# QUARTERLY 1

Fall 2013 | Vol. 52 - No. 4





Steve Richie Nature Preserve Research Sites Nature's Calendar Eat or Be Eaten Acres Along the Wabash Back Page



Dear Friends.

If you're like me, one of the first things you do when you receive the *Quarterly* is look at the centerspread photo. Were you disappointed to see a blank page? I wanted you to experience the disappointment of ACRES currently being able to preserve only 5% of the nature preserve-quality land that becomes available within our service area each year. By any standard, 5% success rate is not good. 95% of the nature preserve-quality land is lost each year—land similar to Kokiwanee, Bicentennial Woods, Spurgeon and Wing Haven. Because these lands aren't available to the public through ACRES (and most have been converted to other land uses), ACRES has no beautiful photos of these lands. The natural landscapes ACRES could have highlighted in the centerspread—could have preserved forever—are gone.

Now for the good news: ACRES needs only one more tool in place to greatly increase our ability to preserve a larger percentage of land. We have a long history of managing nature preserves well, we have professional staff and a great board to lead the organization, we have identified available preserve-quality land, and we have broad support for ACRES' mission. The only tool we are lacking is money.

Now for the second piece of good news: Indiana's Bicentennial Nature Trust offers an exciting opportunity for ACRES to preserve more land. Through this Trust, the state offers funding to purchase lands that will be available for public use in 2016, Indiana's Bicentennial. ACRES has already received three grants from the Bicentennial Nature Trust and is eligible to seek additional funds. This funding source, plus the discounted purchase price that ACRES is able to negotiate, result in huge leverage of local funds that are raised. For example, although the three projects funded through the Bicentennial Nature Trust have a market value of \$1,746,000, ACRES needs to raise only \$239,000 locally to acquire these properties. That's a great deal—a smart investment with lasting results. See page 8.

There is no lack of natural areas worthy of preservation, only a lack of funding to acquire them. While we celebrate the 5% of successes, it's also important to mourn the 95% we allow to disappear. ACRES' Board, the rest of the staff and I are frustrated seeing so many significant natural areas lost every year. If only 5% success bothers you as well, consider helping us increase our success rate. Donate. Tell others how ACRES Land Trust preserves natural areas in our region—not only for us, but for generations to come.

