



## Friends of the Limberlost

P.O. Box 571, Geneva, IN 46740

[www.Limberlost.weebly.com](http://www.Limberlost.weebly.com)

Facebook: *Friends of the Limberlost*

Phone: 260-849-0308

email: [randyplehman@comcast.net](mailto:randyplehman@comcast.net)



Friends of the Limberlost is conducting a fundraising raffle. You have a chance to win one of four very nice nature based prizes. Tickets are \$1 each. See page 8 of this newsletter for pictures and prize details.



You can purchase raffle tickets at the Limberlost Gift Shop, or send a self-addressed envelope to the FOL address shown above and include the dollar amount of the tickets you are purchasing, and tickets will be mailed to you. Deadline is December 14. See page 8 for more details.

### Things to do during the Fall at Limberlost.....

#### Devil in the White City

**Friday, October 27, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.**

*This event is Recommended for ages 14+*

Price: \$5/adult, \$4/senior, \$3/youth (ages 3-17), 25% discount for ISM members.

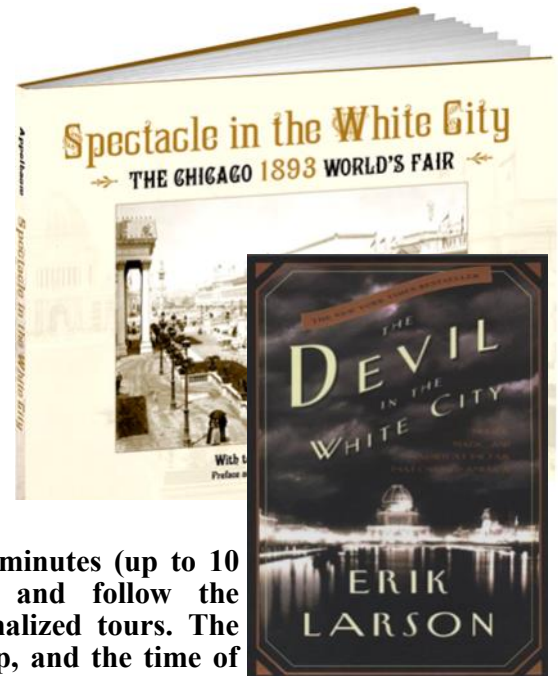
Site manager, Shaun Payne, will tell us how the 1893 Chicago World's Fair connects to Gene Stratton-Porter. We'll dive into the story of the "White City" of the Fair, its grand architecture and promise of a better tomorrow, juxtaposed against the grit and grime of Chicago, culminating with "America's first serial killer" H.H. Holmes and his Murder Castle. Join us in person or virtually for this event to find out where Gene fits into this story.



**Rent-a-Naturalist:** Cost: \$40 for 90 minutes (up to 10 people). You drive your own vehicle and follow the Limberlost naturalist. These are personalized tours. The interests and physical abilities of the group, and the time of year determine areas visited and the details of each tour.

One of the locations has a handicap accessible trail. A choice of five different Limberlost nature preserves is available. The itinerary can be customized according to your interests. For more information or to make a reservation email Curt Burnette, Naturalist/Certified Interpretive Guide.

Call 260-368-7428, or email [cburnette@indianamuseum.org](mailto:cburnette@indianamuseum.org). Plan your Limberlost adventure today.





## LIMBERLOST STATE HISTORIC SITE IS OFFERING 3 GUIDED HIKES OF LIMBERLOST PROPERTIES IN OCTOBER

It is not required, but you can register in advance for these 3 hikes by going to [www.indianamuseum.org](http://www.indianamuseum.org)

Explore three of the Limberlost nature preserves that are being restored by the Indiana Division of Nature Preserves. All of them are part of the original Limberlost Swamp that Gene Stratton-Porter photographed and wrote about in her novels and nature studies.

Your hike will be guided by Limberlost State Historic Site naturalist, Curt Burnette. He will do his best to make history come alive by reading passages from GSP's books, and by telling you how the land compares to the days when GSP walked the same properties and what's being done to bring back the Limberlost.

All the hikes begin at 9 AM with orientation at Limberlost State Historic Site in Geneva. Participants will caravan as a group to the properties listed below. All hikes end at approximately Noon. Price: \$5/adult (ages 18+), \$4/youth (ages 3-17), free for children ages 2 and younger, 25% discount for members of the Indiana State Museum.

