



RAVINIA

An Advocate for Community Resources

Published by Friends of the Ravines (FOR)

Spring/Summer 2019

New Parkland, New Experiences! An Impromptu Walk through Shafer Woods

Text and photography by Mark Dilley, Chief Scientist at MAD Scientist Associates

Many will say that things happen for a reason. I'm one of those people, and here is my story of a fortuitous encounter that led to a reconnection with nature and my son in a special place: The Shafer Woods parcel north of Blendon Woods Metro Park.

First, I feel compelled to share some "back story." My wife Chris and I have three sons. All three enjoy being outdoors—hiking, wading, fishing, camping and exploring. However, only one son, Brent (our youngest) appears to be showing an interest in following in my footsteps by pursuing a degree in the environmental career field.

As a freshman in the School of Natural Resources at The Ohio State University (also my alma mater), he and I were together at an alumni event for students. During this event, Brent and I had the good fortune to bump into fellow alumnus and Director of the Metro Parks of Columbus and Franklin County, Tim Moloney. It was a great learning and networking opportunity—for both of us! Tim shared some updates on our exceptional Metro Parks, and he was particularly excited to tell us about his agency's success in obtaining one of the last remaining stands of old growth forest in Franklin County: Shafer Woods.

"You've gotta see this place!" he said, beaming. He spoke of the towering oaks and almost complete absence of invasive species. He described the experience of entering the woods as though it almost transported you back in time. His description was certainly intriguing to me, a kid who grew up in the woods. And it apparently impacted Brent, too.

As I recall, it was less than two weeks later that Brent came to me to ask, "When are we going to see that woods?" Not immediately remembering our conversation with Tim, I had to ask what he was talking about. "You know, that old woods that guy from parks told us we should visit!" Being very unaccustomed to Brent pitching an idea (he's a quiet, go-with-the-flow kind of person), I seized the opportunity and replied, "How about tomorrow?" and our plans were set. The next day, I grabbed my camera, and we were off—headed south down Sunbury Road from our home in Westerville.

Tim had told us that the land is accessible through the Little Turtle subdivision, taking the Little Turtle Way exit off the 161 bypass. (Note: As you drive this road north, it turns westward, and the street name changes to

Cambria. On Cambria, there is a mowed clearing that makes a good point of access, with some adjacent street parking available [see attached Google Earth aerial]). Once we arrived, we got our bearings, grabbed our gear, and we were off.



Google Earth aerial of the Shafer Woods.

LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Welcome to the Spring/Summer 2019 issue of *Ravinia*. As FOR engages in a 23rd year of ravine advocacy, I would like to thank the donors and contributors that have made this organization a success. As an all-volunteer organization, we certainly couldn't continue our work without your support.

This year I eagerly look forward to our Annual Plant Walk at the newly created Shafer Park in Westerville. The 100-acre park is a new land acquisition made possible using funding from the state Clean Ohio Fund, and has been called the Hocking Hills of Franklin County. Metro Parks plans to keep the area in a primitive state, with few trails and no restroom facilities. Deep ravines cross the land with streams that flow to Big Walnut Creek and towering cliffs that reach heights of 100 feet. Our guides, former FOR Board member Carrie Morrow and Metro Parks Forest Ecologist Andrew Boose, will help us identify flora along the way. We always find interesting plants during our annual foray, and this year looks especially appealing to nature lovers. As an added benefit, you may be able to acquire a FOR T-shirt after the walk—a little memento of an afternoon well spent.

I also look forward to continuing our partnership with the Indianola Informal K8 School in 2019. For the last couple of years, we had the pleasure of working with science students under the guidance of their teacher, Jared Laughbaum. Last year, we partnered with Sierra Club to train students in the use of hand-held water quality meters that were used to examine water quality in Walhalla Ravine. FOR also accompanied science classes on a field trip to learn about the utility of rain gardens being installed by the City of Columbus under their Blueprint project. Students observed rain garden testing, and then hiked to Whetstone Park to see the new wetland being constructed by the city there. This spring, we hope to participate in a learning session about the environmental benefits of trees and their identification. It has been very rewarding to become acquainted with a new generation of ravine enthusiasts.

Ravines grace the landscape in every watershed in Franklin County, adding interest to the flat topography of lands shaped by successive ice ages. As central Ohio grows, ravines can represent a window to past eras, where nature's beauty has been preserved for our benefit. I hope you will join FOR in extolling the benefits of ravine green spaces in our neighborhoods as they add healthful diversion to our interconnected lives.