Sincerely,

ason

Jason Kissel

jkissel@acreslandtrust.org

WELCOME

# 21**neW**members!

Anonymous Dana Baker

Scott Beck

Todd Brovont

Nancy Chiavetta

Jim Collis

Donald DeCook

Paul Diller

gift of Martha Diller

Micki Dunakin

Heather Gliot

Thomas Hendricks

gift from Susan Jacobsen

Matthew Henry

Larry Hook

Linda Robinson

Mack and Sharon Short

Mary Ann Steiner

Adam and Alison Wilson

#### life members

Lynn Klopfenstein

#### corporate members

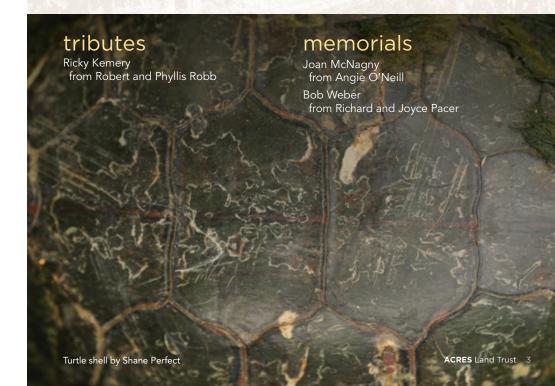
Irving Sand & Gravel Miller and Harants

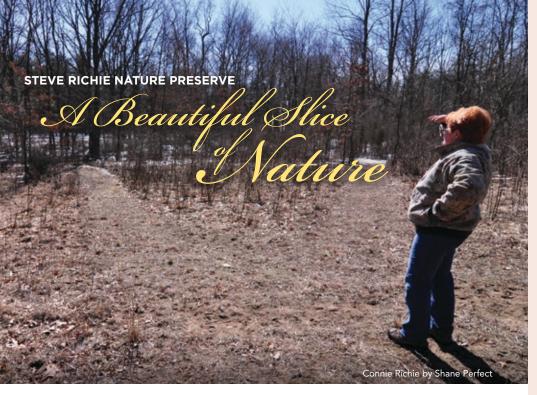
The Gravel Doctor of Northeast Indiana



#### STILL NOT A MEMBER?

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





Connie Richie is the kind of person whose garden includes milkweed for the monarch butterflies and flowers for the hummingbirds. Connie said that because her late husband, Steve, was "a man who saw a beautiful slice of nature that needed to be preserved for future generations," she has given to ACRES Land Trust the 36-acre woods they loved and protected for more than 26 years.

It's now the Steve Richie Nature Preserve near the north edge of Fulton County between Rochester and Culver.It will not be opened to the public during her lifetime.

"I was thrilled when I learned of ACRES," Connie said. She apologized, though, to Executive Director Jason Kissel when she met him: "You are going to think I have memorized your mission statement, but it is also what my goal is. I could not believe how much they just melded, meshed together."

Connie also did her due diligence research. So many things happened so quickly, and in such a positive way, that she concluded that her relationship with ACRES was simply meant to be, and as time has passed, nothing has tarnished

the good feelings. "I have never worked with an organization that has been so pleasant and easy to work with," she said. I have a friend who is involved in environmental issues, and his words were: 'They're a class act'."

The Richies' teaching careers brought them from Indianapolis to Fulton County. In 1974 they bought five acres and a home out of a 40-acre farm. The earlier owners had hoped to come back to retire there but were unable to, so in 1986 the Richies bought the remaining 35 acres to put the 40 acres back together. "Our families thought we would go back to Indianapolis in a short time," Connie said, "but we found the lifestyle up here fit what we wanted"

Soon after buying the once-farmed acres, the Richies started planting trees by themselves and with the help of a professional forester. Steve and a friend hunted in the woods, and the hunting treks helped him choose the paths he turned into actual trails. Connie said that while the blizzards of the late 1970s decimated the quail population, there are still plenty of deer and wild turkeys, plus coyotes and the occasional fox.

"I've walked those trails as much as anybody," Connie said, in addition to mowing them. Days in those woods together, even working to collect the firewood that is their home's primary heat source, "were some of the best days Steve and I could enjoy. He'd man the chainsaw, and I'd load the wood, and the dog would do whatever dogs do. At the end of the day everybody was tired, but it was a good, happy, natural tired."

Connie considered naming the preserve after both of them but discarded the idea. "I decided this has got to be the Steve Richie Nature Preserve. I did not want my name on it. Everyone who knows me knows how important this is to me, but he's the one that got it into place. He made the phone calls, he made the contacts. He said 'you need to sign here,'

and I'd sign here. I fully supported it, but Steve is the reason it happened. I want him to be remembered as the man who saw a beautiful slice of nature that needed to be preserved for future generations."

Connie sees personal benefit for her in the ACRES donation in another way.
"Besides wanting it preserved for nature, I knew I couldn't take care of it by myself. I wanted somebody that would share the same goals. It does not bother me one bit that it is now owned by ACRES. I can still enjoy it in every way I always did."

Connie is very grateful to family and friends who have helped her maintain trails, clean up after the 2012 derecho storm, and who traveled from all over to attend the August 2013 preserve dedication.

"This is cross-generational," Connie said. "I want them to have opportunities to enjoy this woods or to have other woods they can enjoy. I know studies show being out in nature enhances the brain development of young people. As a career teacher, that is important to me."

by Connie Haas Zuber, an ACRES board member

"You are going to think I have memorized your mission statement, but it is also what my goal is."