### Guided Tour of Rainbow Bottom: October 7

Hike through Rainbow Bend Park and Rainbow Bottom to learn about the history and ecology of the area. See how Gene Stratton-Porter used it as a setting for two of her novels, plus observe local wildlife and see the giant sycamore trees. This area was featured in the March 2020 issue of *Smithsonian* magazine. You'll have the opportunity to be photographed on the sycamores, just as Curt was featured in the magazine. Meet at the Limberlost State Historic Site and caravan from there approximately 2.4 miles. This hike is subject to cancellation in the event of adverse weather conditions.



**I CAN'T WALK THAT FAR!** *If your walking ability is limited, then you won't be able to see the giant sycamores at Rainbow Bottom. Perhaps Friends of the Limberlost can help with that!* A "golf cart assisted hike" to see the giant sycamore trees will take place on Saturday, October 14. Registration in advance is required, and seating availability is limited. If you have mobility issues, and you want to see the sycamores, take advantage of this offer. To register call Randy Lehman: 260-849-0308, or email: [randylehman@comcast.net](mailto:randylehman@comcast.net). You cannot register online for this "assisted hike" using the Indiana State Museum website. See page 4 in this newsletter for more details about this special offer.



### Guided Tour of Music of the Wild & the Bird Sanctuary: October 21

You'll hear about the plants and animals living in these preserves and the ecology of the area. Mrs. Porter wrote a book about *Music of the Wild*, which features over a hundred of her photographs. Learn about the history of this property. Participants will meet at the Limberlost State Historic Site and caravan approximately 1.7 miles. This hike is subject to cancellation in the event of adverse weather conditions.

### Guided Tour of the Limberlost Swamp Nature Preserve: October 28

Join a Limberlost naturalist for a hike along the Deacon's Trail in the Limberlost Swamp Nature Preserve. Discover the native flora and fauna of the largest Limberlost Conservation Area Nature Preserves. This 847 acre restored wetland was featured by Gene Stratton-Porter in her novel, *Freckles*, and also in her nature book, *Moths of the Limberlost*. You'll learn about the destruction of the swamp and its restoration. Just like all the other hikes, this Limberlost Swamp Nature Preserve hike is subject to cancellation in the event of adverse weather conditions.

\*Depending on the weather, all of these preserves could be wet in places, so please dress appropriately and bring hiking shoes and apparel made for hiking wet areas or in case it starts to rain during the hike.



## **A REPORT ON THE SEPT. 23 FRIENDS OF THE LIMBERLOST ANNUAL MEETING**

22 people attended the Annual Meeting. Those in attendance included members of the Friends of the Limberlost, Indiana State Museum Staff, and DNR Nature Preserves was also represented by Regional Ecologist, Ryan Smith (pictured below). Everyone enjoyed a dinner put together by Terri Gorney Lehman, which included a sandwich, salad, chips, dessert, and more.

We all enjoyed a program about bats presented by Ft. Wayne bat rehabilitator, Bob Walton. Bob is the person in the middle of the picture shown above. Bob is very involved with Ft. Wayne's Soarin' Hawk Raptor Rehab—he is currently their treasurer, a raptor educator & presenter, and he assists with rescues of injured birds. In addition, Bob has traveled the world looking for birds to add to his life list. Next to Bob, on the left, is Curt Burnette, Limberlost Naturalist, and on the right, is me, Randy Lehman. I wear many hats in the Friends organization.



At the annual meeting, DNR Nature Preserves East Central Regional Ecologist, Ryan Smith (pictured on the left), talked about the Limberlost wetland projects. The Friends have built a good partnership with DNR Nature Preserves, and we are pleased with Ryan's management of the Limberlost properties. He is very good at keeping the Friends updated, and he welcomes the opportunity to work with the Limberlost Swamp Remembered Committee. We are all looking forward to working with Ryan in the future.

The Indiana State Museum was represented by Shaun Payne (Limberlost Site Manager, pictured to the right) and Tiffany Parker—she is Northern Regional Manager for the Indiana State Museum. Always a pleasure to have Shaun and Tiffany in attendance.

The business meeting moved quickly. Minutes were approved from the previous annual meeting, which took place October 22, 2022. The Treasurer Report, presented by me was approved. Jay County resident, Greg McCallister was elected to the FOL Board of Directors for the first time by the members assembled. Bill Hubbard and Ladonna Habegger were re-elected to the board of directors.



