



# ONAPA NEWS

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Long Dutchman's Breeches. By Tim Snyder.

"We are dedicated to promoting, protecting, and improving Ohio natural areas and preserves for educational, charitable, and scientific purposes."

## Natural Areas—the Early Years A Recollection

By Dick Moseley

*Editor's Note: Richard E. Moseley was the first Chief of the Division of Natural Areas and Preserves, serving in that position from 1975 to 1990 when he was appointed Deputy Director of ODNR overseeing all land management and law enforcement divisions (Natural Areas, Parks, Wildlife, Forestry and Watercraft). He retired in 1993. After a brief stay in Colorado, he and his wife Ann returned to Ohio where he presently serves as Secretary of the Ohio Natural Areas & Preserves Association. This article is the first in what the editor hopes will become a series telling the story of the early days of natural areas preservation in Ohio.*



Signing the Natural Areas Bill—I-r: Representative Sam Speck (House sponsor); Dick Moseley, Division Chief; Governor James A. Rhodes, Robert W. Teater, ODNR Director, and Senator William Mussey (Senate sponsor).

Many folks have asked how the Natural Areas Program began and how I got involved, so this is as good a time as any to introduce you to the early years of the program as I recall them. It began when Amended Senate Bill 113, the Ohio Natural Areas Act, was passed on Tuesday, May 19, 1970 and signed by Governor James Rhodes on June 1<sup>st</sup>. At that time I was working in the Division of Parks and Recreation as the Recreation Supervisor, managing all recreational activities in the state parks including the naturalist program. On Friday, May 22, I was called to the Director's office for a meeting late in the

day. I had no idea what it was about. Seated around the room with the Director was Norv Hall, Chief of Parks and Recreation; Deputy Director Mel Rebholz, Assistant Director Dick Midden and the Chief of Personnel, Gary DeBloom. I thought I was in trouble, considering who was there.

Director Morr stated that the Natural Areas Act had been passed and they were considering who should head up the program. He had three names in mind. He named the three and my name was one of them. Then he asked, "Who do you believe is the best person for the job?" Since I knew the other candidates, I stated that I was the best person for the job. He said, "The job is yours!" After a brief discussion, he excused

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## Natural Areas—the Early Years

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me from the meeting. As I left the room, Norv Hall asked me to meet him in his office. When he arrived a few minutes later, he congratulated me and said that if I had answered any other way, I would not have gotten the job.

As a result of this new legislation, the Department established a Natural Areas and Scenic Rivers Planning Section in the Office of Program and Planning to begin work on the Natural Areas Program and to provide technical assistance to both the Natural Areas Council and the Scenic River Council. I was promoted to Administrator of Natural Areas and Scenic Rivers and was transferred to this new planning section. The initial budget for the new section was \$17,000 which basically covered my salary and travel.

My first task was to prepare a list of candidates for the Governor's office for appointment to the Ohio Natural Areas Council. My second task was to begin acquiring natural areas with the \$400,000 that was appropriated in Amended House Bill 828. Senator Clara Weisenborn, who introduced S.B. 113 in 1969, also made sure initial funds for acquisition of areas were included in H. B. 828 which was passed nearly a year before the Natural Areas Bill. So we had capital funds available to purchase natural areas, but only about a year left to spend them or they would be lost. Initially the Natural Areas Council and I used Dr. Art Herrick's natural areas inventory which was a project of the Ohio Biological Survey that was started in 1958 and produced a report in 1962. As a result of priorities established by the Council, which met nine times in ten months, we were able to begin acquisitions in late 1970. With the initial appropriation, the program acquired 14 properties totaling 632 acres in six natural areas with Fowler Woods being the first preserve acquired on September 24, 1971.

In the beginning I also served as the scenic



Marsh Marigolds in Fowler Woods—Guy Denny.

river coordinator for the Little Miami and Sandusky State Scenic Rivers, and also served on the National Scenic River study team for the Little Miami River, Little Beaver Creek, and Maumee River under the leadership of the U. S.

Bureau of Outdoor Recreation. All three of these streams were listed as Study Rivers in the National Scenic Rivers Act which passed six months after Ohio's Scenic River Act, which was the first in the nation.