- Connie Richie

4 ACRES Land Trust 5

# ACRES' Preserves as Flora Research Sites

by Karen Griggs

Photo of Paul Rothrock by Shane Perfect

In ACRES' nature preserves, botanists from various universities study flowers and trees. Manchester University professor David Hicks celebrates Hathaway and Kokiwanee Nature Preserves' immense diversity.

He lists 467 different plants in Kokiwanee ("more than we would expect"), including wild hydrangea and wild delphinium—both growing at the northernmost edge of their range. Dr. Hicks studies plant physiology and ecology, interesting species and situations, publishing his research in the journal *Castanea*. When he found a single orchid, *Coeloglossum viride*, he photographed but did not collect it because it is endangered in Indiana.

Taylor University professor Paul Rothrock has studied sedges and other plants at Fogwell Forest and Wildwood Nature Preserves. He found the rare plant Carex seorsa and a distinct species, Carex echinaodes. Rothrock says to protect and manage a preserve, we need to know if there are rare or threatened species on the land. Then "we can target or prioritize our resources to bring to the preserve, to maximize the preserve's most unique species."

Purdue University researchers Nick Harby and Ben Alkire have studied plants at Vandolah and Hanging Rock Nature Preserves, noting if a plant is growing in a county where it has not been recorded, is invasive or is at the farthest edge of its reported range. At Vandolah they saw mannagrass, Glyceria striata, and white bedstraw, Gallium mollugo ("pretty, but invasive"). Standing on Hanging Rock above the Wabash River, Harby also saw wild columbine and a blue ash tree.

Scientists studied Wing Haven's diverse plants and birds long before it became an ACRES' nature preserve. In 1967, Alton A. Lindsay described Wing Haven's water plants as "the finest aquatic vegetation in the state." The statewide natural areas survey by Lindsay and other scientists guided land preservation efforts—specifically, the work of ACRES, and led to the publication of a major reference book, *Natural Areas in Indiana and Their Preservation* (A. A. Lindsay, D.V. Schmelz, S.A Nichols, Indiana Academy of Sciences 1969).

Lindsay sent his pressed aquatic plant specimens to the Purdue Herbarium where they are available to researchers today. Just as a nature preserve is a living outdoor museum, the Purdue University Herbarium is a plant library that preserves its plant collection. Pressed plants sent to the collection are catalogued and stored in double paper folios in tall boxes. Each folio includes a detailed description of the entire plant, its location and ecological setting, and the collector's name and date. To preserve specimens in a stable condition, folios are kept in a climate-controlled storage area at a temperature of 71°F and humidity of 45%. Originally housing three distinct collections, the Herbarium has integrated the Kriebel collection's 53,700 plants; the Arthur collection's 100,000 plant rust fungi; and the Lilly collection's 14,737 plants. From 1890 to 1950, Lilly employees traveled worldwide searching for medicinal plants. In 2011, Lilly donated these pressed plants to the Herbarium.

Charles Deam (1865-1953), a famous botanist and Indiana's first state forester, also sent to the Herbarium the more than 3,000 plants he had collected. In Deam's book *Trees of Indiana* (1931), he documented 1500 different species that today reside in the Herbarium.

"Both field and laboratory research are vital," says Professor Peter Goldsborough, Department of Botany and Plant Pathology at Purdue. When a new plant is discovered or a new location for an invasive plant species is documented, those records are kept in the Herbarium for future research. Natural, edible plants are studied as food sources, and other plants for anatomy, biology and ecology research. Goldsborough studies how plants acquire heavy metals. Other researchers record plants' blooming dates. Nancy Emery and Asya Robertshaw and their team are documenting synchronization of spring ephemeral wildflowers with bees and other pollinators.

The Herbarium grows steadily as today's explorers, missionaries, scientists, naturalists, and world travelers send specimens for preservation. Botanists



visit to discover if they can compare genomes of different plant species by sequencing DNA.