*I hope to see you in a ravine sometime,
—Alice Waldhauer*

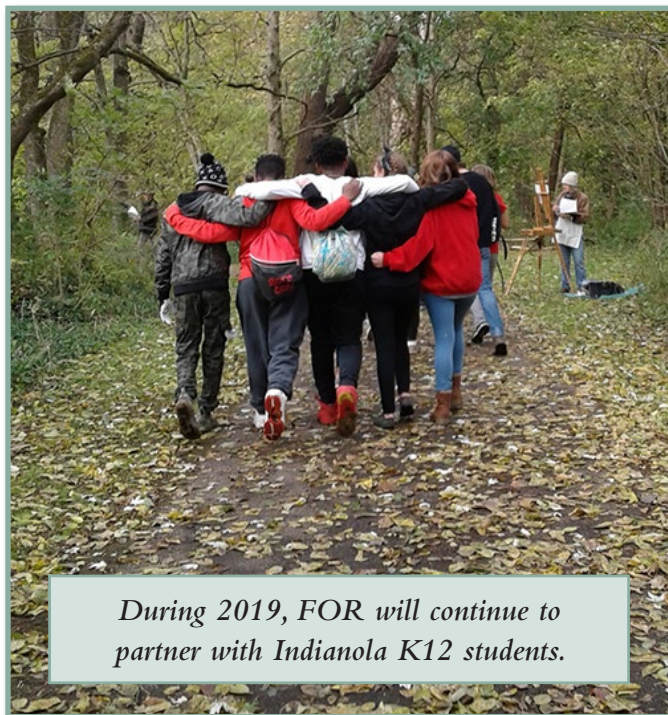
Let's Go Fishing

By Martha Harter Buckalew

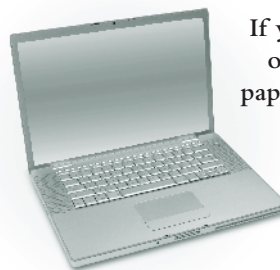
This week a friend loaned me a copy of a new publication, "A Naturalist's Guide to the Fishes of Ohio," by Daniel Rice and Brian Zimmerman." It's a fascinating and comprehensive collection which is clearly written and easy to understand—even for this novice with little experience in the colorful world of fishing and its study, ichthyology.

The book's 391 pages are crammed with gorgeous photographs and details of Ohio's 170 species and subspecies of fishes. Each two-page layout contains exacting photos and interesting details such as habitat, spawning activity, the fish's abundance, and the best sites to find them. The easy-to-read graphics are presented with engaging facts wrapped into their cultural and historical context.

Since M.B. Trautman's 1981 revision of "The Fishes of Ohio," it is the first significant biological survey of the natural history of the Midwest. "A Naturalist's Guide to the Fishes of Ohio" sells for \$29.95. For more information, visit www.ohiobiologicalsurvey.org/pub_highlight or call 614-457-8787.



During 2019, FOR will continue to partner with Indianola K12 students.



If you would prefer to read *Ravinia* on the Web instead of receiving a paper copy, please send an e-mail to friendsoftheravines@gmail.com and let us know.

We'll e-mail you when a new issue is ready to read.

We hurriedly ventured across the painfully boring clearing (it's turf, what can I say?) and into an intact piece of Ohio's natural history as we entered the woods. Our visit was in early November, in the evening; the skies were sunny and the temperatures, crisp. I was thrilled with the lighting, because one of my personal objectives was to get some good photographs to share in our company's promotional calendar and in social media posts. For beautiful scenery and photo opportunities, this woods did not disappoint—and we had arrived in time for the “magic hour” for taking photographs.

As we entered the woods, Brent and I were immediately in awe of the height and girth of many of the trees, including many ecologically important mature oaks. Equally impressive was the openness of the understory. Brent and I have spent many hours together battling honeysuckle, privet, multiflora rose and other invasive shrubs, and we couldn't believe that these species hadn't overrun this forest block like most others in our area. It really made for a different experience on our short hike through this 98-acre property.

