



On the Trail at Twin Swamps

Michael Homoya, IDNR Division of Nature Preserves



A clear, sunny sky with temps in the 70s set the mood for INPAWS' May 19 trek into one of Indiana's premier nature preserves. And it only got better, as nowhere else in the state can you see such a place as this.

Twin Swamps Nature Preserve, one of over 200 nature preserves owned and/or dedicated by the Indiana DNR Division of Nature Preserves, is near the confluence of the Wabash and Ohio Rivers in extreme southwestern Indiana. It's home to an amazing array of plants and animals, many of which have affinities to the low country of the deep south. Some of the classics include bald cypress, featherfoil, spiderlily, social sedge, fish crow, and mole salamander.

Our group of 21, led by Division of Nature Preserves botanist Michael Homoya, embarked on the adventure at the eastern edge of the preserve, from where they followed a well-maintained loop trail that passed through all the preserve's major natural community types. We first encountered a floodplain forest dominated by red maple (*Acer rubrum*) and sweet gum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*). From there we continued westward, gradually increasing in elevation along the way. The increase may have been imperceptible to the eye, but the changes in vegetation were quite noticeable. The floodplain graded into a flatwoods community, and before we knew it a whole new set of species lay before us. Here the dominants were cherrybark oak (*Quercus pagoda*), shagbark hickory (*Carya ovata*), and, within a localized area, post oak (*Quercus stellata*). There were sedges and grasses

Continued page 4

Inside

Can We Talk?	3	Indiana Authorities	6	Plant Sale Credits	10
GIS Tool.....	3	Eupatoriums	7	Letha Queisser	11
INPAWS Hikes.....	5	Binford Blvd. Prairie ...	8	Sourwood	12



©2007

INPAWS JOURNAL is published quarterly for members of the Indiana Native Plant and Wildflower Society. Material may be reprinted with the permission of the editor.

All are invited to submit articles, news items, and event postings of interest to our membership. Acceptance for publication is at the discretion of the editor. INPAWS welcomes opposing viewpoints.

Please submit text and photos via e-mail to wwford@comcast.net or via land mail to INPAWS JOURNAL, 6911 Cabernet Way, Indianapolis IN 46278.

Submission deadlines for specific issues are as follows:

Spring
February 23 for April 1 mailing

Summer
May 23 for July 1 mailing

Autumn
August 23 for October 1 mailing

Winter
November 23 for January 1 mailing

INPAWS Mission

To promote the appreciation, preservation, conservation, utilization and scientific study of the flora native to Indiana and to educate the public about the value, beauty, diversity, and environmental importance of indigenous vegetation.

Membership

INPAWS is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization open to the public. For membership information, visit www.inpaws.org.

News and Views

Information to be shared with INPAWS members may be directed to membership@inpaws.org.

Officers

President	Karen Hartlep	317-253-6164	khartlep@interdesign.com
Vice President	Wendy Ford	317-334-1932	wwford@comcast.net
Recording Secretary	David Savage	317-873-5083	jdsavage@sbcglobal.net
Corresponding Secty	Ruth Ann Ingraham	317-253-3863	rai38@aol.com
Treasurer	Cheryl Jensen	317-255-8479	cjensen@butler.edu

Chapter Leaders

Northeast	George Manning	260-745-0513	gmaning@earthsourceinc.net
East Central	Don Ruch	765-287-8266	inruch@aol.com
Central	Betsy Wilson	317-255-3304	geobet@iquest.net
South Central	Gillian Harris	812-323-9211	gilharris@insightbb.com
West Central	Chris Brewster	765-463-7171	jim.chris.brewster@att.net

Committee Chairs

Annual Conference	Kathleen Hartman	317-576-0115	kathleen.hartman@gmail.com
	Dawn Stelts	317-867-2906	dawn@stelts.com
Plant Sale & Auction	Tom Hohman	317-831-1715	hohmantr@aol.com
	Janice Gustaferro	317-596-0977	jan_in@egix.net
Education	Dan & Sophia Anderson	317-849-3105	danjand1@sbcglobal.net
Grants & Awards	Joan Mohr Samuels	765-567-7023	mohrsamuels@insightbb.com
Historian	Ruth Ann Ingraham	317-253-3863	rai38@aol.com
Invasive Plant Education	Ellen Jacquart	317-951-8818	ejacquart@tnc.org
Journal Editor	Wendy Ford	317-334-1932	wwford@comcast.net
Membership	Mark Outcalt	317-257-3574	membership@inpaws.org
Native Plant Rescue	Dawn & David Bauman	317-274-0584	dbauman@iupui.edu
Programs & Field Trips	Mike Homoya		mhomoya@dnr.in.gov
Speakers Bureau	Dan & Sophia Anderson	317-849-3105	danjand1@sbcglobal.net
Website	Marcia Moore	317-940-8302	mmoore@butler.edu

Can We Talk?

Karen Hartlep

Greetings Native Plant Enthusiasts!

