

THE ACRES QUARTERLY

Summer 2010 | Vol 49 - No. 3

1960 celebrating fifty years 2010



ACRES
LANDTRUST

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Letter from the Executive Director



Dear Friends,

Have you noticed that for the past year, the photo accompanying the letter from the director was a "letter" (an alphabet letter)? The collage below shows how the letters spell MOTHS. This is not an elaborate marketing tool to build suspense for the moth article or program highlighted in this issue; rather, it's simply another reminder that if we take time to observe our surroundings, we are often rewarded for doing so.

We too often limit what we experience in nature. If we expect a quiet walk among the trees, that is what we get. However, if we expect to be surprised or amazed by something smaller than an acorn, we will refocus our attention to a smaller scale and be rewarded with new discoveries. As Shane Perfect explored the preserves with his camera looking for letters hidden in nature, he found them. If we enter a preserve as if it's the first time we've seen, touched, smelled, experienced nature, we leave amazed by the experience. Of course, we can just walk through a nature preserve, but instead, why not experience it?

While you expect to find certain things in each issue (such as program lists, lists of new members, announcements, and this letter), we also try to make the *Quarterly* reflect an experience within one of the 75 nature preserves. Some are obvious, others are not. If we sneaked the "letter" photos by you, it may make you wonder what else is "hidden" in the *Quarterly*...hmmmm.

This sense of wonder leads to people watching their mailbox for the *Quarterly* and keeps visitors returning to the preserves. Each preserve is different every day. Not all is new: the same hill is still there, the same trees are there (although slightly larger), but the water running in the stream is new, the insects and birds passing through are new, the wind is different, a new species is now in bloom, and nearly every leaf bears a new scar from a hungry insect.

There is no rerun season in nature! Experience a preserve this summer, then visit it again -- for a brand new experience.

Sincerely,

Jason Kissel

Jason Kissel



Photos by Shane Perfect

Cover Photo: Leaf by Shane Perfect

WELCOME 106new members!

Marcia Adams
gift of Lorraine Davis
Paula Avila
gift of Trina Herber
Carl and Suzon Baker
Gene Bateman
gift of Buck and Belva Hatton
JoAnne Beatty
Rich and Debby Beckman
Scott and Tiffany Beckman
gift of Win and Sarah Rood
Dave and Pam Bell
Eileen Lee and Dale Bender
Ted Beutler, M.D.
Pat Bloomfield
Charles Brady
gift of Donald Williams
Kathy Brown
Ralph Campbell
Craig Carpenter
Phillip Carter
gift of Linda Duxbury
Pam Cherry
James and Patricia Connelly
Cultured Gardens
Edward Davis
Sharon DeMeester
Erv and Kathy Denig
Willy DeSmet
Christine Douglas
Jacob Duke
Luther Eberly
Michael Ernst
Charles Farris
Dave Ferguson
Brett Fisher
Rebecca Frye
Polly Gabbett
Laura Gase
Stacey Glass
Betty Good
Susan Gordon
Don and Margery Graham
Byron and Michele Handshoe
gift of Win and Sarah Rood

Sara Harper
Brian Harris
Mary Haynes
Barbara Heikens
Pieter Heinzerling
gift of Johanna Gordon-Byanski
Jean Heller
Tom and Susan Hight
Dan Holly
James and Ruth Horsch
Von Hudson
gift of Ford Hudson
Matthew Jehl
Stephen Johnson
Richard Kessens
Don and Barb Lauer
Doug and Amy Lawson
John and Pam Lipasck
Chuck and Ruth Logar
Dan Logsdon
Paul Luithly
Mick and Sue McCollum
Michael and Kelley McGuire
John McNabb, Jr.
Carl and Doris Metzler
Fred Moore
John Moran
Toni Mowery
Richard Murphy
Kevin and Kim Nance
Michael Novachcoff
Jon Oakley
gift of Elizabeth Oakley
Ryan and Sarah O'Hara
William Peifer
Len and Cheryl Piropatto
Richard Priest
gift of James and Linda Crouse
Gary Parkins and Laurie Proctor
Terry and Teresa Pulley
gift of Jack and Cherie Stark
Brendan Rawlins
Donna Redding
Tom and Leslie Remenschneider
Dora Rogers
Kevin and Dianne Saylor
gift of Win and Sarah Rood
Philip A. Schlatter
David and LaDena Schult
Caryl Schwaller

[Continued on page 4](#)

Acquisition Updates by Jason Kissel

Kate M. Raber & James R. Johnson Nature Preserve

ACRES has acquired a new nature preserve in Noble county near Merriam, Indiana. The previous owner, Kate Johnson, desiring to preserve a portion of her land as a nature preserve, generously donated 62 acres. The nature preserve contains an oak - hickory forest, a successional forest, and some wetland areas.