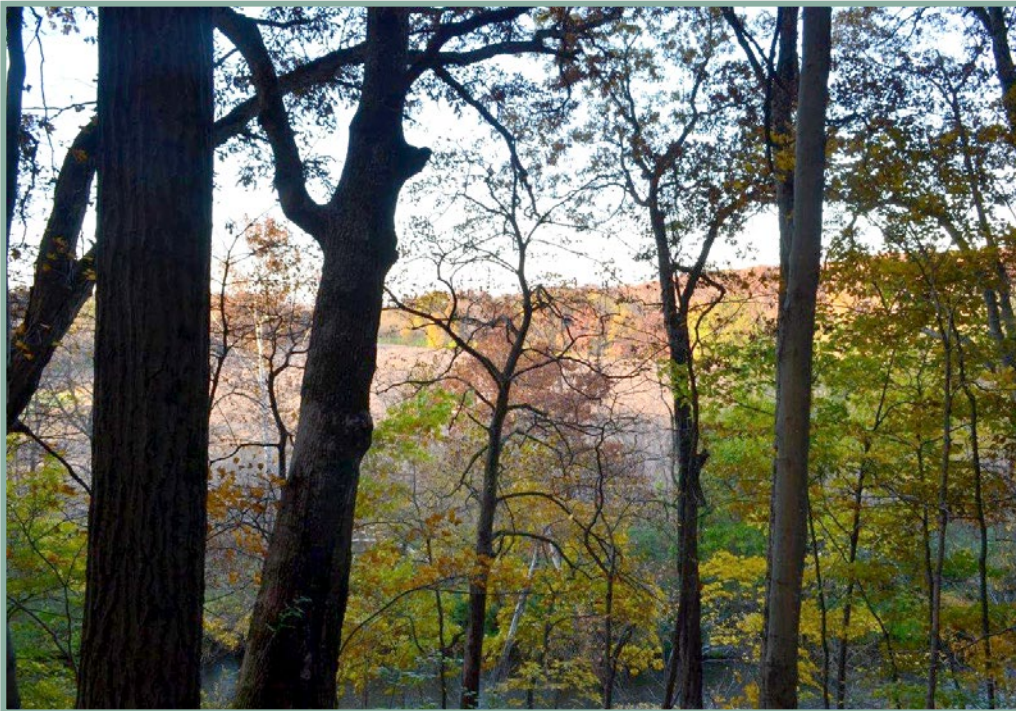


Typical open understory of the mature forest.

Interested in seeing the stream (an unnamed tributary of Big Walnut Creek) that flows along the north part of the parcel, we hiked deeper into the pristine ecosystem, enjoying the fallen leaves and the golden cast provided by those leaves that still hung on the trees. As we worked our way north, we spotted a nice whitetail buck, studied fungi (turkey-tail and puffballs) and chipmunk middens, and talked of what

life must have been like for the early pioneers.

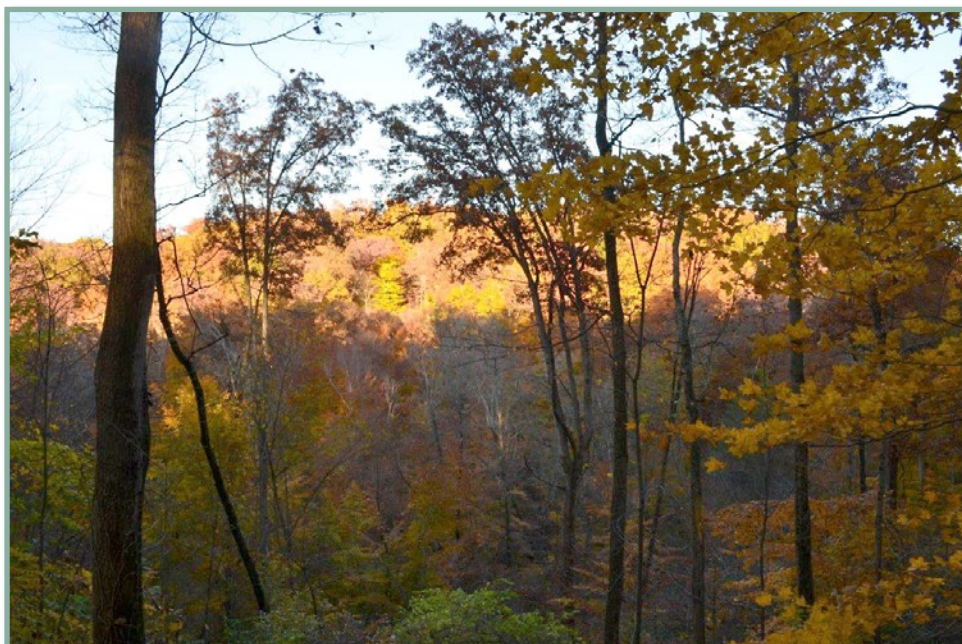
The sun was getting quite low as we reached the bluff that sloped down steeply to the tributary below, its illumination creating a rainbow of sunset colors on the crowns of the trees on the opposite bluff. My photo from this vantage point falls far short of the beauty of this scene. After taking in the view for a few minutes, we carefully descended into the valley. There, I got additional photos of the stream, which looked particularly striking with its cobble bed and beech-lined banks (see photo). After the obligatory turning of a few rocks to find two-lined salamanders, we headed back