It was great to see Ken Brunswick in attendance at this annual meeting. For those who don't know, Ken was the very first Regional Ecologist for Limberlost and the East Central Region. It was a position created for him by DNR-Nature Preserves in 2003.

The following information I found primarily in Ken's autobiography, The Limberlost "Born Again". I refer you to page 288 in his book. I didn't come on the Limberlost scene until 1999, when I took the position of Limberlost Site Manager in July of that year. Any mistakes in the following recollections are my fault.

Beginning around 1993, Ken began fundraising to purchase and restore portions of the Limberlost. He worked for years applying for grants, primarily but not exclusively relying on the Wetland Reserve Program. With help from Limberlost Swamp Remembered, the first Limberlost property was acquired in 1996 in the Loblolly Marsh. In 1998 the first property was acquired in the Limberlost Swamp area. In 2001 Ken was hired as the Assistant Site Manager at Limberlost State Historic Site. Before 2001 and after, Ken continued working on ways to acquire more properties and to manage those acquired properties.

The Indiana State Museum (ISM), part of DNR at the time, was the state agency managing all state historic sites. ISM management was very supportive of Ken and what he was doing—bringing back portions of Gene Stratton-Porter's Limberlost Swamp. However, ISM had limited financial resources and lacked land management expertise, so it made sense to Ken and the museum's upper management, to turn over all the Limberlost wetlands to DNR's Division of Nature Preserves in 2003, and that was when Ken started working as the first Regional Ecologist for Limberlost and the East Central Region.



**THE “I CAN’T WALK THAT FAR” TOUR OF RAINBOW BOTTOM—for people with mobility issues.**

**See the GIANT SYCAMORES as a passenger on a golf cart!**

**Begins at 1 PM, Saturday, October 14, at the CEYLON COVERED BRIDGE**

**To Participate YOU MUST BE REGISTERED before October 14**

Friends of the Limberlost Board Member, Randy Lehman, is also Adams County’s representative on the Wabash River Heritage Corridor Commission (WRHCC). Using funds provided by the WRHCC, Randy is organizing an event that anyone with mobility issues may appreciate—a golfcart tour of Rainbow Bend & Rainbow Bottom, known as the location of two giant sycamore trees that were featured in a Smithsonian Magazine article in 2020.

**HOW TO REGISTER FOR THIS GOLF CART TOUR**

**CALL RANDY LEHMAN—260-849-0308**

**OR EMAIL: [randylehman@comcast.net](mailto:randylehman@comcast.net)**

**SORRY, there is no way to register online for this event**



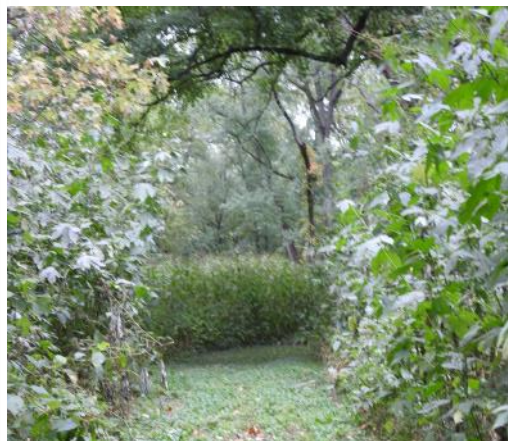
The number of people allowed to register for this “hike” depends on the number of golf carts and volunteer drivers Randy is able to round-up for this special event. At the time this newsletter went to the printers, Randy had 6 drivers and six golf carts. This will allow at least 16 people, who cannot walk long distance, an opportunity to see this nature preserve and a way to see the trees, *If you know someone, who has a golf cart or an ATV and who would be willing to donate their services, please have them contact Randy Lehman ASAP.* The maximum number of golf carts allowed is 10. Please help Randy find more golf carts & drivers.

On October 14, all participants will be responsible for providing their own transportation to the Ceylon Covered Bridge parking lot. Need directions to the covered bridge, call Randy. If you arrive at the Covered Bridge between 12:30 and 1 PM, that will give us plenty of time to get you on board one of the golfcarts.



Traveling along with us on this day will be Limberlost Naturalist, Curt Burnette, who will have the carts stop along the route so he can share what he knows about the plants and animals that we will be seeing.