To help me carry out these tasks with the scenic rivers, the Division of Water loaned me John Doyle on a half time basis until our program was funded legislatively. John also assisted me in conducting environmental reviews of Departmental construction projects, a task that was assigned to our new section early on. John and I were the only staff until April, 1972 when Steve Goodwin was hired as a College Intern and Steve Warner was hired to work on land acquisition. With operating funds available, Stuart Lewis was hired in May to be the scenic river coordinator; Karl Gebhardt and Dennis Stansfield in June as Conservation Aides who did land management projects on the preserves; and Kathy Smith in August as secretary for the Section. Now we had a staff to carry out all of the plans we had for both the natural areas and scenic river programs.

The success of the natural areas land acquisition program continued over the next three years with additional capital funding. During this growth period, the Department acquired 19 preserves amounting to 3,398 acres at a cost of \$1,480,618. In addition, 8 areas were added to the system by dedication of public and private properties for a total of 27 preserves.

Much of the early success of the program is attributable to the support we received from Director Bill Nye and the General Assembly

## Natural Areas—the Early Years

*(Continued from page 2)*

Director Bill Nye and the General Assembly which appropriated \$1,340,000 in capital improvements funds and provided nearly \$205,000 in operating funds between 1970 and 1975. As areas were acquired, preserve management was done by the closest existing land management Division—Forestry, Parks & Recreation or Wildlife. Unfortunately, each of these Divisions had their own management philosophy and priorities, and the preserves were not being managed in a consistent manner and in some cases were not managed at all. It soon became apparent that the existing strategies drastically needed to be altered for the Department to maintain and adequately protect these unique areas. In view of this, ODNR Director Robert W. Teater created by Executive Order a new Division of Natural Areas and Preserves on February 7, 1975. This Executive Order was approved by Governor Rhodes and was filed with the Secretary of State on March 6, 1975. I was appointed the first Chief of this Division on July 20, 1975, and Guy

Denny was selected by me to be the first Assistant Chief of the Division.

In order to provide the new Division with the statutory permanence necessary to carry out the long-range goals of the program, legislation was introduced into the 111<sup>th</sup> General Assembly in July, 1975. After lengthy hearings, Amended Substitute House Bill 972 was passed and was signed by Governor Rhodes on June 2, 1976 assuring, we thought, its permanency as a stand-alone Division. However, we now know that this was not the case. Due to budget cuts over the last few years, the Division now exists only in the Ohio statutes and is imbedded in the Division of Parks and Recreation as small unit of that Division.

It is my vision and hope that the Natural Areas Program can again become a stand-alone Division and return to its status as one of the best such programs in the country as it once was. Only through our work and your support can this vision come true.

## ONAPA Work Trips on State Nature Preserves

*(Coordinated by Jennifer Windus and Tim Snyder)*

Volunteers wishing to donate time and effort to help keep Ohio's nature preserves in tip-top shape should use the "Contact Us" page of the ONAPA website to sign up. Meeting time and place as well as other pertinent information will be posted at onapa.org two weeks before the scheduled date. Come prepared for the weather and work!

**March 28th** - Milford Center Prairie, woody species removal

**April 18th** - Lake Katharine, garlic mustard control

**May 9th** - Milford Center Prairie, teasel control

**June 13**-Daughmer Savanna, teasel control (contact: Guy Denny)

**June 20th** - Chaparral & Adams Lake Prairie, sweet-clover control

**October 3rd** - Lake Katharine, woody species control

**November 7th** - Miller Preserve, woody species control



Reviewing the Milford Center Prairie work site. L to R: Rick Gardner, DNAP botanist; Michelle Comer, West-central Ohio Preserve Manager; Jennifer Windus, ONAPA Resource Protection Committee co-chair; Jeff Johnson, DNAP Field Coordinator.

**Deadline for Summer 2015 issue—May 1**

## Senator Randy Gardner



Senator Randy Gardner

Senator Randy Gardner began his career as a teacher and also worked in real estate to support his young family. It is often hard to decide to run for elected office; to consider giving up permanence for something transitory; to trade quietude for “the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune”. Randy’s wife Sandy had confidence in her husband. She knew he could help Ohioans and was willing to sacrifice so that he could lend a hand in guiding Ohio’s future. In 1985, Randy and his wife Sandy decided that he should accept an appointment to the Ohio House of Representatives. Elected from what is now the 3rd House District, Representative Gardner served the people of the Wood County area well. In 2000 Randy ran for the Ohio Senate’s Second District seat, and won. In 2008, he returned to the House and then, in 2012 was again elected to the Senate.