View of Big Walnut Creek from a high bluff in Shafer Woods.

up the hill, this time heading west. At the top, we were blessed with a gorgeous view of Big Walnut Creek from high atop the bluff. The sycamores lining the banks stood strong and proud (as they should on nearly all streams in our region).

With temperatures and light conditions dropping, we began to circle back, crossing numerous small headwater streams and encountering several potential vernal pool areas—now dry, as is to be expected in the fall. As we made our way back to our vehicle, we spoke very little, savoring the increasingly rare silence that this old forest has to offer and enjoying the connectedness we were feeling—with nature and with each other. Things happen for a reason.



View facing east across the unnamed tributary stream valley at sunset.

FINAL NOTE: Brent and I have already been thinking about our next trip out. We hope this will be in the April of this year, possibly on the upcoming plant walk with some of our Friends of the Ravines! From our fall observations, we have lofty expectations for a beautiful burst of color across

the forest floor as our ephemeral wildflowers spring to life. We want to experience and savor that, too!

Friends of the Ravines' 2019 spring plant walk will be on April 28. For more details, go to our website, friendsoftheravines.org

THE NIGHT RAVINE

by Christine Hayes

My bed is placed high, in front of a picture window. The picture I see, starting a few inches from the window, is a mass of trees and some sky behind the leaves. The land slopes far below me, as my bedroom is on the top floor. The leaf-strewn ground of the forest runs down to Rush Creek. This was my childhood bedroom and is still my bedroom now, with a hiatus of thirty-two years in California.

In my sixties now, I am having a new condition: waking up in the middle of the night and not being able to get back to sleep. Rather than read, worry, or take sleeping pills, I do this: lie in state. I meditate and listen to the ravine sounds. I breathe the crisp air when it is not raining, and feel the breeze of the oncoming storm when it is. I throw the covers on and off accordingly. All this is punctuated by train horn-blasts every fifteen minutes.

What a strong symphony of katydids, locusts, grasshoppers, crickets, and even the cardinal or owl in the middle of the

night! Screeching critters in an explosion of outrage over some unexpected encounter! The slow and rhythmic deer tromp, the metallic scrapes of the train, some partying teenagers, truck tires on the freeway. The blinking remaindered firefly wanders on, still looking for its mate.

My favorite thing is distant thunder. One never knows if it is an airplane, a train sound, a truck, at first. Then it is repeated, as one strains to hear. Real thunder! Are there clothes on the line? (A brief pause from lying in state while one runs outside and pulls the sweet-smelling clothes off the line.) I brush off my bare feet and get back to listening. Storm-wind shivers far-off leaves, then closer ones, then the ones outside the window. Lightning can invade even closed eyelids. The rain shushes all other night things. Thunder shakes the house.

The bus grunting along starts at 5 a.m. Then the cardinals pipe up at the first hint of dawn. Sometimes I am still awake, snug in my layers of blanket and of sound.

How to be a Forest Keeper

Text by Maureen Lorenz and Photography by Annemarie Smith

“We are losing a generation of native forest trees and understory shrubs and wildflowers” due to invasive plant species, according to Steve Cothrel, Superintendent of Parks and Forestry for Upper Arlington. Mr. Cothrel pointed out how the urban forestry world has been dealing with the havoc wreaked on urban forests by invasive species such as Dutch elm disease, gypsy moths, emerald ash borers, Asian long-horned beetles and others for many years. Invasive plants are another wave of stressors to our urban forests. And people are learning how to fight back.