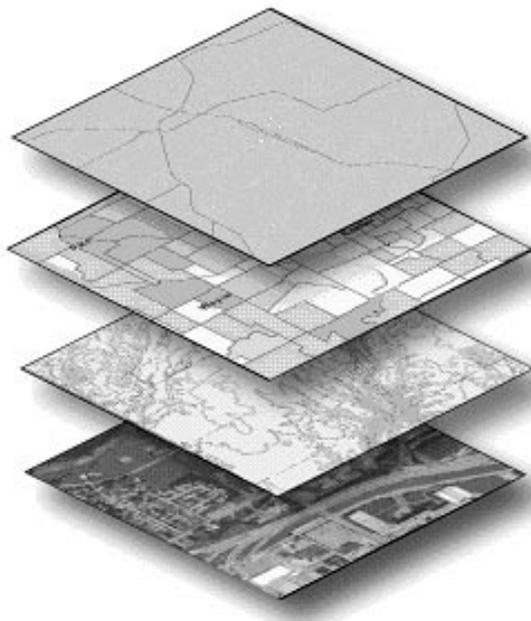
Suffering through writer's block, an over-crowded schedule (isn't everyone's?), and the Journal's relentless deadline approaching, I slogged through my previous letters to see if some simmering undercurrent of an idea would magically blossom into a full column. No luck, but I did realize that my previous ramblings were all about what I was thinking and what we have done, are doing, or are planning. I've never asked what **you** want out of our Society! As my teenage daughter would say, "How rude!"

We have a pretty small core group who meet and talk regularly, but it seems we don't hear anything from the vast majority of our members. We need your input so as to serve our members in a timely, exciting, and relevant way. Please let us know what's working, what's not; your suggestions on how to improve existing programs; what we should do more or less of; ideas for brand new, crazy programs or activities; whatever's on your mind.... Phone any of us on the INPAWS Council, or send e-mail comments to **membership@inpaws.org** and they will be distributed to the proper Council officer or committee chair.

On a related note, if you are already thinking of firing off an e-mail to us, maybe you're the kind of engaged member we need to help guide INPAWS' course. Perhaps you know someone who could serve as an officer for the next two-year term, or perhaps you would consider doing so yourself. A nominating committee has formed—Tom Hohman, Wendy Ford, and Shirley Cain have signed on—so let them know of your interest or your suggested candidate.

Looking forward to hearing from you!

Karen



Indiana Conservation Tool

Enlightened planners are convinced that improving quality of life, natural habitat, and recreation opportunities will attract new business to Indiana. But which areas in Indiana have high wildlife and wild plant conservation potential? And how can we build support and plans to protect them?

The Indiana Biodiversity Initiative (IBI), a collaboration of government, academic, and private planners and conservation scientists, has developed a new software tool to help answer such questions. It's the Indiana Conservation Tool, a GIS (geographic information system) package that will help conservation planners capitalize on Indiana's natural heritage to improve the state's economy.

GIS works on the principle of layers. Geographical maps of streets, buildings, neighborhoods, even subterranean infrastructure are superimposed. Then information stored in databases is linked to specific places or locations, enabling users to query the data and present the answers in maps, tables, and other graphic representations to support decision making and problem solving.

To identify areas with high conservation potential, the IBI started with existing protected areas like parks and forests, and added areas with the highest concentration of plant communities and rare species. Then they used models on selected wildlife to identify areas with enough habitat for species with larger spatial needs. Finally, they identified corridors—narrow strips of land that connect larger areas to allow animals to move among conservation areas.

The Indiana Conservation Tool combines maps of high-conservation-potential areas with layers of aerial photography, topography, county boundaries, ecoregions, and roads, and provides links to conservation resources in each area of the map.

IBI offers workshops on identifying and prioritizing conservation potential using the map tools and the accompanying data. CDs are provided with all materials at no cost.

For information about the Indiana Conservation Tool, visit www.in.gov/igic/realworld/econconserve.html

Twin Swamps, continued from page 1

aplenty, but not many showy flowering plants. Smooth phlox (*Phlox glaberrima*) was clearly the most colorful.

The next community encountered—the moist upland forest—was where we noted many of the same species found in similar conditions elsewhere in the state, such as tulip tree (*Liriodendron tulipifera*), white oak (*Quercus alba*), and paw paw (*Asimina triloba*). Of interest was the occurrence of a state threatened species of bergamot (*Monarda bradburiana*) and a rarely seen flowering specimen of Virginia snakeroot (*Aristolochia serpentaria*).

Once atop the upland forest ridge we could see the awaited prize—the

cypress swamp. We ventured into the swamp on a boardwalk to inspect the myriad life up close and personal. In addition to bald cypress (*Taxodium distichum*), common trees and shrubs observed were swamp cottonwood (*Populus heterophylla*), red maple (*Acer rubrum*), and buttonbush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*). Floating on the swamp water were duckweeds (*Lemna* spp.) and an interesting little plant called mosquito fern (*Azolla caroliniana*). It is certainly the smallest fern species in the state. In some years, featherfoil (*Hottonia inflata*) can be seen in the deeper portions of the swamp, but apparently not this year. Featherfoil is a winter annual and grows only when the conditions are just right for germination.

After leaving the swamp we continued on the loop trail to the “twin”

swamp. It’s not an identical twin, however, as this swamp is not as deep, and bald cypress is absent. Dominant canopy trees noted were overcup oak (*Quercus lyrata*), pin oak (*Q. palustris*), swamp white oak (*Q. bicolor*), sweet gum, and red maple. On the edge of the swamp were leaves of perhaps the most spectacular of the preserve’s wildflowers—the spider lily (*Hymenocallis occidentalis*). It doesn’t bloom until late summer, so a return trip is in order to see this beauty.

For those who couldn’t make it down to Twin Swamps for the INPAWS hike, you can still visit the preserve on your own. Check the IDNR Division of Nature Preserves web site for directions: www.in.gov/dnr/naturepr/npdirectory/preserves/twinswamps.html.



Twin Swamps photos by Barbara Homoya.