Kate enrolled the property in the State's Classified Forest and Wildlands Program and was seeking additional ways to preserve her land when she learned about ACRES through a newspaper article last summer. After learning more about ACRES, Kate was convinced ACRES could help her achieve her dream of preserving the property.

"I fretted about what to do with this property for years. Now I know I've done the right thing."

The Kate M. Raber and James R. Johnson Nature Preserve was purchased by the Johnson family in 1883. The property was used for farming and logging until James Johnson, Kate's late husband, let the forest reclaim most of the property. The preserve is closed to the public at this time.



New Members (Continued)

Barbara Shambaugh
Mark Paul and Jody Hemphill Smith
gift of Jack and Cherie Stark
Ray and Julie Smith
Rita Smith
Judy Springer
Joseph Steensma
Donald Stroup
Robert and Addie Tennant

Doris Vaughan
Christopher Walker
David and Roseann Wallace
Thor Whitlock
gift of Mike and Diane Whitlock
Elizabeth Hope Wilson
James and Marsha Wulpi
Rex and Julie Yant
Gary York
Timothy Zumstein

New Corporate Members

A Party Apart
Blue Vision Music
Indiana Michigan Power
Indiana's News Center

Irving Gravel
National Serv-All
NIPSCO
Northern Indiana LAKES Magazine

The 75th ACRES Nature Preserve

Photos by Shane Perfect

Through their generosity, two sisters, Harriet Swick and Margaret Laatsch, have allowed ACRES to acquire its 75th nature preserve! The yet un-named nature preserve is located near Huntington, Indiana. The 97-acre property contains forests, streams, a restored prairie, springs, ravines, ponds, and agriculture fields.

The property was acquired through a bargain sale (purchase price was approximately 25% of the property's appraised value). The purchase price was funded in part by a \$10,000 grant from the Mueller Scherger Foundation managed by PNC. An additional \$100,000 in funding is needed to complete this fund drive. The property is currently closed to the public, but once a parking lot and trail system are developed, the property will be open.

This property brings ACRES' total to 4,707 acres. We are getting close to preserving 5,000 acres. It would be wonderful to reach this milestone during ACRES' 50th anniversary! To help make this possible, please consider donating to land acquisition projects like this property near Huntington, or contact the ACRES' office about preserving your natural lands. For 50 years ACRES has been supported by many individuals who, together, have done extraordinary things. Thank you for your role in preserving 4,707 acres of natural areas forever.



This property brings ACRES' total to 4,707 acres.
We are getting close to preserving 5,000 acres.

ACRES Land Trust BLUE JEAN GALA

**Saturday, October 2, 2010
2 - 5 p.m.**

**14505 White Loon Pass, Roanoke, IN 46783
(Barn at John and Carol Brooks' Property)**

ACRES celebrates its 50th Anniversary with a Blue Jean Gala. A gala unlike any other, this one is casual. Blue jeans, Carhartts, sweatshirts, hiking boots and tennis shoes are the dress code. Don't even think about dressing up!

- Enjoy exquisite cuisine, beer and wine while surrounded by the beauty of 156 acres of forest, wetland and prairie habitats.
- View ARTology (Nature Based Art Exhibit and Auction).
- Listen and dance along to the sounds of the 60s provided by The Junk Yard Band.
- Hike through the property with a map created specifically for this event!

No need to worry about the weather. There is plenty of room in the barns and tents if it rains.

\$50 per person

Table Sponsors: \$500 for 6 people
Event Sponsors: \$2,500+

If your schedule does not allow you to attend, donations in honor of ACRES 50th Anniversary will gladly be accepted!

**RSVP by September 18, 2010.
acreslandtrust.org | 260.637.2273**



OUR CURRENT SPONSORS:



**JONH AND CAROL
BROOKS**

memorials

Mary Jane Roberts
from the family of Margaret Lee Planalp
Larry Jefferies
from Linda Anderson
Barbara C. Vermeire
from William and Dolores Fleming
Martha Yake
from Kathleen Fuller
Kristopher Tinker
from Jerry and Dotty Fickle, 2nd Turn
CME Maintenance, Andrew Beyer, Mark
and Lou Nevil and family and Carl and
Joan Bartholomew and family
Earl Davis
from Leelia Cornell
Mary Ann Stark
from Rita Robbins
Ronald Snyder
from Robert Blessing
Thomas Schmidt
from Karen Ericson