According to the Ohio Invasive Plants Council, invasive plants are non-native species that threaten Ohio’s natural areas by outcompeting the native species, altering the native biodiversity found in our forests and other natural areas. Invasive plants compete with native Ohio species for resources causing population declines of native species and can change the structure and function of native habitats by altering the nutrient cycle and soil hydrology. Invasive plants and habitat destruction are the greatest threats to forests and natural areas. Wildlife depends on a stable ecosystem, but climate change and other factors are tipping the scales towards the spread of invasive plants.

“Invasive Plants of Ohio” published in 2001 stated that one-fourth of the plant species commonly found in Ohio originate from other parts of the continent or world. Scientists generally recognize plants prior to European settlement around 1750 as native species. Non-native plants lack the natural predators and diseases that control them in their native habitats.

According to Rick Darke and Doug Tallamy in *The Living Landscape* native status is a function of time and place. It takes long periods of time for species to adapt and evolve in a regional environment. Native means the species is an integral part of the local evolutionary relationships. Species co-evolved and while landscapes are dynamic they are relatively stable. Competition between species is in balance when

no one species displaces another. Invasive species disrupt this balance.

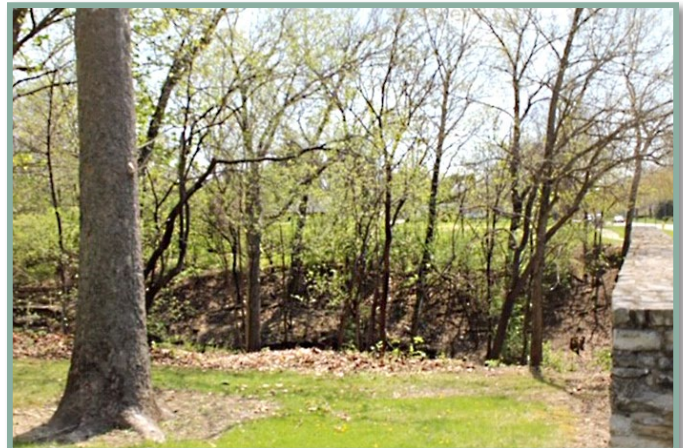
Most non-native species are not invasive in natural areas. Of the more than 700 non-native species, fewer than 100 are known to be problems in natural areas in Ohio. A list of the most harmful invasives to Ohio’s natural spaces can be found at: <http://ohiodnr.gov/invasiveplants>.

Invasive plant species are causing widespread environmental damage impairing the use of natural areas and the value of these areas as habitat. Mr. Cothrel and his park management team want “natural areas to look like natural forests in Ohio are supposed to look, and to play host to the native plants and animals that are supposed to be there.” A monoculture of an invasive species such as Japanese honeysuckle can cause the population of many native birds, insects, and other species to plummet, reducing biodiversity. Forested areas, especially those of ravines, provide habitat, but only if the food and cover that animals need is present.

Invasive bush honeysuckle is one invasive plant that spreads quickly in a forest once it is introduced. The introduction could be as simple as a seed carried in by a bird or on the wind. Once established, honeysuckle quickly spreads and shades any new forest trees from sprouting, and has a negative impact on the health and vigor of the existing trees. The result is reduction of native plant diversity. Infested forests characteristically display tree trunks of similar age



Bottom left photo caption: Before bush honeysuckle removal.



After bush honeysuckle removal.

protruding above a dense understory of honeysuckle. New trees, which would naturally replace existing forest trees, are suppressed by honeysuckle.

As to nutrient value for migratory birds, the bush honeysuckle's red berries are the equivalent of eating Skittles, as described by Elayna Stierhoff, Water Protection Coordinator for the City of Columbus. The berries provide a burst of sugar but nothing to sustain a long migration. Displacing native food sources with the invasive honeysuckle weakens the ability of birds to sustain long migrations typical in the spring and fall.

Recreational activity is negatively impacted by invasive species. The dense understory of honeysuckle makes it difficult for people to explore and enjoy urban forests. One of the negative side effects is visibility in a forested area or along a bike trail infested with honeysuckle. The lack of visibility makes the natural area less safe.

As the problem of invasive species grows, a task force organized by The Nature Conservancy is forming to address the problem. This task force is the Central Ohio Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management (CO PRISM). It is a collaboration of federal, state, and local organizations from 17 Central Ohio counties now in the process of assessing the resources, the needs, and the methodology to begin to manage invasive species on a regional scale.