Upcoming INPAWS Hikes

Ambler Flatwoods and Springfield Fen (LaPorte County), August 11

Edge of Appalachia; Shawnee State Forest (Adams and Scioto Counties, Ohio), September 8 & 9

Pedestal Rock Nature Preserve (Parke County), October 20

Overcup oak (*Quercus lyrata*) leaf and acorns. Photo courtesy of Missouri State University Biology Department.



Ohio Field Trip Preview

On the weekend of September 8-9, INPAWS will join members of the Ohio Native Plant Society for a weekend of “extreme” botanizing in the ruggedly beautiful landscape of south-central Ohio (Adams and Scioto Counties). Leader Dan Boone has promised interesting natural communities and lots of plants, many that will be new to us Hoosiers.

Some of the areas to be visited, known collectively as the Edge of Appalachia, offer barrens and dolomite cliffs hosting plants that prefer alkaline substrates. For contrast, we will also hike in Shawnee State Forest where acidic conditions prevail and present a different selection of plants.

Plants we expect to see on the trip include: earleaf foxglove (*Agalinis auriculata*); white cedar (*Thuja occidentalis*) on cliffs(!); mountain lover (*Paxistima canbyi*); creeping aster (*Eurybia surculosa*); stout goldenrod (*Solidago squarrosa*); and three-leaved rattlesnake root (*Prenanthes trifoliolata*).

The group will gather at Bill’s Place, Lynx, Ohio, at 10:00 a.m. Saturday, September 8, and proceed to the Edge of Appalachia. Sunday we will explore Shawnee State.

Arrangements for transportation and lodging are on your own. Rooms are available at the Shawnee State Park Lodge as well as cabins and campsites in the park. Now would be a good time to make a reservation. (You may cancel up to 14 days before the reservation dates without penalty.)

Given the distance to Lynx, Ohio, it would be advisable to make arrangements for both Friday and Saturday nights, September 7 and 8. The toll-free number for the lodge is 1-800-282-7275. For more information about the park and facilities, visit www.dnr.state.oh.us/parks/parks/shawnee.htm.

There is also a Comfort Inn, 937-386-2511, conveniently located in Seaman, Ohio, at the intersection of SR 32 and SR 247.

Welcome to Our New INPAWS Members

CENTRAL

Jaymie Berg
Michael Campbell
Jan Chapman
John & Pamela Cole
Debarah Crowe
Colleen Geisel
Daniel & Nadia Hayford
Karen Jameson
Darren, Tabitha, & Daniela Klem
Jo Ann Klooz
Don Meerhoff
Mudge Morris
Elizabeth Najav
Karen Nichols
Ken Remenschneider
Nancy K Rice
Barbara & Dennis Zupan

EAST

Greg Cline
Justin C. Krause Household

NORTHEAST

Amanda & Benjamin Hess Family
Marla McAfee
Laura Stine

SOUTH

Yvonne M. Cripps
Linda K. Edgerton
Deborah Farrell
Kristin Rust
Scott & Jill Stowers
Lisa Weiser

WEST

Barbara A. Foster
Jean Jamsa

INPAWS to the Rescue?

Is a natural site near you in imminent danger of falling to the bulldozer? Please let INPAWS know. We can organize a team to help you rescue the native plants. With advance notice, we may be able to support you in averting destructive development. Keep your eyes peeled for conservation opportunities in your area. Tip us off at membership@inpaws.org.

Indiana Authorities

Rebecca Dolan, PhD, Friesner Herbarium, Butler University

Last issue, we learned that the “authority” name following a latin binomial signifies the plant given this name by a specific person and carries important historical information.

Following are some of the most common abbreviated authority names you will run across when looking at names of plants that grow in Indiana. This doesn't mean that species with these authority names were first collected in the state, only that the plant grows here.

Michx. = Andrè Michaux (1746–1802)

Botanist, explorer, and plant collector, he worked for the French Government in the late 1700's. After losing his wife of 11 months to childbirth, he traveled across the globe. Following the American Revolution, he was charged with exploring America's forests to look for new trees to help reforest France. Lumber was in short supply due to its use in building war ships for a long, ongoing fight with England. Michaux visited luminaries of the time, including Benjamin Franklin and George Washington. He explored mostly in the southeast, living for a while in Charleston, South Carolina.

More info: <http://www.michaux.org/michaux.htm>

Raf. = Constantine Samuel Rafinesque (1783–1840)

Born in Turkey to French and German parents, he first came to the United States as a 19-year-old, working for a mercantile house in Philadelphia. He became interested in natural history and in 1818 took a collecting trip west along the Ohio River. He eventually became a professor at Transylvania University in Pennsylvania. He described hundreds of animals and thousands of plants.

More info: <http://faculty.evansville.edu/ck6/bstud/rafin.html>

Muhl. = Gotthilf Hunrich Ernst Muhlenberg (1753–1815)

Lutheran minister and self-taught botanist from a prominent eastern Pennsylvania family. His father and uncles were patriots in the Revolutionary War, and as a boy he himself had a harrowing escape from the British. He did not travel far from his home in Lancaster County, but he had a great influence on early botany by working with others and publishing species lists for local areas that included native and introduced plants. He often did not use what is now considered standard nomenclature; nonetheless, at least 150 plant names are attributed to him.

http://www.tortoisereserve.org/Research/Muhlenberg_Body2.html

Nutt. = Thomas Nuttall (1786–1859)

Born in England, Nuttall was an explorer, botanist, printer, and professor. In 1810, he explored and collected in the Great Lakes region. In 1811, he traveled the Missouri River, covering much of the same ground as Lewis and Clark had a few years earlier. Nuttall collected many of the same plants but was the first to describe them, in part due to the loss of many of Lewis and Clark's specimens.