Kenneth Cole
from Dana Wichern
Arthur Lester George
from Craig and Donna Hanna
Darlene Heare
from Carol Hershberger
Ilse Yoder
from Fred and Mary Anna Feitler

tributes

To Angie O'Neill in honor of her birthday
from Alice Kopfer, Dawn Martz,
and Kathy Denig
To John Arnold in honor of his
retirement, from Norma Jane Rhea
To William Lewis and Susan Moore in
honor of their marriage
from Kevin Leech and Deborah Hoehn
To Joe Conrad in honor of
33 years of service to Community
Action of Northeast Indiana
from the Haver Family and
Paul and Heather Sucero

Birdathon

**ACRES Avocets Record 144 Species in 2010 Birdathon
by Fred Wooley**

May 15, 2010, was the 22nd Annual Southwest Michigan Team Birdathon in Berrien County, Michigan. Ninety-nine birders on 24 teams spread throughout the county to count as many bird species as possible.

As event organizer for 22 years, Berrien County Chief Naturalist Kip Miller said, "Fun is the primary focus, but many teams also use the event to generate funds for local and regional nature and conservation organizations." This year, the 24 teams together generated over \$39,000 in pledges for their respective groups!

The ACRES Avocets team had a van loaded with optics, extra clothes, mud boots, and the all-important food supplies. Several birds were recorded but spotting the beautiful barred owl really got everyone's spirits soaring.

We tallied 144 species by 7 pm. A hairy woodpecker was the last holdout and we got it at the feeders at 6:59, back at the Love Creek Center. A few of you challenged us with special birds and we recorded four of them! The pileated woodpecker, red-headed woodpecker, blackburnian warbler, and kingbird all brought in an extra \$5 each! Counting the pledges per species, the fixed pledges, and the extra \$5 for the four special birds, our ACRES Avocets raised \$2,517! This money will be put into the Wing Haven fund to help with the operations of one of our most popular and special preserves.

Many thanks to everyone who pledged so generously. For a list of the birds, please visit the News section at acreslandtrust.org.

ACRES' History

by David Van Gilder,
Board Present

1986–Present



David and daughter
enjoying a preserve.

In previous articles, James Barrett III and Ted Heemstra have ably recounted the structure and growth of ACRES beginning in 1960 through 1985. They described the all-volunteer efforts of dedicated board members, as well as remarkable acts of charity in member gifts of beautiful natural areas that now comprise the heart of ACRES' land holdings. Places such as Spurgeon, Bender, Wing Haven, McNabb-Walter, and the Hammer and Ropchan preserves established the organization as one of northeast Indiana's most important land preservation forces.

The period from 1985 to the present spans the maturation of ACRES as a non-profit business, the professionalization of both its governing board and its staff, and its exponential growth in nearly all areas – acres preserved, funds raised, volunteer hours donated, and skyrocketing membership rolls. What follows is a summary of just the highlights. Here in our 50th year, every member and the entire community can be proud of ACRES' achievements. We are poised to succeed for the next 50 years and beyond.

The second 25 years of ACRES' existence is depicted on the graphs accompanying this article, but to see the heart of the preservation mission, we must write about the remarkable work of the people who have dedicated much of their lives to ACRES' work. Not until 1994 did ACRES have a salaried Executive Director. Carolyn McNagny filled this role for 12 years, and she worked mostly alone in a spartan, but light-filled office in the old YWCA on Wells Street. Carolyn kept contact through cards, phone calls and peripatetic visits with past and future land donors, benefactors and the expanding roll of land stewards. She organized files with historical notes for each acquisition and boxes of beautiful photographs of the preserves; she also marshaled volunteers for work days, hikes and natural history programs at the preserves.

Every member of the volunteer board of directors had a special skill to offer the organization. Some, like Jane Dustin, Bob Weber, Ted Heemstra, and Mary Anna Feitler, added this work for ACRES on top of their other full-time labors. The organization grew and its reputation in the area and with the Division of Nature Preserves, Department of Natural Resources, was solidified.

In 2002, ACRES hired land managers David Homan and Ethel McClelland to supplement the work of volunteer stewards for preserve maintenance. They established and maintained trails, handled the occasional encroachments, and provided a much-needed presence within the expanding network of ACRES' preserves. The couple now lives at the Wildwood Preserve in Kosciusko County, serving as resident caretakers and providing valuable educational programming there and at other nearby preserves.