This long service to the people of Ohio gives the Senator an unusual strength. In Ohio, the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate are the gate keepers of legislation and also appoint all committee chairs. Consequently, most Representatives and Senators follow their lead. This has a good side, in that it encourages team work. It also has a not so good side, in that an

independent representative could find their legislation stalled and their hopes to chair a committee evaporating like the morning dew. Long term representatives, to a large degree, shake off these shackles and become peers of leadership. Constituent groups learn to trust them over the years and are committed to investing in their candidacy. Randy is one of these strong leaders in the Ohio Senate.

Growing up on the Lake, Senator Gardner learned early to love nature. He and Sandy chose to stay in their beloved region and raised their children in the sun and spindrift of the lake front. Today, Senator Gardner is in the forefront of the effort to protect and restore Lake Erie. He is working with the Farm Bureau, industry, cities and counties to reduce the nutrient load pouring into the Lake. Working with the Administration, he helped to impose a ban on dredge and spoil dumping in the Lake. Over the last two years, the nutrient load has dropped significantly. Ohio is a long way from ending Lake Erie’s problems, but Randy is committed a clean and healthy future for all of us. For his efforts, Senator Gardner received the Ohio Environmental Council’s 2014 Public Servant of the Year Award. As the Ohio Natural Areas and Preserves Association works to help protect Ohio’s rare plant and animal communities, we can be thankful for Senator Gardner’s support and leadership.

*Jim McGregor*

## Chaparral Prairie acreage added

The ONAPA Board of Directors recently approved a \$3000 grant to help the Arc of Appalachia acquire a 60 acre addition to Chaparral Prairie State Nature Preserve in Adams County. This project was a collaboration with ODNR’s Natural Areas and Preserves program which pledged 25% toward the acquisition cost and agreed to accept management of the new tract. The Arc also received a Clean Ohio Grant to aid in the purchase. Our association’s funds help fill the gap in monies needed to complete the purchase which was



Rattlesnake Master at Chaparral Prairie (small)

closed on January 22, 2015.

Chaparral Prairie State Nature Preserve is home to 2 Endangered, 5 Threatened, and 6 Potentially Threatened species, most notably the largest population of Rattlesnake-master (*Eryngium yuccifolium*) in the state. Plan to visit this new addition on August 1, 2015 when the Arc of Appalachia is having its celebration of this new addition. You will be treated to a prairie filled with Rose-pink Gentian, Partridge-pea, Black-eyed Susan, and thousands of wands of Dense Blazing-star. The ceremony is planned for 10:00 A.M. with hikes following led by some of Ohio’s finest naturalists. Come and enjoy this celebration!

## Jack-in-the-Pulpit

Guy Denny



Jack-in-the-Pulpit

Few spring wildflowers have greater name recognition than does the Jack-in-the-pulpit (*Arisaema triphyllum*) found occurring in rich woodlands throughout Ohio. The genus name *Arisaema* comes from the Greek *aris*, “a kind of arum”, and *harima* from the Greek word for “blood” in reference to the deep maroon color occurring on the leaves of some species. The specific epithet *triphyllum* is Greek for “three-leaved”. Its common name is derived from its unusual flower structure that includes a fleshy club-like spike called a spadix, (the “jack”) concealed within a chamber-like modified leaf or bract called a spathe, (the “pulpit”). This flower structure is characteristic of members of the Arum Family (*Araceae*) which also includes Skunk Cabbage, Green Dragon, Arrow Arum, and Wild Calla.

The tiny, inconspicuous flowers are not visible unless one carefully peels open the lower portion of the spathe to expose their location at the very base of the spadix. This is what is known as a monoecious species, meaning both male (staminate) and female (pistillate) flowers occur separately on the same plant. The staminate flowers are situated just slightly above the pistillate flowers at the base of the spadix.



Jack-in-the-Pulpit fruit.

It takes a great deal of resources for a plant to maximize production of fruit and seeds; significantly less to produce pollen. Consequently, small young plants tend to divert their limited resources into the production of male flowers that produce pollen at the expense of female flowers, which, although present, fail to develop. Larger, older plants have more energy available for seed and fruit production so they divert that energy away from male flowers to become mostly or totally female plants. One might say these larger plants, sometimes more than a foot tall, become “Jill-in-the-pulpit”.

The tiny flowers of this plant, like many other members of this family, have neither sepals nor petals. Research has shown that the spadix heats up through respiratory activity to release foul-smelling compounds called skatoles that attract pollinators, primarily small flies. By autumn, the pistillate flowers ripen into a strikingly conspicuous cluster of bright crimson berries.