<http://www.lewis-clark.org/content/content-article.asp?ArticleID=498>

A. Gray = Asa Gray (1810-1888)

Asa Gray was born in New York and trained as a doctor before becoming a professor of natural history at Harvard. With John Torrey, he published an influential botanical text, *Manual of the Botany of the Northern United States*, which helped establish modern systematic botany. Gray received plant collections from official United States government expeditions to then under-explored areas like parts of Texas. His *Botany* was the first place plants collected on these missions were described.

<http://famousamericans.net/asagray/>



Asa Gray. Photo from Harvard University Herbaria, www.huh.harvard.edu/libraries/asa/asabio.html.

Watch The Leaves!

Barbara E. Plampin, PhD
Shirley Heinze Land Trust

I like those feathery-flowered composites, the Eupatoriums, for their contrasts, their folklore, and, in one or two instances, their challenges. Eight of Indiana's thirteen species flourish in the dunes, mid-June to late October, in damp to sandy habitats.

For their vigor, the up-to-twelve-foot, purple-flowered, whorled-leaved Joe Pyes are designated "weed." (Joe Pye was an Indian doctor who used purple [sweetscented] Joe Pye weed (*E. purpureum*), with its domed inflorescences, to cure typhus "by copious perspiration.") Its flattish-headed cousin, spotted JP (*E. maculatum*) has spotted, pithy stems. Another cousin is the rarer hollow JP (*E. fistulosum*). As cutting protected plants is illegal, one must judiciously pinch stems for their "give" or distinguish between the sharply serrated leaves of spotted and the obtusely serrated leaves of the hollow. I think hollow might make as good drinking straws as those cut from purple by the Cherokees.

Shorter, but stately, the white-flowered common boneset (*E. perfoliatum*) bears leaves seemingly pierced by the stem. (Boneset earned its name by curing a body-shaking form of influenza in which the victims shook so hard that it seemed their bones would break.) Far less satisfactory was the petioled-leaved white snakeroot (*E. rugosum*) which allegedly killed Lincoln's mother after she drank milk from cows pastured upon it. Other whites, tall boneset (*E. altissimum*) with opposite, short-petioled leaves and late boneset (*E. serotinum*) with longer-petioled leaves, are rather weedy. (*Serotina* means late. Might make a good name for some children?)

Native elsewhere in Indiana, the largely low-growing, petioled-leaved, blue mistflower (*E. coelestinum*) makes an attractive sight along abandoned roads and can make a welcome late season display, sometimes self-sowing, in the garden.

Though not state listed, white-flowered upland boneset (*E. sessilifolium brittianum*) with its sessile (no petioles), opposite leaves is the real challenge. I was lucky enough to find it on August 30, 1990, after a 63-year absence from the Dunes. Last reported from this location by M.W. Lyon, Jr., in 1927, it was on my wish list where I reviewed it annually. The site: a supposedly "unbuildable" lot consisting of a steep dune spine overlooking Lake Michigan, which had gotten itself sold. Unable to resist plant snooping, a neighbor and I just lucked upon the plant. No trespassing required, after all: the plant grew at the dune base where neighbors parked their cars.

Before flowering, upland boneset superficially resembles woodland sunflower (*Helianthus divaricatus*), but upland boneset leaves are more nearly ovate.

Turns out the plant was relatively frequent under high shade here and in the adjacent Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. It grows with basswood (*Tilia americana*), dwarf hackberry (*Celtis tenuifolia*), witch hazel (*Hamamelis virginiana*), sand fragrant sumac (*Rhus aromatica arenaria*), blue-stemmed goldenrod (*Solidago*



Common boneset (*Eupatorium perfoliatum*). Photo by Penny Stritch.

caesia), and white snakeroot (*E. rugosum*). Flowers of the two *Eupatoriums* are quite similar.

However, when the DNR's Tom Post asked me to "find him some" in another historically known site, Indiana Dunes State Park, no luck. Two years ago, I sighted upland boneset in oak savanna well south of the Lake on a long hike on which I got well and truly lost. But that's another story.

The "unbuildable" lot remains unbuilt; it's changed hands several time. Upland boneset appears to have a permanent home.

Notes

(1) If you find an alternate-leaved "boneset," it's false boneset (*Kuhnia eupatorioides cerymbulosa*), a yellowish-flowered plant that likes foredunes. (2) Trailing arbutus (*Epigaea repens*) appears to be improving in the Dunes. Some plants are forming capsules without hand pollination.

Some Books

Erichsen-Brown, Charlotte. *Medicinal and Other Uses of North American Plants*. Dover Publications, 1989 (1979).

Lyon, M.W., Jr. List of Flowering Plants and Ferns in the Dunes State Park and Vicinity, Porter County, Indiana. *American Midland Naturalist*. 1927. 10:245-295. One of the best tools for the Dunes plant hunter.

Binford Blvd. Volunteers

The Proposal

In February, the INPAWS Grants and Awards Committee awarded \$500 to Binford Redevelopment & Growth (BRAG), Inc., submitted by Jane M. Lommel. Their proposal: to purchase a mix of native Indiana perennials and grasses to cover 800 square feet in the public right of way at the northeast intersection of Binford Boulevard and Rucker Road in Marion County. They called their plan the "Binford Boulevard Native Prairie Habitat Project."

In addition to beautifying an urban area, these plantings at a prominent intersection were planned to give visibility to Indiana native plants and, by involving many volunteers, to inspire greater use of native plants in public and private landscaping projects.