The task of removing or managing invasive plant species may seem daunting. One success story is taking place in the community of Upper Arlington, Ohio. Upper Arlington provides a model of how to make successful inroads and restore biodiversity in urban forests. The key ingredients appear to be dedication and committing resources to the effort.

In 2011 Annemarie Smith of Upper Arlington recognized how invasive plants such as honeysuckle, buckthorn, and garlic mustard were negatively changing the natural areas in the local parks. Trekking through the parks was more difficult due to the thicket of honeysuckle, the treed areas of the parks were less inviting due to the density of the growth, and species once located in or dependent on these natural areas were no longer to be found. Pulling together a group of like-minded volunteers and, with the assistance of Upper Arlington's forestry staff, this one volunteer set to work with her "weed warriors"—students from a local scout troop and a UA high school club. The group was later renamed Friends of UA Parks. Ms. Smith later moved away, but handed the task off to Karla Gengler-Nowak.



One view of Miller Park after bush honeysuckle removal.

Ms. Gengler-Nowak knew this is not a one-and-done task but recognized "they need to keep returning as new honeysuckle and buckthorn sprout, but at least it's a lot easier to get rid of the small stuff." Returning to parks for maintenance produces the difference. Native wildflowers are returning to these natural areas. In some of the parks, the cleared wooded areas are adjacent to playgrounds and have become an extension of play for young explorers.

The group, Friends of UA Parks, schedules once a month workdays. This dedication by the Friends of UA Parks working closely with the Forestry management team of Upper Arlington Parks and Recreation Department is making a positive difference. The Parks and Recreation Department provides staff who can use chainsaws, and a chipper, and the Friends of UA Parks provides the labor and enthusiasm through the volunteers. The partnership is successful enough that the Parks and Recreation Department has committed funding to expand this effort. This commitment by the City supports residents' expressed desires for more nature programming and experiences per the City's newly adopted Parks & Recreation Comprehensive Plan.

According to Mr. Cothrel, the Friends have made "amazing progress" clearing numerous natural areas and parks removing honeysuckle, buckthorn, callery pear, garlic mustard, and more. Every April, the Friends plant native trees and shrubs

as part of the Green Columbus program helping to renew the urban forest areas. The volunteers also play a vital role in educating the community and act as ambassadors in this effort.

The results are encouraging, and the enthusiasm affects both volunteers and staff working together to create landscapes restored to healthy biodiversity. This effort to remove invasive species is also re-connecting residents with the natural areas of their parks.

This partnership between the citizens and their local government to control invasive species is working in this community. Focusing attention to invasive species and the harm they are doing to Ohio's forests is a start in maintaining and renewing the forests. Recognizing the invasive species in residential yards and removing and replacing them with native plants is another service to our forests. Whether you chose to encourage local efforts to address the problem of invasive species, remove them from your yard, or commit to the physical effort yourself in our urban forests, all of us can be part of the solution to keep our urban forests vital.

For more information:

<http://www.friendsofuaparks.com/>

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https://senr.osu.edu/sites/senr/files/imce/files/extension_outreach/ponds_fish_aq_mgmt/AISpage/08%20Seidel-Central%20Ohio%20PRISM.pdf

<https://www.oipc.info/invasive-plants-of-ohio.html>

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<https://www.dispatch.com/news/20180107/38-species-of-invasive-plants-now-illegal-to-sell-in-ohio>

<http://www.gardenclub.org/projects/invasive-species.aspx>



Another view of Miller Park after bush honeysuckle removal.

Sugar Run

High and Low Places in Franklin County

Text and photography by Sherrill Massey

I must confess that the Franklin County Engineer's Office at 970 Dublin Road is a favorite haunt of mine because I am something of a map junkie. I invite you to join me on a trek through the pages of a Franklin County Map which was inspired by a *Ravinia* reader; she was formerly a resident on a ravine on Linworth Run in Worthington who recently moved near Sugar Run in a New Albany ravine area.

To get the most out of this article, you may need a copy of the Franklin County Atlas. If you don't have one, copies are available in a folded or atlas format at the Franklin County Engineer's Offices. There's a drive-up kiosk 24/7 at the Dublin Road location for the folded maps. (For other offices, visit www.franklincountyengineer.org)

On page seven of the current atlas you'll find where Sugar Run starts not far from the highest point in Franklin County (plus or minus 1,132 feet above sea level and marked with a dot on the map) near Tippet Road (also called S. County Line Road) where Licking and Delaware counties join with Franklin. I wonder if the county surveyor purposely marked the county lines in the early 1800s with that high point in mind.