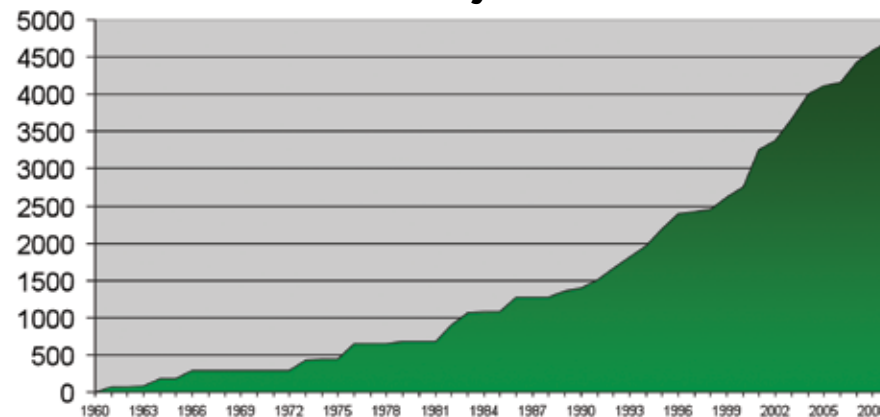
All the while, the tools used by ACRES to acquire new preserves expanded. ACRES continues to provide for the protection of land forever, whether the property comes to it by way of gift, bargain sale, life estate, market value purchase, conservation easement, or transfer from a like organization. We rely upon collaboration with partners such as The Nature Conservancy, DNR, and increasingly on similar regional organizations such as Little River Wetlands Project and Blue Heron Ministries. Significant acquisitions after 1985 include the Bicentennial Woods, the Evelyn and Wendell Dygert, Kokiwanee, Hathaway Preserve at Ross Run, Robb Hidden Canyon, Marsh Wren, and Tel-Hy preserves.

In 1996, the board initiated the process to revise and restate its articles of incorporation and to update its bylaws to keep pace with the changing field of land trusts. The board also cautiously moved forward to create standards for acquisition and management of the preserves. The *Quarterly* publication developed into a showcase of

the environmental benefits and educational opportunities offered by ACRES. With increased growth came new pressures on the limited staff. Carolyn McNagny organized office assistants, first as interns, then as part-time employees. When Carolyn retired in 2006, ACRES had reached a growth point that required extraordinary reorganization and effort by the new executive director, Jason Kissel, his staff and the board. This included development of the first strategic plan for 2007-2012.

ACRES' results, as shown by the accompanying chart, have been phenomenal. ACRES now has 75 preserves and is near its goal to protect 5,000 acres in its 50th year. The service area includes parts of northwest Ohio and southern Michigan adjacent to 16 counties in northern Indiana. Membership is over 1,500. Staff talent and professionalism are very high. ACRES' preserves, educational programming and annual events attract thousands of area residents, and more importantly, provide untold human benefits.

Acres Preserved by ACRES 1960-2009



Center Spread Photo: Hammerwald Nature Preserve, Allen County, by Jarrod Spicer



fieldtrips & 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. Call the ACRES office for carpooling information.

INSECTS AND MOTHS

Tuesday, July 20, 10 a.m.

Presented by: Gary Moughler, Officer, USDA

Join Gary and see his live insect show, then enjoy a hike in search of more insects and moths in their natural habitats.

WHERE: Mengerson Nature Reserve, Allen County



by Ringo Santiago

CREEK STOMP II: RETURN OF THE LEECH

Sunday, July 25, 2 p.m.

Presented by: The Kissel Family

Back by popular demand: Join us for a wet, dirty adventure down Ross Run Creek where waterfalls, leeches, frogs, fossils, salamanders, fish, mosquitoes, crawdads, and many other creatures wait to be discovered by the brave-hearted. Wear old shoes and grubby clothes. You will get wet, dirty, and probably a little scratched up. No sissies allowed!

WHERE: Hathaway Preserve at Ross Run, Wabash County



by Shane Perfect

HIKING AMONG THE GRASS

Saturday, July 31, 10 a.m.

Presented by: Paul Rothrock, Taylor University

Paul will lead a hike to identify grasses, sedges, and non-flowering plants at the Wildwood Nature Preserve.

WHERE: Wildwood Nature Preserve, Kosciusko County

PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP

Sunday, August 1, 2 p.m.

Presented by: Sunny Schick Camera Shop, led by Jarrod Spicer, Master Photographer

Join us for a hands-on nature photography workshop. Bring your camera and questions and we'll help you become more familiar with your camera and discuss composition and techniques. Costs \$15. Reservations: call Sunny Schick Camera Shop at 424-1615.