The awards committee said it was pleased with this group's efforts to complement the native plantings already completed on 1.5 miles of Binford Boulevard and to provide the public with a native plant alternative to mowed grass in public right of ways!



Clearing and planting of this muddy public right of way involved numerous volunteers in giving visibility to Indiana native plants. Photos by Jane Lommel and Karen Hartlep.

The Implementation

On Saturday, April 28, work began at the Binford and Rucker site. Volunteers grubbed out honeysuckle, poison ivy, and other weeds, spread topsoil, and picked up trash. On hand were about twenty 10- to 12-year-old girls from

Wheeler Mission Ministry performing a Community Service project; students from Chatard High School; BRAG volunteers; Stan and Carolyn Charles, the owners of Stan's Sign Design, and some of their employees; and several INPAWS volunteers.

Three weeks later, on Sunday, May 20, an enthusiastic group of Stan's Signs employees and their families and friends joined INPAWS volunteers Dan and Sophia Anderson,

Janice Gustaferra, brand new member Steve Van Zant, and Karen Hartlep to install mulch and nearly 700 native herbaceous perennials funded by the INPAWS grant and another grant from Keep Indianapolis Beautiful Inc.

The plants were grown by Spence Restoration Nursery, Muncie, and selected for this wet site by Kevin Tungesvick of Spence after a site visit.



Earn BRAGging Rights



The Plants

Among the plant selections were:

Aster nova-angliae
New England aster

Carex vulpinoidea
Fox sedge

Heliopsis helianthoides
False sunflower

Iris virginica shrevei
Blue flag

Liatris spicata
Rough blazing star

Panicum virgatum
Switchgrass

Penstemon digitalis
Foxglove penstemon

Rudbeckia subtomentosa
Sweet black-eyed Susan

Vernonia fasciculata
Smooth ironweed

The Payoff

The grand finale was the installation of a beautiful sign bearing the logos of INPAWS, BRAG, Spence Restoration Nursery, and Stan's Sign Design.

The sign and this native planting at the northeast gateway to Indianapolis will be seen from more than 60,000 cars per day.

Visit www.binford71.org for more information about the projects of Binford Redevelopment & Growth.



Another Successful Plant Sale and Auction!

The INPAWS Plant Sale and Auction was a success again this year thanks to the generous donations of commercial nurseries and the efforts of many members who donated plants and volunteered their time and expertise. Thank you to all who helped in any way. You did a wonderful job!

Special thanks go to Mike Stelts, our auctioneer, and to Hilary Cox and Sue Nord Peiffer for their help in making the auction such a success. We also thank the Indiana School for the Blind for their assistance while allowing us the use of their campus. Everything came together to make this a profitable event for INPAWS and an educational and entertaining event for all who participated.

The number of plants donated by INPAWS members is truly amazing. Most are dug from their own gardens, but some members actually start plants from seed and then bring them to the sale. The willingness to share is one of the things that makes INPAWS such a remarkable organization.

We welcome any comments or suggestions for next year's sale and auction. Contact Tom Hohman at hohmantr@aol.com or Janice Gustaferro at jan_in@egix.net.

INPAWS gratefully acknowledges the following firms and individuals who made this event a success. We apologize if we have inadvertently left any names off this list.

COMMERCIAL NURSERIES

Allisonville Nursery, Inc.
Altum's Horticultural Center
Beineke's Nursery
JF New's Native Plant Nursery
C. M. Hobbs & Sons, Inc
Mark M. Holeman, Inc.
Munchkin Nursery & Gardens, LLC
Native Plants Unlimited
Spence Restoration Nursery
Winterhaven Wildflowers
Woody Warehouse, Inc.

INPAWS VOLUNTEERS

Sophia and Dan Anderson
Cheryl and Andy Andrews
Dawn and David Bauman
Julie Beihold
Myra Bottoms
Chris & Jim Brewster
Carolyn & Don Bryson
Linda Bullard
Shirley & Jon Cain
Lee Casebere
John Chlapik
Hilary Cox
Shannon, Ron, & Eli Cox
John Daily

Liz Day
Lynn Dennis
Deb Ellman
Wendy Ford
John Garner
Karen Gotshall
Barbara Hamilton
Marion Harcourt
Virginia & Tom Harmon
Karen Hartlep
Nancy Hill
Carolyn Holder
Mary & Thomas Holland
Ruth Ann Ingraham
Ron Jackson
Cheryl Jensen
Mildred & Rolland Kontak
Kim Krull
Jhani Laupus
Judith Lieberman
Chuck McCoy
Bill McKnight (Indiana Academy of Science)
Jo Ellen Meyers Sharp
Donovan Miller
Martin Miller
Marcia Moore

Mudge Morris
Dottie & John Mullennax
Sue Nord Peiffer
Mark Outcalt
Susan Pratt
Betty Randall
Sally Routh
Dee Ann & Rich Peine
David Peterson
Rita & Ray Rust
Jane & David Savage
Deb & Jim Snyder
Rosie & Carolyn Springer
Marilyn & Charles Spurgeon
Dawn & Mike Stelts
Doris & Bob Thomas
John Watson
Heather Wickens
Betsy & George Wilson
Reni Winter
Phyllis Zimmerman
Susan Zellers

Auctioneer Mike Stelts, assisted by Hilary Cox and Sue Nord Peiffer. Photo by Marilyn Spurgeon.



IN MEMORIAM

Letha Bolles Queisser



Letha Queisser was known as Indiana's Wildflower Lady. After she died this past winter, many friends chose to honor her by giving memorial gifts to the Indiana Native Plant and Wildflower Society.