Students of history and surveying don't have to wonder, however. A congressional committee chaired by Thomas Jefferson determined how most of the surveying of the areas outside of the original 13 colonies would proceed in an ordinance in 1774. The location of those boundaries is a result of a well-thought-out plan.



Rocky Fork Creek

Photo courtesy of ODOT

Writing about the Scioto Salt Springs, Emmett A. Conway, Sr. tells us it was Jefferson and Hugh Williamson who established the rectangular system of land subdivision. Townships were surveyed as six miles square, and these townships were subdivided into 36 one-mile squares. Surveying the country's new territory was to be done prior to any claims granted.

During the surveying, 19 categories of physical and natural resources were to be carefully noted as lines were run North & South and East & West. This list included soil, land surface, timber, minerals, streams, roads, trails, and natural curiosities; it amounted to a resource reconnaissance on a grid sampling of one-mile intervals. This was very significant in noting where waterways crossed these gridlines and began to map out the location of streams, almost producing a topographic map.

Following Sugar Run south and west you will find where Walnut and Peter Hoover Road intersect and where Sugar Run flows through the green areas of the New Albany Links Golf Course (see page 14). In 2006 developers were cited by the Ohio EPA for filling wetlands and thus affecting Sugar Run while developing the golf course and housing. A settlement was reached resulting in a fine and restoration of the stream and wetlands. In fact, many of the wetlands in the watershed are the result of the mitigation of the warm water habitat and water quality designation used by the Ohio EPA.

Rocky Fork Creek and its headwater tributaries of Rose Run and Sugar Run are home to more than 216 species of wildflowers, mature stands of trees, and abundant wildlife. But negative impacts from development remind us of what we have lost. In the 1950s and as recently as 1981, *Notropis heterolepis* (Blacknose Shiner), an Ohio endangered species of fish, was collected in portions of the Rocky Fork Creek and documented first by Dr. M. B. Troutman of OSU and later by a “Dr. Finney” of Otterbein College. This species can no longer be found and is considered to be extirpated from the watershed due to a decline in water quality.

The wetlands of Sugar Run and the Rocky Fork watershed also provide the habitat and feeding grounds for the 87-acre Hamilton Road Nature Preserve located on the west side of Hamilton Road and north of St. Rt. 161. This nature preserve established in 2010 is a “heronry” or nesting site for the Great Blue Heron and was once a mitigated wetland site. Up to 56 heron nests have been counted within this forested wetland.

Leaving the golf course, Sugar Run skirts a red-cross marker for a cemetery just north of Central College Road. Sugar Run continues to meander westward and dips south, crossing Route 161 toward the privately owned New Albany Country Club, where it empties into Rocky Fork Creek near Highgrove Farms and above Thompson Park. (Note: there are three “Thompson Parks” in Franklin County and this one is in New Albany).

Crossing US 62 and Morse Road in Gahanna, south and east, Bryn Mawr Park (51)* is found on the west side. On Page 22 there is a red dot for a Rocky Fork Creek Scenic Byway Pull-off as a point of interest. The Jefferson Township Scenic Byways Management Plan wanted to protect the character and nature of major corridors in Jefferson Township, giving particular emphasis to the protection of scenic vistas and wildlife for the benefit of all Byways travelers. See: <http://gis3.dot.state.oh.us/ScenicByways/JTB.html>

Rocky Fork Creek flows through Rocky Fork Hunt and Country Club (private) through Shull Park (Page 21) and Friendship Park and Price Road Reserve in Gahanna where it empties into Big Walnut Creek. Big Walnut is edged by the Galloway Reserve and crosses under Interstate 270 near the John Glenn International Airport and encounters Wonderland Park (367) and a red dot for the Brown Pet Cemetery. See story: Ravinia Fall 2013/Winter 2014 <https://www.friendsoftheravines.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/FW2013.pdf>

Big Walnut Creek skirts the edges of the Airport Golf Course, Pizzurro Park and Whitehall Community Park (Page 29) which appears to be divided at State Route 16 (East Broad Street) connecting with the (Private) Columbus Country Club. On page 30, Big Walnut heads south under US Route 40 (E. Main Street) to Big Walnut Park on the west and on the east, Kelley (183),* Yorkshire (380)* and Kraner (191),* passing under I-70 through Sol Shenk Parkland and Nafzger Park North on the west bank and Nafzger Park on the east bank.