The Herbarium database—which includes studies from ACRES Land Trust nature preserves—links plant collectors from long ago to modern medicinal plant collectors, botanists and agricultural economists who continue to discover, name and preserve new plants and publish their findings in scholarly journals. These research studies have major implications for food plant development, medicine, and ecology.

Karen Griggs is an ACRES' member who works as a technical writer in West Lafayette.

6 ACRES Land Trust 7

#### **MAKE AN IMPACT!**

Through the Bicentennial Nature Trust,\* ACRES has an opportunity areas. Our time is limited, and the need is urgent. Please use the enclosed envelope to send your donation today.

#### **Funding Still Needed:**



#### **BLUE CAST SPRINGS**

87 acres in Allen County

Maumee River Frontage, mature forests, heronry, historic value

Purchased in December 2012

Funding Still Needed: \$140,000



#### **FLOWERS CREEK**

157 acres in Miami County

Eel River and Flowers Creek frontage, sedge meadows, riparian forest

Closing before end of 2013

Funding Still Needed: \$50,000





# NATURE'S CALENDAR

by Fred Wooley, Park Interpreter, Pokagon State Park

#### October 18 - Full Moon

Pick the darkest spot you can find outside, just after sunset, to wait as the full moon rises. One of the most popular full moons occurs in October, the Hunter's Moon. It often rises cloaked in a deep red-orange glow. The Algonquin Indians knew this as the Hunter's Moon or Blood Moon.

#### November - Early

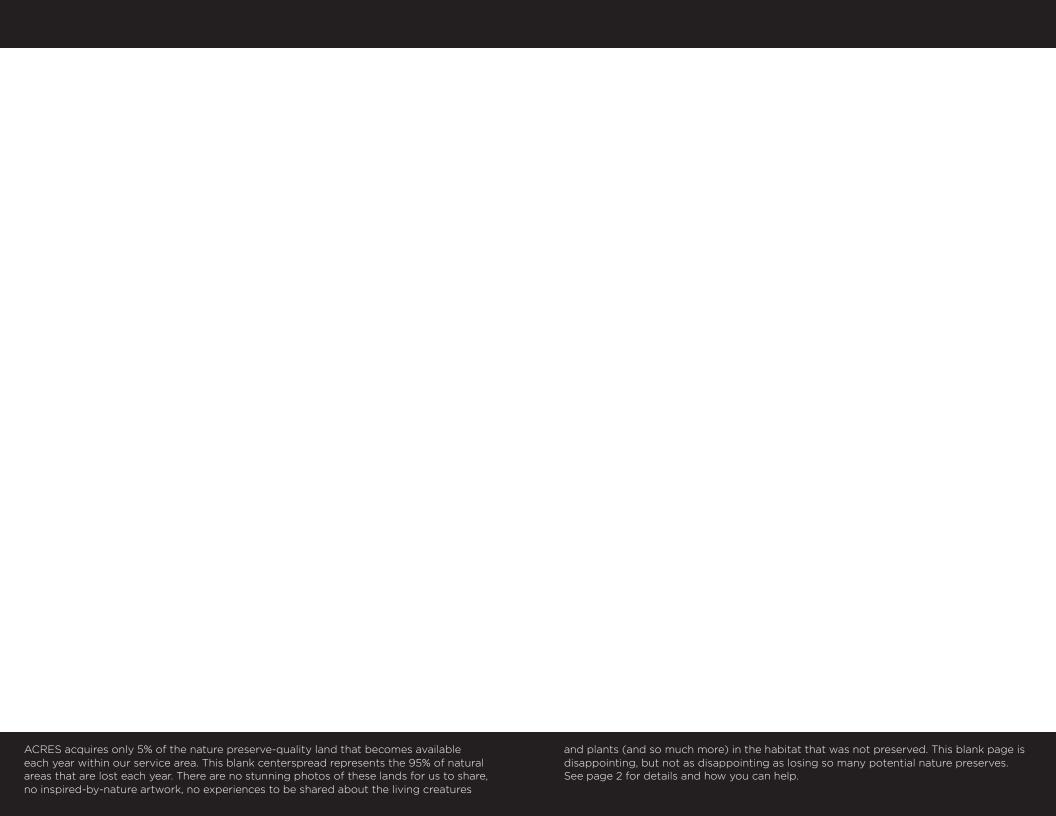
In his Sand County Almanac, Aldo Leopold writes: "The wind that makes music in November corn is in a hurry. The stalks hum, the loose husks whisk skyward in half-playful swirls, and the wind hurries on ..." As you hurry onto an ACRES' preserve, watch for the playfulness of November wind on neighboring cornfields. In early November, you can still find pockets of beautiful color in stands of shielded sugar maples and swamp white oaks.