Letha and I were members of the Trailing Arbutus Garden Club. Letha, who earned a degree in botany from Indiana University, led dozens of friends and family members on wildflower hikes.

I well remember such a hike in Marrott Park, a hilly old growth forest just north of Broad Ripple in Indianapolis. She described, for the first time for me, the difference between Dutchmen's breeches and

squirrel corn. Later, as our city expanded and put pressure on green spaces in central Indiana, Letha gathered as many gardeners as she could find and led us into forests threatened by development.

With shovels, trowels, and plastic bags, we trudged into one precious woodland after another to try and preserve fragments of our treasured heritage of spring ephemerals. The lush wildflower garden that thrives in the dense shade of my beech trees began with plants rescued from what we called Tutweiler Woods at 96th and Meridian.

Each spring, in April, I received a call from Letha asking that I please let her know when my lilies-of-the-valley were in bloom. She wanted to pick some from my overly large patch to give to her beloved friends and family. This past winter she asked that I think of her when the lilies-of-the-valley bloomed again. I did, with deep sadness, but also with gratitude for the woman who first opened my eyes to the beauty of our native woodland plants.

Ruth Ann Ingraham



Epipactis atrorubens L.

Donations to INPAWS in Memory of Letha Queisser

Dale & Sue Barrett
Susan & Bill Bastian
Dick & Sally Beck
Jill & Chris Burns
Pat & Mike Cracraft
Pam Deitz
Karen & Bob Dietrick
W.F. Fechtman, M.D. & M.R.
Fechtman
Dan & Carol Fisher
Jack & Marnie Gossett
Mary Lou Hadley
Tom & Gretchen Hall
Kristen Hammersly
Paul & Annabelle Hart
Kim Hatchett
Roberta M. Horan
Ruth Ann Ingraham
Betsy Joyce
Kathy Kent
Wayne & Carol Kornas
Dick & Janet Lacy
Dr. & Mrs. David T. Lee &
Family
Carla Levy
Carolyn Liebel
William C. Linn
Lisa & Mike Lubbers
Tom & Sally Lugar
Sandra McCoy
Mr. & Mrs. Fred Melcher
Metty Riggs Meyer
Don Monteith
Victor & Kris Nanagas &
Family
Nantucket Bay Homeowners
Association, Inc.
Elizabeth Nicholson
Jane & Alan Nolan
John & Nancy Peterson
Karen & David Rardon
Dotty & Ron Reehling
Anne Rudy
Diane T. Sanderson
Priscilla Savage
Evan & Suzy Steger
Doris & Thomas Stump
Jane Sweet
Mr. & Mrs. Lou Thieken
Judy & Mo Thomas
Mary Tirmenstein
Alison Warstler
Russ & Peggy Wurster
John & Barbara Wynne

A Rare Find in Indiana

Sourwood *Oxydendrum arboreum* (L.) DC.

When the heath family (Ericaceae) is mentioned, we usually think of such broad-leaved evergreen or semi-evergreen shrubs as the beautifully flowering rhododendron, mountain laurel, or azalea, or such fruiting shrubs as blueberry, cranberry, huckleberry, or bearberry. Largely evergreen ground-layer herbs as pyrola or pipsissewa may also come to mind. In North America, Ericaceous tree species are few. Eastern U.S. has a single species, sourwood, not counting the occasional mountain laurel or rhododendron that reaches tree size. Three lovely madrone species are heath family trees in Western U.S., primarily in Texas, Arizona, and California.

Sourwood, also called sorrel tree, is a handsome native hardwood tree species that is rather widespread in Eastern U.S., ranging from Pennsylvania westward to southern Indiana and Illinois, thence south across western Kentucky and Tennessee to Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and the panhandle of Florida. Sourwood reaches its best development in the Great Smoky Mountains, southern Appalachians, and the Cumberland Plateau of eastern Kentucky and Tennessee, ascending to about 3,500 feet in the mountains. In natural communities, it just reaches into Indiana in the



Photos courtesy of University of Rhode Island Cooperative Extension (habit) and Greenwood Nursery (detail).

two Ohio River border counties of Perry and Harrison. My good friend and outstanding Hoosier field botanist, Mike Homoya, informs me that the IDNR Division of Nature Preserves has record of only 12 present-day occurrences in Indiana, all but one in Perry County. Most populations are small, in the range

of 10-50 individual trees. The largest stand (in Harrison County) has approximately 100-150 trees located on a sandstone cliff overlooking the Ohio River.

The species is typically found on dry-mesic to dry upland slopes and ridges, often on soils derived from sandstone, and often associated with oaks, hickories, gums, and occasionally American beech or hemlock. Rarely, if ever, a large member of the forest canopy—it is usually less than 60 feet tall and 20 inches dbh—sourwood is still a distinctive, lovely tree in all seasons.

In winter, its drooping, somewhat contorted branches and the gray bark tinged with red in the deep longitudinal



furrows are somewhat reminiscent of sassafras, but the paniculate fruiting clusters that are often retained well into winter definitely say sourwood to the careful observer.

In spring the wondrously fresh-looking long (5-7 inch) strap-like glossy yellow-green leaves that are entire (or nearly so) separate the tree from all others. Other leaf characteristics, incidentally, are the basis for the tree's common name, sourwood. The leaves are acidulous, hence cooling and refreshing to the mouth and tongue, and are sometimes chewed by hikers to quench their thirst during hot, humid treks. Teas from sourwood leaves, containing their natural coolant, were once used in mountain medicine to lower fevers in children.