The entire round trip to the sycamore trees and back to the Ceylon Covered Bridge parking lot is expected to take about an hour and a half. After returning to the parking lot and your own vehicles, everyone, is welcome to drive to the Limberlost Visitor Center in Geneva for a restroom break and a FREE “Show & Tell” wildlife program presented by Curt Burnette in the Center’s education room. Light refreshments will be provided. The program at Limberlost State Historic Site is expected to start around 3 pm, and last half an hour.



DNR-Nature Preserves do not allow golf carts to be on the properties they manage. We have been given special permission for this one day adventure. For some of you, this will be a once in a lifetime opportunity to see the famous Giant Sycamores of Rainbow Bottom, while you enjoy a leisurely ride in a golf cart. **CALL Randy to register.**



**We will meet at the newly repainted Ceylon Covered Bridge on Oct.14**



## Butterflies, Skippers and Moths, Part 1, by Willy DeSmet

When you ask people “what’s the difference between butterflies and moths?,” many people will say “that’s easy: butterflies are colorful and pretty, fly during the day, visit flowers; moths are drab, fly at night and eat clothes...” But that is not entirely correct...

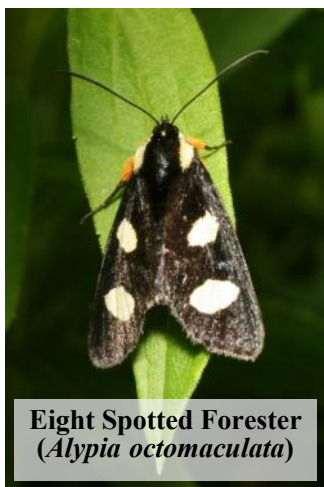
### FLYTIME

Most butterflies in our country fly during the daytime; though some are crepuscular, that is to say they prefer dawn and dusk. Most moths fly at night, but there are quite a few exceptions like the Hummingbird moth and other Clearwings, the Grape Leaf Folder, Eight Spotted Forester, Leconte’s Haploa, Black and Yellow Lichen moth, and so on.

### COLOR



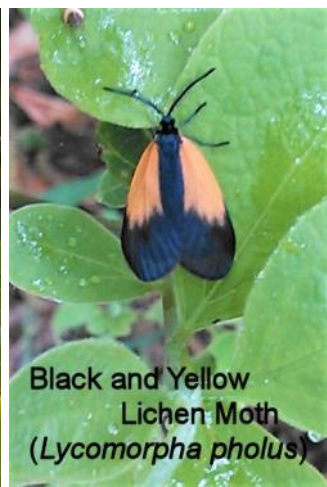
Hummingbird  
Clearwing



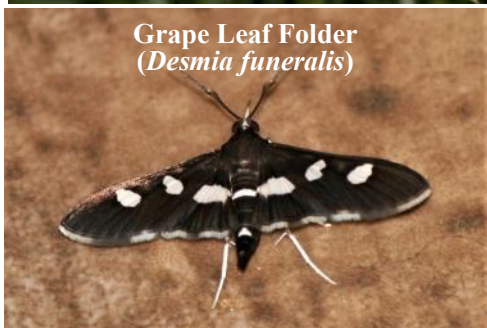
Eight Spotted Forester  
(*Alypia octomaculata*)



Leconte's Haploa  
(*Haploa lecontei*)



Black and Yellow  
Lichen Moth  
(*Lycomorpha pholus*)



Grape Leaf Folder  
(*Desmia funeralis*)

Most butterflies are colorful, but I don't find the Cabbage White particularly colorful or pretty, for instance. I think that the Snowy Urola, a white moth, is much prettier with a satin white with a gold trim. Most

moths are indeed “drab” (there is a good reason for that,) but there are a bunch of colorful and stunning moths, that beat many butterflies in my opinion. As GSP fans you are probably familiar with some of the Giant Silk moths that she studied, like the Luna Moth and Cecropia. Not drab at all.