Another name for this species is Indian turnip, in reference to the underground, bulb-like base of the stem called a corm which somewhat resembles a small, wrinkled turnip. Jack-in-the-pulpit was an important food source for American Woodland Indians. However, all parts of the plant, especially the corm, contain calcium oxalate which, when chewed, forms needle-like crystals that become embedded in the delicate membranes of the mouth and throat causing a very unpleasant severe burning, stinging sensation. The Algonquin tribes name for this plant is *E-haw-sho-go* which means “bite the mouth”. The calcium oxalate cannot be removed by boiling. Rather, Native Americans slowly roasted the corms in hot ashes, or sliced and dried them in the sun for months. Once the oxalate was removed, the corms were often ground into a nutritious flour.



Jack-in-the-Pulpit corm.

In addition to being an important food source, Jack-in-the-pulpit was also a medicinal plant. Some tribes reportedly ground the dried raw corms and mixed the flour into lard to make a salve for treating ringworm and snakebite. Following the Native American’s “doctrine of signatures” where like cures like, the Pawnee applied the dried powdered corms on the forehead and temple to treat headaches. The fresh, partially dried corms were also used in early folk medicine for the treatment of asthma, whooping cough and rheumatism. Jack-in-the-pulpit corm was listed in the *U.S. Pharmacopoeia* from 1820 to 1893. Next time you encounter a Jack-in-the-pulpit on a walk in the woods, take time to closely examine and admire this amazing spring wildflower.

(Photos by Guy Denny)

## 2015 ONAPA Field Trips (For more information, visit [onapa.org](http://onapa.org))

**Sunday, April 26, 1 pm:** *Whipple State Nature Preserve*, Adams County, Ohio

**Saturday, May 30, 10 am:** *Conkle's Hollow State Nature Preserve*, Hocking County, Ohio, Leader: Tim Snyder

**July 7-9:** *Hiawatha National Forest* in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, Leader: Guy Denny

**Saturday July 11, 10 am:** *Herrick Fen State Nature Preserve*, Portage County, Ohio, Leaders: Doug Marcum & Ray Stewart

**Saturday July 18, 10 am:** *Tom S. Cooperrider-Kent Bog State Nature Preserve*, Summit County, Ohio, Leaders: Doug Marcum & Ray Stewart  
**Saturday July 25:** *Guy's Prairie*, Knox County, Ohio, Leader: Guy Denny

**Saturday August 15, 1 pm:** *NASA Plum Brook Station Prairie*, Erie County, Ohio, Leader: John Blake-man

**Saturday, August 22, 10 am:** *Little Darby Creek State Scenic River: Prairie & Insects*, Franklin County, Ohio, Leader: Jim Davidson

**September 19-20:** *ONAPA Annual Meeting*, Dawes Arboretum

**Saturday September 26, 10 am:** *Prairie Seed Collecting*, Knox County, Ohio, Leader: Guy Denny

**Sunday, September 27, 2 pm:** *Travertine Fen State Nature Preserve*, Greene County, Ohio, Leaders: Dan Boone & Marjie Becus

**Saturday, October 3, Noon:** *Beaver Creek State Park*, Columbiana County, Ohio, Leader: Allison Cusick

**Saturday, November 7:** *Christmas Rocks State Nature Preserve*, Fairfield County, Ohio, Leader: Jeff Johnson

### Thank you for your support! New ONAPA Members and Donors

- |                                |                                    |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Akron Garden Club              | Jon Jager                          |
| Betty Altfater                 | Thomas W. James                    |
| Dean & Brenda Babcock          | Frank Knapke                       |
| Jere & Eva Brunken             | H. Regina Lach                     |
| Carol Champa                   | Duke & Chance Rankin & Norma Lewis |
| James Chaplin                  | Fred Losi                          |
| Diane Christensen              | Mary Frances Macioce               |
| Alan Cohen                     | John Martin                        |
| Carol Shelton & Alison Cusick  | Bert Szabo                         |
| Horace Davidson                | Loretta Nicholson                  |
| Joanne S. Dole                 | William & Dianne Noice             |
| Thomas Fishburn                | John & Carolyn Oliver              |
| Friends of Crawford Park Dist. | Richard R. Roederer                |
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| Douglas L. Givens              | Beulah Shanks                      |
| Steve Goodwin                  | Dean E. Sheldon Jr.                |
| Howard L. Gratz                | Ray & Carol Showman                |
| Greater Cincinnati Wild Ones   | Jennifer & Tim Smucker             |
|                                | Richard L. Stoffer                 |

## Save the Date

ONAPA Annual Meeting

Saturday  
September 19th  
to  
Sunday,  
September 20th  
2015

Dawes Arboretum  
Newark, Ohio

This year's meeting will include Saturday morning indoor presentations, Saturday afternoon field trips, Saturday night banquet and speaker, a silent auction, and Sunday morning field trips. More information coming soon. Check in with [onapa.org](http://onapa.org).