Woods by Fred Wooley

#### December

Each year the population of sandhill cranes in northeast Indiana grows larger and stronger. Nesting sites were nonexistent 40 years ago. Numerous is an understatement in describing the growing number of sandhills in late fall. Keep an ear to the sky for the distant, honklike, primitive calls of approaching flocks, and you may be greeted by a high overhead flock of 50 to 1,000 (even 4,000) birds!





## field trips & SPECIAL EVENTS

For information on all programs, contact the ACRES office at 260.637.2273 or visit acreslandtrust.org ACRES programs are held rain or shine.

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

#### **OCTOBER BARN SERIES**

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.

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

October 10 ......Ken Jehle, classical guitar

October 17......Classic Strings Indiana

October 24......Megan King, light contemporary music **Stephen Perfect**, *photographer – Cyanotypes* 

Come early, stay late. Enjoy a hike.

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

#### POPP OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, October 20, 1 - 4:30 pm Presented by: Larry Biggerstaff

Join us for an afternoon of hotdogs 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

#### ACRES DOCENT TRAINING

Saturday, October 26, 9:30 - noon

Presented by: Bill Smith

Join Bill for ACRES' Trail Guide Docent Training. Come prepared to hike a nearby trail and bring materials helpful when exploring nature trails to share with the group. Call (260) 637-2273 for a Volunteer Docent Application.

WHERE: Tom and Jane Dustin Nature Preserve, Allen County 1802 Chapman Road, Huntertown, IN 46748

#### FITNESS IN THE FOREST

Saturday, October 26, 10 am

Presented by: Fort Wayne Strength and Conditioning

For a leisurely, enjoyable guided (or unguided) hike or an intense cardio workout, look no further! ACRES Land Trust and Fort Wayne Strength and Conditioning (FWSC) are teaming up for a physical fitness event for adults and children. Join us for a hike to learn a simple outdoor workout routine or to participate in an intense workout on the trails. You'll feel better, gain health benefits, and simply have fun. Lunch will be provided for all participants. Please RSVP to the ACRES office at 260-637-2273 by October 18.

WHERE: The barn at the 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.

# field trips & SPECIAL EVENTS

For information on all programs, contact the ACRES office at 260.637,2273 or visit acreslandtrust.org ACRES programs are held rain or shine.

#### **BLUE CAST SPRINGS GRAND OPENING AND DEDICATION**

Saturday, November 2, 10 am

Presented by: ACRES board and staff

Please join us as we celebrate our 5.000th acre preserved at one of our newest nature preserves.