Many moths have drab coloring or cryptic patterns to blend in with the background leaves or bark or lichen when they are immobile during the day, like the Lunate Zale or Colorful Zale, Maple Spanworm, or Green Marvel. (Continued on the next page)



Snowy Urola  
(*Urola nivalis*)



Lunate Zale (*Zale lunata*)



Colorful Zale (*Zale minerea*)



Maple Spanworm  
(*Ennomos magnaria*)



Green Marvel  
(*Agriopodes fallax*)



Some moths, like the Underwings, have a neat trick to escape when a predator (e.g. a bird) gets too close. They normally hold the camouflaged forewing over the hindwing at rest. When disturbed, they flash the forewing forward, exposing the hindwing with bright coloring like this Little Underwing, or Magdalen Underwing; or with an eye-pattern, like the IO moth. This may startle the predator, giving the moth a chance to get away and get back into camouflage mode in a different spot.

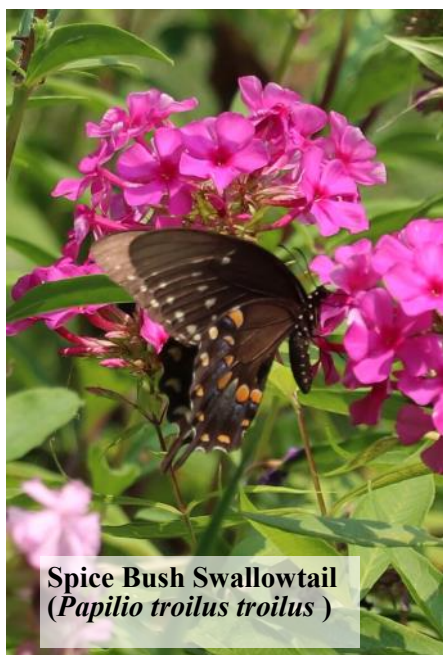


## FOOD

Out of over 2000 species of moth that have been identified in Indiana, only the caterpillars of a couple of species (the Webbing Clothes Moth, *Tineola bisselliella*, and the Casemaking Clothes Moth, *Tinea pellionella*,) eat wool. They are really small, but they can ruin your clothes.

## LIFE CYCLE

Butterflies and moths have similar life stages: egg, caterpillar, cocoon/chrysalis, winged adult. Moths make a cocoon (soft, silky) while butterflies make a chrysalis (hard shell.)



Caterpillars are eating machines. Some will eat many different plants, but some are picky. For instance: the caterpillar of the Zebra Swallowtail butterfly will only eat Paw Paw, Spice Bush Swallowtail will eat Spice Bush or Sassafras. The only one that won't eat his vegetables, but only eats meat is the Harvester Butterfly (*Feniseca tarquinius*) caterpillar.

Adult butterflies eat nectar from flowers, some moths do too (especially the day-flying moths.) Some adult moths, however, don't eat at all; some even miss the mouth parts to eat, like the Luna Moth. They are just trying to mate, procreate, and then they die.

In his field guide "Butterflies of Indiana" Jeffrey Belth lists 149 species of butterflies (including True Butterflies and Skippers) in Indiana. More about True Butterflies and Skippers in Part 2. Don't expect to see all 149 species in your yard. Some haven't been seen in Indiana for years, some occur in only one or two spots in the state, some require very specific habitats like fens. Great field guide, BTW.



On the other hand, the Moth Photographers website lists 2,372 species of moths that have been identified and photographed in Indiana. That is a low number; I have photographed and fairly confidently identified several other species, that are listed for neighboring states but not for Indiana.

In the next newsletter, the Winter 2023-2024 issue, we'll find out how you can tell moths from butterflies, and who those "skippers" are.

Willy De Smet is the President of the Friends of the Limberlost. He and his wife, Phyllis, live on 4 acres of land in rural Jay County. All pictures by the author except the Spicebush Swallowtail: picture by Bill Hubbard. (Any mis-identifications by author.)

# Four-spotted Skimmer Makes a Surprise Appearance and Sets a New Record

By Terri Gorney Lehman

On June 17<sup>th</sup>, my husband, Randy, and I went to visit with our Amish friends, the Hiltys, who own a farm on the east side of Geneva. John and Cindy's son, 10 yr. old Daniel, was excited to show me something. It was a dragonfly.

I was able to take three photos of the dragonfly. It seemed stunned but was fine and eventually flew off. It was a dragonfly that I had not seen before. I was able to ID it as a four-spotted skimmer. A couple days later, I shared the sighting with Mark Weldon, retired curator for the Fort Wayne



Children's Zoo. Mark is a dragonfly expert. He did confirm my identification.