WHERE: Tom and Jane Dustin Nature Preserve, Allen County

KIDS DAY AT WILDWOOD

Wednesday, August 4, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Presented by: David Homan and Ethel McClelland

Come join us for nature hikes, a raptor presentation by Shirley Needham, "Big Trees of Wildwood," pond scoping, crafts, a hot dog roast, and lots of fun. Volunteers are needed for this event. Please call Wildwood at 260.352.2604 to RSVP or volunteer. Sponsored by Kosciusko County REMC.

WHERE: Wildwood Nature Preserve, Kosciusko County

WORK DAY - DONATE YOUR SWEAT TO A GOOD CAUSE!

Saturday, August 7, 10 a.m.

Presented by: The Kissel Family and Matt Jehl

Help construct a 75' long elevated boardwalk over a tributary of Ross Run Creek. We'll have all the materials, tools, and refreshments necessary - all you need to bring are your gloves. A few extra cordless drills may come in handy.

WHERE: Hathaway Preserve at Ross Run, Wabash County

fieldtrips & SPECIAL EVENTS

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9th ANNUAL WING HAVEN CANOE TRIP

Saturday, August 7, 2 p.m.

Presented by: Nate Simons and the Spurgeon Family

Join Nate as he leads an interpretive program and relax as you canoe the Seven Sisters Lakes. All paddling levels welcome. Please bring your own canoe or kayak. The Spurgeons invite you to stay for a cookout after the canoe trip. You must register if you are staying for the cookout. Cookout \$5. Call Bill or Dawn Spurgeon at 260.668.8761 to make your reservation.

WHERE: Wing Haven Nature Preserve, Steuben County



by Art Eberhardt

FLOWERS AT FOGWELL

Saturday, August 21, 10 a.m.

Presented by: Heather Baker

Hike the new Fogwell meadow trail to see how many flowers we can identify.

WHERE: Fogwell Nature Preserve, Allen County



by Marissa Jones

IN SEARCH OF THE MASSASSAUGA

Saturday, August 28, 2 p.m.

Presented by: Nate Simons

Join Nate for a canoe and land excursion to look for the Massassauga snake and learn about the plant diversity of this unique nature preserve. The short canoe trip will take us through two undeveloped lakes before landing in a wet sedge meadow for the botanical hike and return. Please bring your own canoe or kayak, wear long pants and boots and be prepared for steamy conditions.

WHERE: Sauga Swamp, Noble County

USING OUR SENSES TO ENJOY NATURE

Wednesday, September 1, 1 p.m.

Presented by: David Homan and Ethel McClelland

Learn about nature's way of dispersing seeds and see and enjoy nature by using our senses.

WHERE: Wildwood Nature Preserve, Kosciusko County

OUTDOOR CONCERT AT WING HAVEN

Saturday, September 4, 5 p.m.

Presented by: The Spurgeon Family

Listen to the sounds of area musicians in an outdoor concert as they perform a variety of music styles.

WHERE: Wing Haven Nature Preserve, Steuben County



by Steve Ross

NIGHT HIKE!

Friday, September 10, 8 p.m.

Presented by: The Kissel Family

Come explore ACRES' wild nightlife! Watch bats, observe moths, look for raccoons, and hear owls. We will even try to call in an owl for a closer look.

WHERE: Mary Thornton Nature Preserve, Wabash County

DUSTIN DEDICATION

Wednesday, September 22, 1 p.m.

Dedication by: John Bacone, Director for the IDNR Division for Nature Preserves

Join ACRES in dedicating the Tom and Jane Dustin Nature Preserve, and stay for a hike after the dedication.

WHERE: Tom and Jane Dustin Nature Preserve, Allen County

THE Elegance of the Saturniids

by Dave W. Fox, Natural History Section
Manager, State Historic Sites

Lepidoptera (butterflies and moths) number over 165,000 known species worldwide. North America alone boasts over 12,000 species — of that, fewer than 800 are butterflies and the remainder are moths. The most beautiful, and certainly the largest night-flyers, are from the family Saturniidae. Some 42 species of Saturniids, or giant silk moths, may be found in North America, and many may be found in the Midwest during the summer months, inhabiting woodlands or frequenting porch lights in search of a mate.

Adult Saturniids are large and heavy bodied, covered in hair-like scales, with vestigial mouthparts and small heads. Most never eat — living only a few days — just long enough to mate and lay eggs. They are sometimes brightly colored or quite drab in appearance. Many have two to four eyespots on their wings which may be either heavily scaled or completely translucent. Sexual dimorphism (males appear different than females) varies by species, but males generally have larger, broader antennae which are used to locate the females. Most adults possess wingspans between one to six inches in length, but some tropical species, such as the Atlas Moth (*Attacus atlas*),

have enormous wingspans of up to 12 inches with a surface area of 65 square inches! While the Atlas Moth is generally considered the “largest” moth in the world, a close second, the White Witch (*Thysania agrippina*), ventures into the Southern U.S. and has a commanding 12-inch wingspan as well.