## Book Nook

### *The Natural Areas Project: A Summary of Data to Date*



The Ohio Biological Survey's Informative Circular No. 1 entitled *The Natural Areas Project: A Summary of Data to Date*, may be small in size, but it is huge in stature. The revised report, issued in 1974, was the culmination of efforts begun in 1958 by both professional and amateur botanists across the

state to "...assemble and evaluate data on natural areas of interest to biologists, naturalists, teachers and conservationists."

Edited by J. Arthur Herrick, the 60-page booklet with its brief descriptions presents a snapshot of the natural areas of Ohio as they were seen forty years ago. Much of the information came from The Nature Conservancy and the newly-formed Division of Natural Areas and Preserves under the leadership of Richard Moseley.

As the "official list" of the state's natural areas, the report, arranged by county, became the guiding document for assembling Ohio's present system of protected areas, and many places on the list are now protected by public or private agencies—places such as Cedar Falls, Buffalo Beats and Rocky Fork Gorge. There are also some surprises like Monroe Drumlin, a glacial geology feature

rare in Ohio. Not all of the areas listed have been protected, however, and some have since been degraded or destroyed. Although long out-of-print, the report is well worth finding to see how far we've come and what remains to be done.

**CHECK THIS SPOT!**

**Tax Refunds Fund Preservation**

Check "State nature preserves" on your Ohio income tax return and provide greatly-needed support towards protecting Ohio's natural areas.

Ohioans can donate all or part of their state income tax refund by checking line 27d of the 2014 1040 Individual Income Tax Return (line 20d of the 1040 EZ form).

Contributions made to Ohio State Nature Preserves are tax deductible.

You can also make a direct contribution to:  
The Ohio Department of Natural Resources  
Division of Natural Areas and Preserves  
2045 Morse Road, Bldg. C-3  
Columbus, OH 43229  
[naturepreserves.ohiodnr.gov](http://naturepreserves.ohiodnr.gov)

## Join or Renew Your Membership Today!

### Membership Levels

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To submit inquiries, comments or questions, or information on your nature-related event for inclusion in the ONAPA calendar, e-mail us at [info@onapa.org](mailto:info@onapa.org)

Deadline for submissions to the Summer—2015 Issue of ONAPA News is May 1st



## Kroger Rewards Program Benefits ONAPA

ONAPA has signed up as a recipient of the Kroger Company's rewards program that benefits nonprofit organizations without costing the individual any of their own money.

### Here is how you can help:

1. Go to the Kroger.com website. Find the "Set up an Account" in the upper right side of the first page. You will be asked to enter your email address, create a password, and select your preferred store. If you wish, you can decline to receive emails from Kroger.

2. You can then link your Kroger Plus shoppers card to your account and select which organization receives donations from Kroger. ONAPA's number is **92516**, which is the quickest way to link to us. **You must do this every year.**
3. ONAPA will receive donations from the Kroger Company based upon how many people are linked to us and how much they spend at Kroger. It will not cost you anything and it will help ONAPA achieve its mission. **When you shop, check the bottom of your receipt to make sure ONAPA is listed as a recipient.**



Support ONAPA by shopping at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) today!



## Michigan Field Trip

An ONAPA member's field trip to explore the plants and animals of the boreal forest of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan is planned for July 6-9, 2015. All field trips will originate from the Gray Wolf Lodge 6770 US Hwy 2, Manistique, Michigan, 49854. Sites to be visited include Seney National Wildlife Refuge, Picture Rocks National Lakeshore, the Garden Peninsula, and a number of bogs and fens situated within Hiawatha National Forest. There is no charge to participate; however, participants are responsible for their own food, lodging, and transportation. Participants must register ahead of time with ONAPA to receive more detailed information. We can only accommodate 20 participants so register early!



## Ohio Natural Areas & Preserves Association

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