Mark told me that this species of dragonfly has not been recorded in the state since the 1990s. He and his brother Matt have tried for twelve years to find a four-spotted skimmer at Pigeon River.

According to Mark, northern Indiana is supposed to be its southern limit; although, there are some records in central Indiana prior to 1917. For instance, E. B. Williamson had sightings of them in Wells County but that was also in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. However, there was no record of them in Adams County. So, this sighting is a new county record now held by Daniel Hilty, and it's also a state record—the first time the four spotted skimmer has been seen in almost 30 years in Indiana.

This species of dragonfly breeds in shallow wetlands. The Hiltys have a pond on their property and they are only about one-quarter mile from Rainbow Bend Preserve, owned by the Friends of the Limberlost. Mark shared that this particular species is a wanderer and can fly as far as two miles.

James R. Curry states on pg. 243 of his book *Dragonflies of Indiana*, that June into early July is their peak time; but they can be seen April through September. They are 1 ½ " to 2" in length. Males and females look alike. Males aggressively defend their territory. They are a beneficial insect as they feed mostly on mosquitoes and gnats.

In the June 30<sup>th</sup> issue of the *Decatur Daily Democrat*, Justin Ayres wrote a nice article about this discovery in Adams County. It's great to get this kind of recognition for Adams County. I also think this discovery says something important about Daniel, the 10-yr. old Amish boy, who knew this particular dragonfly was special and wanted to be sure we saw it, too.

Mark asked my permission to submit this record to the state to the DNR Heritage Data Center and the Odonata Central. He ended our conversation by saying "in my humble opinion this is a really great find."

A couple of years earlier, around September 1, 2021, Mark located a blue-faced meadowhawk at the Limberlost Bird Sanctuary in Jay County. That species of dragonfly was also seen in 2022 in the same location. The blue-faced meadowhawk dragonfly had not been recorded in Jay County before. It makes you wonder what other surprises does Limberlost hold?



**IT'S OUR "NATURE INSPIRED" RAFFLE  
TO RAISE FUNDS FOR FRIENDS OF THE LIMBERLOST  
PURCHASE YOUR RAFFLE TICKETS TODAY  
TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED AT THE LIBERLOST GIFT SHOP for \$1.00 ea.  
YOU COULD WIN ONE OF FOUR PRIZES SHOWN BELOW:**



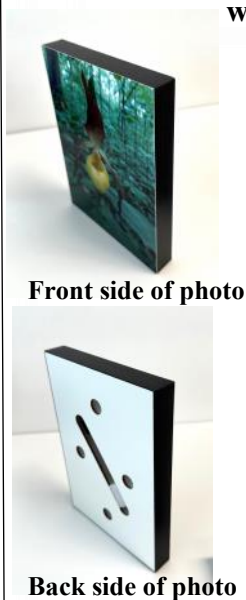
**Great-Blue Heron Gourd Art displayed on a colorfully decorated piece of driftwood.  
Artist: Sandy Uhlrick**



**Handmade pottery pieces. Earth-tone colors.  
Artists: Willy DeSmet and Melissa Fey**

**Limberlost Visitor Center is open:  
Wednesday through Sunday: 10:00 am to 5:00 pm  
Closed Mondays and Tuesday**

**3-piece set of Limberlost Nature Preserve photographs by Melissa Fey—all photos framed and ready for wall mounting. Each framed photo is 6 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> inches tall by 4 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> inches wide and <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> inch thick**



**Front side of photo**

**Back side of photo**



**Winning ticket numbers will be posted on Friends of the Limberlost Facebook Page on December 14 or 15**



**You could win this 16" X 20" photo of the Limberlost Cabin by Bill Hubbard printed on canvas and mounted on a 3/4 " thick frame.  
It's ready for wall mounting.**

**DRAWING WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY  
DECEMBER 14, AT LIMBERLOST SHS  
AT 5 P.M.**

**Prizes can be picked up on a first come first served basis, during regular open hours at Limberlost State Historic Site.**

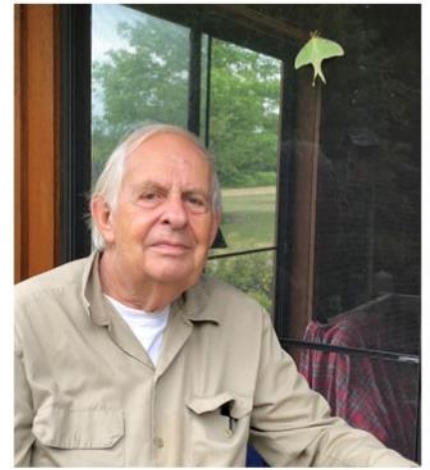
**You must show your winning ticket to claim a prize!**