Some Saturniids produce more than one brood a year based on weather conditions, food availability and the length of the day. A single female may produce both fast and slow-developing larva in the same brood and different numbers of broods in their range, based on climate, food availability, and other factors.

Most Saturniids are quite harmless, despite their fearsome looking “horns”. One species though, the Io Moth



by Shane Perfect

(*Automenis io*), deserves a healthy dose of respect in its juvenile caterpillar stage. A bright green larva with red and white racing stripes has several rows of extremely irritating spines. I can attest that these “stings” are most unpleasant, and are unlike any bee or wasp sting. The adults on the other hand, are beautiful red and yellow moths with striking eyespots on the under wings.

As both the common and scientific names suggest, Imperial Moths (*Eacles imperialis*), are regal moths in appearance with a soft yellow ground punctuated with beautiful lavender venation. Gene Stratton-Porter, an early naturalist and novelist living in Northeastern Indiana wove the Imperial Moth into the storyline of one of her most popular books, *A Girl of the Limberlost*. Elnora Comstock, a simple country girl, embarked upon a quest to find the elusive Imperial Moth. This moth was to be the last in her collection — a collection, that when sold, would enable her to continue her education.

Luna Moths (*Actias luna*) must be one of the most elegant moths in all of North America. Their name recalls the Latin word for “moon” and its pale green wings with delicate red or purple edging and translucent eye spots make it appear as if it came straight from a dream about fairies in a make-believe world. Luckily, luna moths grace us with two broods per year, each looking slightly different due to the activation of different genes during the brood seasons.

Two other notable Saturniids are the Cecropia (*Hyalophora cecropia*) and Polyphemus moths (*Antheraea polyphemus*). Both of these grand moths derive their names from Greek mythology and are colored with a more subdued palette. The Cecropia moth has a wingspan of up to seven inches in length and was named for the mythical Athenian king, Cecrops. Cecrops was noted for teaching the Athenians to read, write, enter into the bond of marriage and to enact ceremonial burial practices. Polyphemus moths,

which are up to 5.5 inches in length, were named for a far more sinister personage, the horrible one-eyed Cyclops named Polyphemus. This elegant moth has two very striking eye spots, so the name is somewhat of a misnomer.

This summer, as you walk the quiet paths in ACRES' preserves or simply step out your door after leaving the porch light on all night, look for these gentle giants and revel in their beauty. They are truly some of the most magnificent insects nature has to offer.

acres' library wishlist

Michigan Flora, three volumes by
Edward G. Voss

Amphibians and Reptiles of Indiana by
Sherman A. Minton, Jr.

Mosses of Indiana by Winona Welch

Mammals of Indiana by Russell E. Mumford
and John O. Whitaker, Jr.

Butterflies of Indiana by Earnest M. Schull

*An Illustrated Flora of the Northeastern
United States and Canada*, three
volumes by Nathaniel Lord Brittain and
Addison Brown

Wildflowers of Ohio by Robert L. Henn

Shrub Identification Book by
George W. D. Symonds

Tree Identification Book by
George W. D. Symonds

ACRES' MISSION

Dedicated to preserving natural areas since 1960, ACRES manages and protects 75 nature preserves totaling over 4,700 acres.

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

acreslandtrust.org



**Kids' Preserve
Performance at the
Wing Haven Preserve
Saturday, July 24, 1-4 p.m.**

Join James Coffey,
M. Ed. for the musical
adventure "All Aboard
the Wildlife Express!"
along with other artists as
they engage children in
mimicking nature and their
surroundings in various
art forms.

Sponsored by Blue Vision
Music, Dekko Foundation
and the Steuben County
Community Foundation.
Cost: \$5 per car.

ARTology contest

Join ACRES in celebrating its 50th anniversary
by entering the youth art contest. Prizes will be
awarded in the following age categories:

0 – 4 years	10 – 13 years
5 – 9 years	14 – 18 years

Artwork Guidelines: Inspired by one of ACRES'
75 preserves, 8.5" x 11", 2-dimensional,
submitted unframed. We encourage you to
use a variety of art forms: drawings, paintings,
fabric, photography, poetry, etc.

The art will be displayed at the Fort Wayne
Museum of Art. Winners of the contest will be
notified by mail.