WHERE: Blue Cast Springs. Allen County

21412 Bluecast Road, Woodburn, IN 46797

#### 19TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS SING-ALONG

Sunday, December 8, 1 - 2 pm

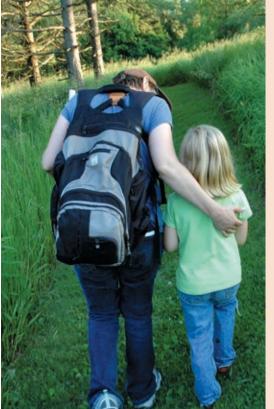
Presented by: Art Eberhardt, Jim Shearer, Jeanine Samuelson and Steve Evrich

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 46703



Sing-along by Shane Perfect



#### Go Out to Play

by Jill Noyes

When we spend time with children, especially outdoors, their keen observation of detail can lead us to discover our own limitations. It seems the only question kids ask more often than "Why?" is "What's this?" Frequently, our answer is, "I don't know." Aren't we grownups supposed to be experts?

When going on a nature hike, it's impractical to haul along every field guide to answer every possible kid question. While technology has probably supplied an app identifying most things you might discover, maybe knowing the right answer is the wrong goal. Families looking for inspiration and insight on getting out in the back yard or on the trail should check out these ACRES' kids and education pages.

www.acreslandtrust.org/educate www.acreslandtrust.org/adventurers

# Thank You to our corporate members

Best Buy Co., Inc.

Britton Marketing & Design Group

Data Print Initiatives

Granite City Brewery

Herrington Heights Lot Owners Association

iAB Financial Bank

Indiana's NewsCenter

Irving Sand and Gravel

Joseph Decuis

Lake City Bank

Lincoln Printing

Miller and Harants

**NIPSCO** 

Petroleum Traders Corporation

Phillips Financial Services

Raytheon

The Gravel Doctor of Northeast Indiana

Vera Bradley

Waterfield Capital, LLC

#### from the FIELD

We hope that by now you have been enjoying the new Preserve Guide and have had a chance to hike one of the eight new preserves listed in this 2013 edition. If you do not have a new Guide yet, call or stop by the office to get your copy. The new Guide describes and offers beautiful photos of 59 preserves open to the public. Because we are in a transition period replacing both land management field positions, please bear with us as some trails may not be as well maintained as we have become accustomed to.

If you would like to volunteer at your favorite preserve or a preserve near you, please call the office (260) 637-2273 or email Shane at sperfect@acreslandtrust.org





David Homan

Jill Noyes

Brett Fisher

#### Thank you for your service!

A big thank you to David Homan, Brett Fisher and Jill Noyes who have shared their time and talent with ACRES. Brett and Jill resigned in August to pursue other careers. David retired at the end of September after 11 years of employment with ACRES as a land management specialist and 22 years as a volunteer. Best of luck to all three and thanks again for your service to ACRES.

# ANNUAL DINNER

#### Saturday, November 16

University of St. Francis - North Campus 2702 Spring Street, Fort Wayne 46808

Indiana Birds of Prev

presented by Shirley Needham, Bob Walton and Soarin' Hawk Raptor Rehab

4 p.m. Annual Meeting, Guest Speakers

and Election of New Board Members

5:30 p.m. Dinner, \$25/person

Dinner Menu Bourbon Chicken or Vegetarian Baked Lasagna

Spring Mix Salad, Mashed Potatoes, Glazed Carrots,

**Apple Dumpling** 

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 November 8.

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





Eastern spiny softshell turtle by Fred Wooley

### "In the animal kingdom, the rule is, eat or be eaten; in the human kingdom, define or be defined."

- THOMAS STEPHEN SZASZ

In the game of life, you could say we try to define ourselves as predator or prey. We fall into an everyday routine to simply survive, or we wake up pursuing a deeper purpose. We may be the only animals in the animal kingdom that do not face the literal "eat or be eaten" struggle daily. Most animals wake up with the goal to survive the day, and their adaptations help them. Often those adaptations serve two purposes: to help escape a predator and to find food.

