in a micro landscape. Lines encourage you to explore what is around the next bend in the trail or stream. One leaf has many lines. The outside line defines the shape and can be serrated or rounded and everything in between. Next, look at the main veins in the leaf and then look for the finer lines that make up the leaf.



COLOR "Color enables us to differentiate objects even though they have identical form, line, and texture."¹ In the winter, muted earth tones dominate the landscape, but when spring arrives color can become the dominant element. A field of redbuds and dogwoods can be so vibrant it dominates the scene. Wildflowers in bloom can be the highlight of any spring walk. Take time to see all the different hues and colors. Color also peaks in the fall with a palette of yellows, orange, red and purples. Color is so powerful that a single tree in prime color can dominate a view, especially if surrounded by a backdrop of green. Look for color in the landscape from subtle to grand.



TEXTURE The visual and especially tactile quality of a surface usually is defined in terms of roughness or smoothness. Tree bark is a good example. Shagbark hickory is rough and beech bark is smooth. Texture is best experienced by touching. Feel the different texture in leaves as compared to the fine texture of moss growing on a rock. Streambeds may have a smooth silt clay bottom or be strewn with boulders and ledges. Water running over rocks creates texture as it splashes, sprays and crashes through the creek. Compare this to a tranquil pond where the water is smooth as glass. Texture varies with distance. Observe a tree from a few feet and note the texture of the leaves and bark. From a few hundred feet, major limbs and tree trunks are dominant. From a half mile or more the entire group of trees becomes the dominant texture.



There are many other factors that affect how you view a landscape, such as motion, light, atmospheric conditions, season, distance, observer position, scale and time. These factors are often fluid and add variety to basic elements of form, line, color and texture.

As you visit ACRES' properties, take time to look at them from a distance and then close up. Nature will amaze us as we look at individual trees, shrubs, vines, and wildflowers. Come often and stay long.

¹ Forest Service, USDA. National Forest Landscape Management Vol. 1
February 1973 Agriculture Handbook Number 264

programs & EVENTS

continued from page 12

BEECHWOOD RESERVE 50TH ANNIVERSARY HIKE

Saturday, October 11, 10 am

Presented by: Jill Noyes

Please join us for a hike led by Jill Noyes in honor of the 50th anniversary of Steuben County's first ACRES preserve.

WHERE: Beechwood Nature Reserve, Steuben County
5145 N SR 127, Fremont, IN 46737



ACRES Land Trust 15

The Midwest was once a shallow saltwater sea. Then clay was carried here by rivers from eroding mountains that were once in Pennsylvania.

FOSSILS

Crinoid stem fossil at Kokiwanee by Shane Perfect

Dr. Larry Wiedman, PhD; Director of Environmental Science Program, University of Saint Francis

Clues to this previous time are buried in our land. When ACRES preserves land, these clues are preserved as well.

Frequently Paleontologists use modern examples to determine how ancient organisms lived. These are good starting points to understand how life was the same or different long, long ago.

Many of the critters that lived in the shallow sea of ancient Indiana have modern counterparts. Bivalve mollusks (like clams), gastropods (snails), crinoids (the upside down sea stars on a stick), and the most common shells (brachiopods) are all found in fair abundance.

Brachiopods look a lot like clams, but fossil experts and biologists classify them into different phyla (the next largest division below being in different kingdoms). Brachiopod shells have a different body alignment than bivalves. Imagine a little human inside the shells. In brachiopods, the little guy would be standing on the bottom shell and have his hand attached to the top shell. To open his shell he would push up with his “arms and legs” like doing deep knee bends. When at rest brachiopod shells are closed. They must exert energy to open up to eat and “breathe” via gill-like structures.

Bivalves have a different orientation. The “little person” in the shell would be lying on his side and when opening would spread its arms and legs apart. Bivalves live with their shells open at rest and must exert energy to close it and keep it closed.

This is why so many brachiopods are found complete and clams are found as only one shell present. When they die, brachiopods stay together in their natural, at-rest and sealed position. Clams split apart. In clams, the two valves or shells are mirror images of each other and have bilateral symmetry between the shells. In brachiopods the shells are bilaterally symmetrical through the shells. To make equals you would need to cut through the shells so that you would have half of each shell as part.

For local fossil collectors trilobites are often the grand prize goal. Trilobites scavenged the sea floor during times before the dinosaurs. They are easy to identify by the three lobes or ridges that run from the head to tail along their backs. Since juveniles can also be preserved as fossils, specimens range from BB shot to about walnut size. Some, larger than a foot long, have been found near Dayton, Ohio.

Trilobites are arthropods like crawdads, lobsters, crabs, shrimp and even insects. They have jointed appendages, often bodies in three distinct parts (head, thorax, and abdomen), and most have hard exoskeletons. Trilobites from Devonian deposits near Fort Wayne and western Ohio have complex eyes, similar to the multi-lensed compound eyes of house flies. These eyes allowed the trilobites to see in over a 270-degree direction as they walked along the sea floor.

Arthropods molt or shed their outer covering and abandon it for a new, larger one. This allows for a unique opportunity for trilobites and their relatives to make more than one body fossil before they die. Most body fossils are death assemblages, meaning that the organism died and then the mostly hard parts were preserved.