**In Memory of Ellsworth Edward Smith, of Leo, Indiana, Friends of the Limberlost Board Member, passed away on August 10, 2023**

Ellsworth was born in 1934 and grew up in Oaklandon, Indiana. He worked for the US government doing radar and satellite research. He was also an engineer with Magnavox and Raytheon and taught at IUPUI and Arsenal Tech in Indianapolis. Later in life, Ellsworth worked on creating phone systems for universities.

Ellsworth had many interests, including a love for animals and nature. He was an Indiana Master Naturalist and Master Gardner. He was a life member of the Indiana Covered Bridge Society. He played a major role in the formation of the Embassy Theater Foundation to save Fort Wayne's Embassy Theater and Grand Page Pipe organ from destruction.



A memorial service was held on Sunday, Sept. 17th, 2023, at the Embassy Theater. The Friends of the Limberlost were represented by Randy & Terri Gorney Lehman. The theater honored Ellsworth by displaying his name on their marquis, and on the theater stage an organist was playing the organ he helped save.

In 2016, along with two other friends, Ellsworth received the Art's United Outstanding Arts Advocate award for his volunteer work. He was known as the 'Garlic Mustard Man' at many Indiana Department of Natural Resource properties where he pulled thousands of the invasive plants.



He was also a member of the Fort Wayne Engineers club, The Little River Wetlands Project, ACRES Land Trust, Fox Island Alliance, Canal Society of Indiana and on the board of Friends of the Limberlost.

Ellsworth will be missed by the friends and family that knew him well. He was very knowledgeable and always willing to talk and share thoughts with anyone that he knew. The family requests donations be made in Ellsworth's name to either ACRES Land Trust, PO Box 665, Huntertown, Indiana, 46748 or the Embassy Theatre, 125 West Jefferson Blvd, Fort Wayne, IN 46802.



The picture at the top of this page of Ellsworth is from Fred Wooley. Fred said "Ellsworth came to visit me in 2020. He just drove up my lane one day. We sat on the back deck and had a nice visit. A Luna moth landed behind him! How Gene Stratton Porter of it!"

To lose someone as generous, and giving, and welcoming as Ellsworth is tough. The sharing of his many talents with a community of organizations, friends, and family, was something he was known for, and his boundless energy and love of nature will continue to be an inspiration for us all.





## **NASA's Earth Fleet: Studying Surface Water and More from Space! by Adrienne Provenzano**

What comes to mind when you read or hear the acronym NASA? Astronauts? Rocket ships? Moonwalks? Images of galaxies far, far away? The International Space Station or the Space Shuttle? Mars rovers? While flagship space exploration missions are at the core of NASA activities, Earth observation and research is an essential part of the agency's overall mission.

There are currently two dozen satellites in low Earth orbit as part of NASA's Earth Fleet, gathering data on conditions such as freshwater and saltwater resources, methane and carbon dioxide levels, sea ice, sea level, temperature, soil moisture, forests, air pollutants and more!

As a way to gather Earth data together and make it more accessible to the general public, as well as scientists, educators, and decision-makers, NASA launched the Earth Information Center in June 2023. In addition to an in-person exhibit at NASA Headquarters, there's an online site (<https://go.nasa.gov/eic>) NASA has partnered with six other agencies (NOAA, EPA, FEMA, USDA, USGS, and USAID) to share real-time observation data and provide links to additional resources.