For example, the Eastern spiny softshell turtle's nickname "pancake turtle" perfectly describes its leathery, scaleless body. Pancake turtles could be a tasty soft meal for a large fish, a fox, a raccoon or even a heron. Fortunately, the softshell does not give up too easily. It has a few adaptations to help it eat and not be eaten. And what this turtle lacks in protective cover, it makes up for in vigor. The spiny softshell can speed through water faster than other turtles and can lash around and bite with a long outstretched neck. It can also keep camouflaged under a sandy, shallow lake bottom for quite some time. In fact, because it has such a permeable skin compared to the other scaled turtles, it can breathe through its skin, helping it stay underwater for up to five hours. As it lies in wait on the sandy bottom, the spiny softshell uses its long neck and pointed turtle beak to capture prey that swim by. This camouflage is a visual crypsis that many critters use to hide from predators, but also to become predators.

The American woodcock also uses a visual crypsis and special adaptations to score some tasty earthworms while keeping a careful eye out for predators. The woodcock, also known as the timberdoodle, is rarely seen but often heard during its courtship flight at the launch of spring. During this dusk sky dance, the woodcock makes a peenting noise while its wings make a melodic twitter. This plump, short-legged bird uses disruptive coloration to secure concealment. Brown, gray, white and tan streaks help break up its silhouette against the habitat. The timberdoodle has a prehensile beak, allowing only the tip to open while the beak is plunged into the mud collecting earthworms. Its eyes are also oddly placed—higher and farther back than other shore birds' eyes—allowing the bird to see 360 degrees horizontally and 180 degrees vertically. This helps the timberdoodle see worm movement as well as incoming visitors.

Another bird that uses its large eyes to hunt worms and protect itself from predators is the well-known American robin. If you have ever watched a robin in your yard, you have seen it run and stop,

run and stop. Then, almost magically—using those big, beady eyes, it spots, lurches down and pulls out a worm. While this trait helps the robin do well on the forest floor, in our yards it seems a greater risk—our cats and dogs love to watch and chase these familiar friends. But robins are quick to fly and scold their predators. As young robins start to learn the ins and outs of our backyard, their immature spotted breast plumage helps them stay concealed in nearby bushes, showing us another example of disruptive coloration.

These are only a few of the many critters that use crypsis, disruptive coloration and special adaptations to eat and not be eaten. The animal kingdom's circle of life shows us that each animal is linked in a chain, and there must be some loss in order for there to be success. It is the rhythm that the animal kingdom follows and was designed to live by. We humans were designed to have the decision to either wake up with a vision for the day or just go through the motions. Our place in the chain is determined not by hungry predators but rather by the ambition to define ourselves.



Woodcock on nest by Fred Wooley

Woodcock with four babies by Alexandra Forsythe

16

# ACRES ALONG THE WABASH NATURE PRESERVE

by Terri Gorney

On July 24, 1973, ACRES members Rolland and Catherine Maxwell generously donated 27 acres they had owned for many years along the Wabash River in Wells County. This spectacular preserve was ACRES' first along the Wabash River and one of the first state-dedicated preserves through IDNR's Division of Nature Preserves. The preserve is now 87.6 acres.

Ted Heemstra credits Jane Dustin and her friendship with Catherine Maxwell for making this magnificent gift to ACRES a reality.

While there was a ceremonial ribbon cutting for the new preserve on Saturday, September 20, 1975, it was no ordinary ribbon that the Maxwells cut—instead, a chain of weeds and grasses fitting for this wonderful natural treasure.

The first sign at the preserve stated: "Heritage from the past for nature study

and scientific research." The Maxwells lived close to the land their entire lives, and their wish was that Purdue University be allowed to use the preserve as an outdoor museum.

Acres Along the Wabash is a delight to walk in, no matter the season. With the ADA-compliant trail, everyone can enjoy the preserve. It is especially beautiful in spring with wildflowers such as shooting star, wild hyacinth, and large flowering trillium, as well as migrating and nesting birds that make their home here at least part of the year. Pileated woodpeckers, warblers, red-eyed vireo, and wood thrush nest here in the summer. In the fall, the trees are at their most beautiful. These include sycamore, hackberry, burr and red oak, black maple, red elms and paw paws.