The easiest way to identify a molt form, is how the Trilobites severed the chitinous sheaf (fingernail like material) along a seam

which went across the neck and along the sides of the face. Like cicadas that cling to trees in the summer as they molt, trilobites then crawled out of their “skin” and waited for their new exoskeleton to harden into a protective body shield. Until it did, like soft-shelled crabs, they were vulnerable to predation.

The exact role that trilobites played in the ecology of the shallow seas that covered much of the Midwest throughout the Paleozoic is still being refined. Some were most likely bottom crawlers and were predators to smaller organisms or scavengers. Some may have ingested sediment and sifted through it for needed nutrients. Some might have been grazers on algae and sponges. Others probably swam.



Trilobite fossil at Hathaway by Shane Perfect

The last trilobites roamed up until the great Permian extinction interval that led to the beginning of dominance by the dinosaurs. Most likely they could not compete as other organisms began to specialize in the tasks that kept trilobites around for so long—nearly 300 million years.

As you hike your next ACRES preserve, admire the trees and listen to bird calls, and take a moment to appreciate the land and the history it holds.

FOGWELL FOREST

by Terri Gorney

"A misty, grassy place in the woods" is the meaning of the surname of Fogwell. The Fogwell family roots run deep where Fogwell Forest is located in southwestern Allen County. Glenn Fogwell, along with his older sisters, Mildred Klopenstein and Mable Corville, gave a cherished parcel of their family farm to ACRES in 1976.

The gift of 28 wooded acres had been in the Fogwell family since 1839 when their great grandparents, Samuel and Matilda (Davis) Fogwell, settled in Allen County. The second generation to farm here was William and Mary (Nicodemus) Fogwell. Glenn was the fourth generation of the family to farm in Lafayette Township.

Glenn, Mildred, and Mable, along with other siblings, grew up on the family farm owned by their parents, Albert and Olive (Welbaum) Fogwell. One can imagine that as children they spent many happy hours roaming the woods that they donated. Glenn wanted it preserved as a "permanent living museum," which is why the siblings chose to give it to ACRES.

There was a deep love of this land that spanned four generations and three centuries in this branch of the family. Glenn and his wife, Dorothy Roth Fogwell, were interested in documenting his line of the family tree. He and Dorothy traveled to Greene County, Ohio and Hagerstown, Maryland, to visit the places where his great grandparents, Samuel and Matilda, were born and married. Glenn wrote a small book of his ancestry.

In 2002, ACRES purchased an additional 32 acres of meadow. The original 28 acres are now a state dedicated preserve under the IDNR's Division of Nature Preserves.

Fogwell Forest is a wet old-growth forest with giant oak and beech trees. In the shade beneath the giants are flowering dogwood and pawpaw and a colorful display of wildflowers in yellows, pinks, and blues with large-flower trilliums forming a white carpet. The summer provides ferns and cool shade and, later, the fall flora and foliage.

Glenn was a lifelong resident of Lafayette Township. He was a farmer who was active in Risen Savior Lutheran Church, ACRES, Farmers Mutual Fire Association, historian for Lafayette Central High School and on the board of REMC for nine years. Glenn and Dorothy formed the Fogwell Cemetery Association for the upkeep of the 1874 family burial ground. He died in 2004 at age 92, and Dorothy preceded him in death in 2000. They are buried at the Fogwell Cemetery.

Thank you to Glenn, Mildred and Mable for sharing with all of us the woods of their childhood.



Fogwell by Jason Kissel

SPECIAL thanks

Pam George, Katia Cook, Lucy Hess, Ralph and Mary Campbell, Al McSweeney, Teresa Neuhaus, Dave Boylan, Evan Hill and Allyson Ellis
collating the *Quarterly*

Carol Roberts and Faith Van Gilder
editing the *Quarterly*

All our *Quarterly* distributors

Ralph and Mary Campbell
donating birdseed and M&M's

Stephanie Bailey and Charles Enea
clearing, redesigning and planting
the flower beds at the office

Cheryl Noyer
donating office supplies

Bill Smith
donating spin trimmer and copy paper

Glen and Chris Bickel
donating a digital camera and
wheel barrow

Keith Pomeroy
delivering library books to Little River
Wetland Project

Dave Brumm
building fencing around trash containers
at the office and fixing the water heater

Nancy Chiavetta
donating buckets and lumber

Granite City
donation of beer for Volunteer Dinner
and October Barn Series

Jack and Karen Horrell
donation of bird houses

Orbis Environmental Consulting
compiling species lists

Blue Jean Gala Volunteers
Leslie Augustyniak, Boo Birk, Debbie Branfield,
Barb Clark, Allyson Ellis, Connie Frederick,
Pam George, Jim Haddock, Mindy Kinder,
Peg Maginn, Carol McClure, Al and Rosemary
McSweeney, Marty and Sue Peters, Barb
Roehrman, David Schnepf, Shelly Schroyer,
Steve and Savanna Vaughn, Dick Walker and
Suzanne Walkup

acres' wish List

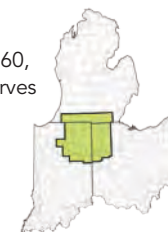
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Photo by Stephen Perfect

Time Out

Slow down.

Decompress.

Recompose.

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Rejuvenate.