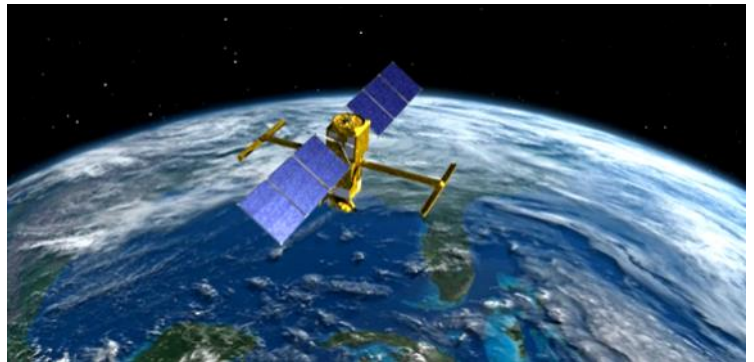
One of the most recent Earth observing satellites added to the fleet is SWOT (Surface Water and Ocean Topography). A collaboration with the French Space Agency (CNES) and with contributions from the Canadian Space Agency (CSA) and United Kingdom Space Agency, SWOT is creating the first global survey of the surface water on Earth, including rivers wider than 330 feet, lakes larger than 15 acres, and wetlands. Gathering information on freshwater, such as that in the Wabash River, is a vital part of understanding Earth's interconnected systems.

The satellite data gathered from SWOT can provide better knowledge of water resources and help facilitate sustainable usage, including in agriculture. To learn more about SWOT, check out <https://swot.jpl.nasa.gov>



Have you been affected by the wildfire smoke drifting across Indiana this summer or the extreme heat waves? Are you curious to know more about these events and understand their connections to weather and climate?

In addition to the Earth Information Center site, take a look at <https://climate.nasa.gov> and <https://earthobservatory.nasa.gov>. There are many resources at each of these websites. For example, EO Kids is an online educational magazine that can be found at the Earth Observatory website. While geared towards students aged 9 – 14, EO Kids issues can be useful for lifelong learners, such as members of Friends of the Limberlost. Topics include satellites studying smoky skies, observing wildfires from space, water for crops, and hurricanes. There are articles and hands-on activities in each issue.



Whether gathering information by land, sea, air, or space, NASA strives to improve knowledge of Earth for the benefit of humanity. Enjoy exploring these resources and getting to know more about NASA's Earth Fleet!

**Adrienne Provenzano is a Friend of the Limberlost, Advanced Indiana Master Naturalist, National Association for Interpretation Certified Interpretive Guide, and a volunteer NASA Solar System Ambassador.**



**FRIENDS OF THE LIMBERLOST  
NEW MEMBERSHIP & MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM**

Friends of the Limberlost is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit corporation. We support Limberlost State Historic Site, which is owned and operated by the Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites. We also support the IDNR—Division of Nature Preserves which manages the restoration of wetlands in the Limberlost Swamp Conservation Area. Your membership dues and extra donations are vital to the many projects honoring the memory and legacy of Indiana author, naturalist, and nature photographer, Gene Stratton-Porter.

**You decide how your annual dues will be spent. You choose one of the following:**

- Choose the Limberlost Historic Site Friends who support projects and help pay expenses associated with the improvement or the betterment of Limberlost State Historic Site
- Choose Limberlost Swamp Remembered, a committee of the Friends of the Limberlost, which is primarily focused on Limberlost Swamp restoration projects
- Or you can support both missions of the Friends of the Limberlost

As a member you receive our quarterly newsletter. You get one free tour of the Limberlost Cabin, a 10% discount on Limberlost Gift Shop purchases, and you get a 15% discount if you purchase a membership in the Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites. As a member of the Friends of the Limberlost you help us preserve the legacy of Gene Stratton-Porter and help us restore the environment by bringing back the Limberlost Swamp.

If you have any questions about your membership, please call or text Randy Lehman, membership chairperson, at 260-849-0308 or email [randylehman@comcast.net](mailto:randylehman@comcast.net)

Please make checks payable to: **FRIENDS OF THE LIMBERLOST**. Mail both your check and completed membership form to: PO BOX 571, GENEVA IN 46740

**STEP ONE**

Select which mission of the Friends Group you want to support by checking a box to the right

☐ Limberlost Historic Site Friends—dues and any additional donations you make supports Limberlost State Historic Site and associated events, projects, and programs

☐ Limberlost Swamp Remembered Friends—dues and any additional donation you make supports Limberlost wetland restorations projects managed by the Indiana Division of Nature Preserves

☐ Combination Limberlost Historic Site and Swamp Remembered Friends—dues and any additional donation are equally shared by both groups

**STEP TWO**

Choose the type of Membership you want by checking a box below

☐ Older Adults—\$10

☐ Business—\$50 (Please enter the name of a contact-person below)

☐ Other Individuals—\$20

☐ Family—\$35

☐ Lifetime—\$1,000

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