In summer, sourwood trees are resplendent in blossoms. June or July is the time when the branch tips of the entire tree crown are covered with sprays of tiny lily-of-the-valley-like, urn-shaped glossy white flowers. Their collective fragrance attracts multitudes of honey bees, whose combined hum announces the presence of sourwood long before you see the tree. Sourwood is one of the most prized of all wild honeys, quite the contrast to mountain laurel and rhododendron honeys, which are toxic.

A couple of years ago while visiting the Cades Cove Visitor Center in the Great Smokies, I found a pint jar of sourwood honey in the comb, and savored it for weeks by careful rationing.

Autumn is when sourwood trees reach their greatest glory. In the long-slanted October sunlight, the long leaves turn the most vivid of scarlets (see page 211 in *101 Trees of Indiana*). It is then

that sourwood crowns fairly shout with color in preparation for the fall dance of gusty November.

The wood is quite hard and heavy (at 46+ pounds /cubic foot), comparable to several of the oaks and hickories, but it is little used because of the species' generally small size and the fact that it often occurs in small populations at a given site. It is used locally in turnery, for tool handles, and the red-brown, fine-grained wood makes a pretty paneling. In years past, it was the preferred wood for wooden machinery bearings, such as the "boxings" in which horse-drawn disk-harrows rotated, lubricated with axle grease.

Mountain farmers also once used slender sourwood trunks as runners for their farm sleds, the natural crooks in the tree forming the up-turned ends of the sled runners.

But the real promise for sourwood's future is its use as an ornamental tree. Its generally small size makes it suitable for most lawns or landscaping sites, and it is hardy at least as far north as Indianapolis, especially if given some shelter from cold north or westerly winds.

I know of one tree in Terre Haute that is about 8 or 10 inches in diameter, and some 20-25 feet tall. I drive by the site a few times each year just to admire this lovely tree.

The Farmers' Market Book

Growing Food, Cultivating Community



Jennifer Meta Robinson and J. A. Hartenfeld
Photographs by Dan Schlapbach and Jennifer Roebuck

**Jennifer Meta Robinson
and J. A. Hartenfeld**

**Photographs and Illustrations by
Dan Schlapbach and Jennifer Roebuck**

Farmers' markets provide a rewarding intersection of rural and urban lives, sustaining and healing both our communities and our relationship to the land. By examining this national phenomenon through the story of the market in Bloomington, Indiana, Robinson and Hartenfeld consider the social, ecological, and economic power of farmers' markets generally.

paper \$19.95

QUARRY BOOKS

An Imprint of Indiana University Press

800-842-6796 • iupress.indiana.edu

Flora of North America Reaches Halfway Mark

More than 900 botanists working as part of the *Flora of North America* (FNA) project have now cataloged over half the genera of higher plants native or naturalized in North America north of Mexico. They hope to finish by 2011.

This is the first comprehensive, scientifically authoritative publication treating the 20,000+ species of plants in the U.S. and Canada together.

Thirteen volumes have been published (including an introductory volume), one is being printed, and publication of two more is expected this year, out of a total of 30.

The second volume of grasses (Poaceae, Volume 24) came out in early 2007, completing the monocotyledonous plants. The first of three volumes on mosses, liverworts, and hornworts is in press.

Especially exciting was the publication of all three volumes on the sunflower family (Asteraceae, Vols. 19, 20, 21) in 2006. The treatments include identification keys, nomenclatural information, common names, descriptions, distributions (including maps), and discussions. Every genus and one-third to one-sixth of the species are illustrated.

FNA makes many lifetimes of study, and presents the best knowledge about regional floras available in print and electronically.

Editorial centers are located at Missouri Botanical Garden (INPAWS' own Kay Yatskievych is working on it there), the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, Université de Montréal, and University of Kansas. Authors base their work on knowledge of plants in the field, herbarium specimens, and review of the literature. The project also has a network of regional

reviewers. Authors and editors work as volunteers; grants and donations support technical editors and botanical illustrators.

The books are published by Oxford University Press—U.S. and currently are on sale at the discounted price of \$76 per volume (available at www.oup.com/us/fnaseries with promo code 25316). More information on *Flora of North America* and treatments from published volumes are available at www.fna.org.

Your Opportunity to Serve?

The following positions are currently open. Is it time for you to step up in service of INPAWS?

- ▶ Council Treasurer
- ▶ Speakers Bureau Chair

Also, a Nomination Committee has been formed to present a slate of officers for election at the November 3 Annual Conference.

Please indicate your interest or submit suggestions to membership@inpaws.org.

Ohio Calling

Ohio Prairie Association invites anyone from Indiana to attend their annual state prairie conference. The conference is July 27-28 in Hiram, Ohio, which is in Portage County in northeastern Ohio. For more information, visit www.ohioprairie.org.

“Preserving Nature” Art Sale

Fifteen of Indiana’s finest landscape artists have produced paintings from the nature preserves of the Central Indiana Land Trust. These paintings, which have been displayed at public venues in Central Indiana as part of the Preserving Nature Art Show, will be sold to the public at Wickliffe & Associates, 12232 Hancock Street, Carmel.

Friday, July 27 Exclusive Sale
6:00 to 9:00 p.m. Tickets \$35.

Saturday, July 28 Open Sale 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Free admission, no reservations needed.

For more information, visit www.cilti.org or call 317-631-5263.

Seeking Readers

To enable good use of our organization’s historical records, Ruth Ann Ingraham, INPAWS Historian, seeks volunteers who will adopt and read a year or more of our organization’s official documents that begin in 1993. The goal is to create a year-by-year synopsis of decisions, events, income/expenses, membership, etc., with reference to dated materials. If this interests you, contact Ruth Ann at rai38@sbcglobal.net or 317-253-3863.