The Maxwells became Hoosiers by choice. Rolland was a native of Illinois, and Catherine was born in Pennsylvania. The family lived in rural Champaign County, Illinois, then moved with their young boys in the late 1930s to Huntington County, Indiana.

Rolland was a farmer by profession, and he loved tractors. In 1971 his article on tractor demonstrations was published in Gas Engine Magazine. He recounts how his father took him to his first tractor show in 1915, five miles from his family farm. He was fourteen years old, and it "thrilled" him to see all the tractors. "After much deliberation, my father bought his first tractor in 1917, at the Champaign, Illinois, show," Rolland wrote. In the 1970s, Rolland was still attending and writing about tractor shows. In 1975, he drove 900 miles to see his favorite gas engines.

Cheers to Acres Along the Wabash Nature Preserve for celebrating 40 years — and to the Maxwells for making this milestone possible.

# DEDICATION ACRES ALLONG GU MABBASH WILL HAVE SELLING C MARRIL SEPT 201975 MARRIS PRINCES

## **SPECIAL**thanks

Carol Roberts editing the Quarterly

Our Quarterly distributors

Sue Diefenbach

organizing our financial records and giving time and talent as recording secretary for the Board of Directors

Richard Pacer, Judith Schroff, Ralph and Mary Campbell, Evan Watkins, Cindy Nestel, Allyson Ellis, Nelson Drudge, Paulette Szkudlarek, Ron and Marge Costa, Don Thornton, Barb Boston, Helen Bassett, Chris Bauer, David Williams and Louise Pomeroy

collating the Quarterly

Dale Frecker, Ben, Taylor and Molly Puitz helping at the office

David Brumm

cleaning out the ACRES' garage, organizing the barn sale and general upkeep of the office

Cheryl Noyer donating office supplies

Mary Anna Feitler giving time and talent as membership secretary Mary Campbell donating paper plates and cups

Emma Barth

helping at the office

Mark Maffey

donating a projection screen

Larry Watson

donating SDHC cards and flash drives

Nancy Malis

donating bird food

Our Quarterly photographers

Sam Boggs

reviewing land management resumes

#### acres' wish List

Laptop cases 19" or larger Kayaks Postage stamps Coffee New or used tarps of any size



Dedicated to preserving natural areas since 1960, ACRES manages and protects 86 nature preserves totaling over 5,082 acres.





1802 Chapman Road Huntertown, IN 46748–9723 260.637.ACRE (2273) email: acres@acreslandtrust.org acreslandtrust.org

DIRECTORS: Steven Hammer, President; Emily Pichon, VP; William A. Smith IV, VP; Norm Cox, Secretary; Richard E. Walker, Treasurer; Neil Case, Pam George, James Haddock, Mary Ibe, Carol Roberts, David Schnepp, Renee Sinacola, David Van Gilder, Connie Haas–Zuber, Michele Briggs Wedaman.

Membership Secretary: Mary Anna Feitler; Recording Secretary: Sue Diefenbach.

**STAFF:** Jason Kissel, Executive Director; Shane Perfect, Project Manager; Heather Barth, Director of Fund Development, Tina Puitz, Office Manager/Education Manager

ACRES Quarterly: Published by ACRES, Inc., at 1802 Chapman Rd., 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.



Photo by Fred Wooley

#### Come sit for awhile

Up a hill, around a bend, I come upon it I smile at a familiar sight —
The Leopold Icon.

A perfect spot, tucked to the side, among shrubs and trees

I stop and rest as meant

The view slows down and becomes different

I look ... listen ... silence

A deep breath and then sigh  $\dots$  another smile

No hurry for the moment

I make note to come back

with someone special.

This is meant to be shared.

More time then, we hope.

Longer looks, more silence  $\ldots$  and smiles.

We need to come sit for a while.

-Fred Wooley, Park Interpreter, Pokagon State Park