**Contest entries must be received by
August 6, 2010. Send or deliver entries to:**

ACRES Land Trust
1802 Chapman Rd.
Huntertown, IN 46748

**Adventurer
Day Camp**

ACRES invites children ages
6 to 11 to join the adventure on
Wednesdays in July.

Children will enjoy a morning hike,
a different presentation each week,
crafts, and free play.

Each child should bring a backpack
containing a sack lunch, sunscreen
and bug spray. Snacks will be
provided. Each session is limited
to 20 children.

**\$20 per child, per session.
9 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

**Wing Haven Nature Preserve,
Steuben County**

July 7 – Presentation by
Bob Walton – Raptors

July 14 – Presentation by
Rick Kemery – Tree Identification

**Tom and Jane Dustin Nature Preserve,
Allen County**

July 21 – Presentation by
Bob Walton – Bats

July 28 – Presentation by
Ron Zartman – Animal Tracks

To register, visit acreslandtrust.org, e-mail
at acres@acreslandtrust.org or call the
ACRES office at 260-637-2273. Registration
deadline: the day before each session

ANNUAL DINNER

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13

Rhinehart Music Center – IPFW campus

3 p.m. Annual Meeting

3:30 – 4:30 p.m. Speaker: Michael Fay, National Geographic

"Think Big"

In the fall of 2007, Michael Fay resolved to see for himself how Earth's
tallest forest had been exploited in the past and is being treated today.
He wanted to find out if there was a way to maximize both timber
production and the many ecological and social benefits standing
forests provide. If it could be done in the redwoods, he believed,
it could be done anywhere.

*Thanks to our lecture sponsor, M. E. Raker Foundation.
Reception immediately following presentation in the Walb Ballroom.*

5:30 p.m. Annual Dinner, catered by Catablu

To reserve your tickets call the Rhinehart box office at 260-481-6555.

Dinner: \$25 members only

Lecture: \$10 for non-members, free for ACRES members

ACRES continued its reforestation efforts with four tree plantings this spring. A total of 45,000 trees were planted at the following preserves:

Robb Hidden Canyon
Wing Haven
Seven Pillars
Hathaway Preserve at Ross Run



by Jason Kissel

Hanging Rock Visitor Amenities, Wabash County

Construction of the new parking and access on the west side of Hanging Rock will begin in July. The parking area will accommodate school and tour buses and 12 additional vehicles. A limited mobility standards trail, observation deck and interpretive signs are also planned.

We are seeking assistance for construction of the observation deck overlooking the Wabash River. This could be a nice Eagle Scout project. Please contact the ACRES office if you are interested.

DIRECTIONS TO PRESERVE EVENTS

See events on page 12-13.

Tom and Jane Dustin Nature Preserve, Allen County

From Fort Wayne (I-69 exit 112B) take Coldwater Rd. north for approximately 7.5 miles to Chapman Rd., turn right (east) and go 0.75 miles. The entrance is on south side of road at 1802 Chapman Rd.

Fogwell Forest, Allen County

From Fort Wayne (I-69 exit 99) take Airport Expressway east approximately 0.25 miles and turn left (north) onto Lower Huntington Rd. Travel northeast for approximately 1.3 miles to Whippoorwill Dr. and turn right (south). Preserve is at the end of Whippoorwill Drive.

Hathaway Preserve at Ross Run, Wabash County

From Wabash take US 24 east to 300E and turn right (south) towards Lagro. Travel through Lagro as 300E turns into SR 524. Follow SR 524 for 1.5 miles to Baumbauer Rd. and turn right (west). Preserve is on the right in 2.2 miles.

Mary Thornton Nature Preserve, Wabash County

From Wabash on SR13 travel 2.6 miles north of US 24 to 300N and turn right (east). Preserve is on the right in 1.4 miles.

Mengerson Nature Reserve, Allen County

From Fort Wayne at the I-69/ I-469 interchange (exit 115) take I-469 east to Maplecrest Rd. (exit 29B). Travel south on Maplecrest Rd. 2.5 miles to SR 37/Stellhorn Rd. and turn right (west). Preserve is on the right in 0.30 miles.

Sauga Swamp, Noble County

From Kendallville at SR 3 and US 6 take SR 3 north 0.10 miles to Angling Rd. and turn left (west). Travel Angling Rd. for 6 miles to the preserve on the left.

Access to the canoe trip: Travel Angling Rd. for 6.3 miles (crossing the county line into LaGrange Co.) to a private lane on the left (across from #7755 S. 550E). Turn left (west) and follow the private lane for 0.60 mile to the canoe launch.

Wildwood Nature Preserve, Kosciusko County

From Warsaw take SR 15 south for 12 miles to the town of Silver Lake. Turn left (east) onto SR 14 and travel 3 miles. Preserve is on the right (south) side of SR 14.