Thanks to All Our INPAWS Booth Volunteers

Dan and Sophia Anderson would like to thank all who helped out with the INPAWS booth at the Flower and Patio Show, Earth Day, and Orchard in Bloom. It is through events like these that INPAWS is becoming better known throughout our area.

Each year, it seems, more people develop an interest in native plants and invasives. Through our outreach efforts, we hope to add to our membership. If you are interested in free admission to some interesting events, and a chance to share your thoughts about native plants with others, please contact Dan Anderson at danjand1@sbcglobal.net.

Raising Awareness of Invasive Species

"It's a tortuously slow process to move people forward on the issue of invasive species in Indiana," said Invasives Committee chair Ellen Jacquart in e-mails circulating among INPAWS members after Governor Mitch Daniels proclaimed June 2007 Invasive Species Awareness Month. "No one seems to know what they are or why they pose a problem."

Though some attributed political motives to Gov. Daniels' newfound interest in invasives, Jacquart said his willingness to recognize state efforts to curb invasives was a step in the right direction.

The real impact, she said, would come from a series of events conducted around the state in June to inform people about the problem. Also, the legislature resolved to appoint a task force to recommend what Indiana needs to do to address invasive species. "That, plus the public becoming better informed and thus supportive

of initiatives to abate invasive species problems, has the potential to make a real difference," said Jacquart.

We thank INPAWS member Lynn Dennis of The Nature Conservancy for her role in prompting the Governor's proclamation. For more information, visit www.nature.org/wherewework/northamerica/states/indiana.

To download a four-color flyer on the major invasives to watch for in your area, visit the Midwest Invasive Plant Network website at www.mipn.org/detectionresponse.html.

2007 INPAWS Annual Conference

Our fourteenth annual conference will be held Saturday, November 3, at the Athenaeum in downtown Indianapolis. The conference will feature keynote speakers Dr. Loren Rieseberg, a MacArthur fellow and sunflower specialist from Indiana University and Tracy DiSabato-Aust, author of *The Well-Tended Perennial Garden* and *The Well-Designed Mixed Garden*.

After an inspiring day of speakers, book signings, and discussion, attendees will be able to choose from two late-afternoon field trips. Dave Benson will lead a walk through the 55-acre wetland and lowland forest at Marian College EcoLab, while Robert Barr will show us ARBOR, a restored riparian corridor along the nearby White River.

To maintain the low registration fees at this increasingly costly event, we will be seeking raffle and silent auction donations throughout the next few months. Please consider donating items in excellent condition, including plants, books, and art. We will solicit gift certificates and other items from area organizations.

Volunteers are needed to help with program design, materials production, and publicity, as well as to successfully present this event in November. Please contact co-chairs Dawn Stelts at dawn@stelts.com or Kathleen Hartman at khartman@greenleaf-fg.com.

Save the Date

November 3, INPAWS Annual Conference, Indianapolis

See also INPAWS Hikes on page 5

Deadline for Fall Issue of INPAWS Journal: August 23

Four Grants Awarded

The INPAWS Small Grants & Awards Committee reviewed six proposals submitted by the February 1, 2007, deadline and made four awards totaling \$1,500. Three are described here. The fourth is featured in an article on page 8. Watch for proposal guidelines in the fall issue of *INPAWS Journal* or visit www.inpaws.org.

Research on Prairie Soil in Restoration Efforts

Proposal by Elizabeth Middleton, PhD candidate at Indiana University, Bloomington. Awarded \$315 to purchase one pound of *Baptisia leucantha* (white wild indigo) seed for her research project, *From row crop to prairie: Using the prairie soil community to enhance prairie restoration efforts*, which will take place at the Kankakee Sands Restoration in Newton County, Indiana, and run from May 2007 to August 2009.

The findings may prove significant not only for prairie restoration efforts, but also for the successful establishment of native prairie plantings in residential and other settings.

Comments: The committee is pleased to lend INPAWS support to studies related to conserving Indiana's native prairie plant diversity.

Naturalization at Karst Farm Park

Proposal by Cathy Meyer, Naturalist, Monroe County Parks and Recreation Department. Awarded \$500 to purchase prairie seed mix for 1-1/4 acres to replace mowed areas with native plantings in a public park. In so doing, the project will provide habitat, educational opportunities, and beauty.

Comments: The committee applauds this effort to create natural areas among the many recreational areas in the park. These natural areas will give park visitors a chance to appreciate and become aware of the benefits of landscaping with native plants and will provide a place for park programs on butterflies, bird study, and plant identification—adding to the public's knowledge about the value of native plants not only to people but also to local wildlife.

Native Plants in the Butterfly Garden

Proposal by Nancy Mattson, Friends of Turkey Run and Shades State Parks. Awarded \$185 to pay for permanent, reusable laminated plant identification sheets describing the plants in the butterfly garden at Turkey Run State Park Nature Center in Parke County, Indiana.

The Friends group will restore and enhance the Nature Center's native plant butterfly garden, then use it to teach visitors about the native plants in the garden. The laminated sheets will supplement tours and programs and will also be available to the park's many visitors to the butterfly garden.

Comments: The committee supports the group's restoration effort and their educational goal: to teach people about native plants and undo the perception that native plants are weedy.



INDIANA NATIVE PLANT
and Wildflower Society

P.O. Box 30317
Indianapolis, IN 46230-0317

Address Service Requested

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Indianapolis, IN
Permit No. 229