Wing Haven Reserve, Steuben County

From Angola take SR 127 north 4.5 miles to 400N and turn right (east). Preserve is on the left in 0.4 miles.



by Shane Perfect

Churubusco HS group: Jessie Lich, Theodore Pearson, Colleen Bishop, Rachel Fehring, inserting remittance envelopes in the spring *Quarterly*

Glen Bickel donation of wheel barrow, metal cart and flagpole

IPFW Philosophy Club: Matt Jehl, Justin See, Luke Henkenius, Mark Savio and Vincent Mendez pulling fencing, removing invasives and trash at the Dustin Nature Preserve

Pam George, Heather Baker, and Bob and Bea McCarthy preparing the spring *Quarterly* mailing

Garry Baker and Cindy Loos inserting remittance envelopes in the spring *Quarterly*
Heather Baker staffing the ACRES booth at the IPFW Earth Day event

Doug and Kathy Rogers staffing the ACRES booth at the DeKalb County Earth Day event

Bruce and Kate Johnson and Ed and Cynthia Powers staffing the ACRES booth at the Arbor/Earth Day event at Franke Park

Taylor Puitz and Ben Puitz cutting Birdathon cards

Cindy LeMaster, Kris Conner, Bruce and Kate Johnson, Claire Cook, David Homan, Ethel McClelland, Bob and Bea McCarthy, Gary Tieben and Bill Smith staffing the ACRES booth at Sol Fest

Dan Logsdon donation of birdseed

To all those who gave to the 2010 Birdathon. The following pledged \$1.00 or more per bird: John and Marcella Ellenwood, Mary Anna Feitler, Lonnie Hanson, Trina Herber, Diane Humphrey, Paul McAfee, Angie O'Neill, Beth Ann Rohrer and John Rullo in memory of Nancy Rullo.

Thanks to the 48 members and friends who donated \$50 for our 50th anniversary in the second quarter.

To Our *Quarterly* Distributors

National Serv-All providing a dumpster for debris from the preserves

Garrett State Bank sponsorship of the ARTolgo reception at the Garrett Museum of Art

Ian and Mimi Rolland Foundation for a 50th anniversary land acquisition gift

Olive B. Cole Foundation for a land acquisition gift to expand Marsh Wren in LaGrange County

Mueller-Scherger Foundation managed by PNC for land acquisition donation toward Huntington County property – ACRES' 75th preserve!

Kosciusko County REMC \$1,000 Envirowatts grant for youth education programs and supplies at Wildwood Nature Preserve

Edward D. and Ione Auer Foundation and Indiana Michigan Power sponsorship of the Preserve Performance event

Blue Vision Music, Dekko Foundation, and the Steuben County Community Foundation grant support of the Kids Preserve Performance event

Sara Harper donation of a CD player/radio for the office

Rosemary Bostelman donation of a vacuum and attachments

Nancy Malis donation of cooking pots, dishes, and tools

Renee Wright donation of a post hole digger and birdseed

George Bremen donation of 700 tree saplings

Carol Roberts donation of an ACRES logo stamp and stamp pad

Trine University Football group:

Brandon Killingbeck, Eric Watt, Jerry Christian clean up at Beechwood Nature Preserve



by Sam Boggs

the **BACK**page

by Jeff Britton

Antique Water

All the rain this past spring made me think about water. Many of us take water for granted. The water you used to brush your teeth, or make a cup of tea this morning, entered the aquifer as far back as hundreds or even thousands of years ago, and yet we use it to flush our toilets and wash our dirty dishes.

Some of the same water ran off the backs of the mastodons before it was filtered by the sand and gravel left over from various stages of glaciations. It's an important gift to life on earth. It's just one of the gifts we were given thousands of years ago.

So while our lives speed busily along, hundreds of feet below the surface, water that fell thousands of years ago is slowly moving along the sands of time, up a pipe and into your coffee cup. How amazing is that?

Heraclitus said, "You can never step in the same river twice." That is so true.



photo by Shane Perfect

DIRECTORS: David Van Gilder, President; Richard E. Walker, VP; William A. Smith IV, VP; Norm Cox, Secretary; Steven Hammer, Treasurer; Tony Acosta, Samuel T. Boggs, Nancy Bradtmiller, Neil Case, Chris Dunn, James Haddock, Trina Herber, Richard Hurley, Nancy Leininger, Emily Pichon, Carol Roberts, Gary R. Tieben, Connie Haas-Zuber. Membership Secretary: Mary Anna Feitler; Recording Secretary: Sue Diefenbach.

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