On Page 37, Big Walnut borders Helsel Park and continues its meandering until it joins Blacklick Creek and Alum Creek at Three Creeks Metro Park. Big Walnut Creek wins the dominant name of merger to continue to the Y.M.C.A. Hoover-Y Park westward to Hamilton Township Park (page 44). Flowing within sight of the city of Lockbourne, passing Lock Meadows (204) which was part of the Ohio-Erie Canal system built in the early 1800s, Big Walnut Creek has been a series of wide and short oxbow formations. Due to the forest cover along the stream corridor the water quality is exceptional and has mussel fields rivaling those of the Big Darby Creek. The City of Columbus recognizes this and has used the Clean Ohio Conservation Fund to acquire additional parkland in the Big Walnut Stream Corridor.

The meandering continues south and eastward into Pickaway County, where it enters the Scioto River on its way to the Ohio River, the Mighty Mississippi and the Gulf of Mexico. Almost a half mile north of this on page 43 of the atlas you will find the lowest point in Franklin County at plus or minus 670 feet. Sugar Run headwaters start in the Rocky Fork watershed and progress southward through Big Walnut (two times), Alum Creek and the Scioto watershed. Note the watershed map on page 97 for all the watersheds in Franklin County. In addition to transportation and land record keeping duties, the Franklin County Engineer, Cornell R. Robertson, has been designated by the Board of County Commissioners to serve as the Drainage Engineer.

When I began this journey, I had no idea this water trail would connect near the highest to the lowest points in Franklin County. I hope you enjoyed our journey through atlas pages 7, 14, 15, 22, 21, 29, 37, 36, 37, 44 and 43 as much as I did. And do you wonder that Sugar Run was so-named because its water is sweet?

**A number after the park name is used on the atlas map when the park is small and no room for a name but a tree icon and number instead. Parks are referenced in the index beginning on page 93. The quantity of parks along this waterway journey is 22, if I counted right. Preservation of floodplain and riparian forest areas is a sound community practice as healthy streams are vital to park landscapes and ecosystems.*

Literature Cited:

The Scioto Salt Springs and Scioto Salt Works. Emmett A. Conway, Sr. The Olde Forester. 1977.

Beginning of the American Rectangular Land System 1774 – 1800. William D. Pattison. Reprinted, Ohio Historical Society. 1957.

Rocky Fork Creek Watershed Action Plan & Inventory. 2010. Friends of Big Walnut Creek and Tributaries and Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission.

Reader's Recipes

Controlling Pests in Ravines

With the approach of spring, we look outdoors longing to get our hands in the dirt and begin to wonder how we can control the inevitable invasion of pests and plants. Read on.

"Anyone have an idea as to the current deer population in our ravine? Last season I lost my entire vegetable garden, the majority of the decorative hostas, and this past fall, the remaining greenery on my roses. Your ideas?"

To this, a Walhalla resident responded:

"Just found my natural deer repellent spray recipe (originally from This Old House magazine.) I have used this with good success in the past. It is not as "smelly" as the commercially available products."

All Natural Deer Repellent

Ingredients:

- 1 bar of Fels Naptha soap
- 2 bunches of scallions, roughly chopped
- 2 heads of garlic, separated
- 4 eggs
- Chili powder, lots

Instructions:

1. Fill ½ of a 5-gallon bucket with hot water.
2. Shave soap into bucket to dissolve.
3. Place scallions, garlic, etts, and chili powder in a large piece of doubled cheese cloth. Tie up ends of cloth tightly; use a wooden spoon to crack the eggs. Place pouch in bucket.
4. Fill the bucket with more water; cover tightly with lid. Place in a shaded area. Let sit for 1 week.
5. Transfer in batches to a pump sprayer. Apply after each rainfall or every 2 weeks.

Garlic Mustard Pesto

Garlic mustard (*Alliaria petiolate*) has invaded the Midwest. It can be found in woodlands as well as residential areas. To stem its rapid spread, the Kalamazoo Nature Center published "From Pest to Pesto" to promote greater awareness. This recipe was adapted from the book.

Garlic Mustard Pesto Ingredients

- 3 cups garlic mustard greens, chopped and packed. Pick greens from an unsprayed area and thoroughly wash them.
- 6 ounces pine nuts or walnuts
- 1 teaspoon garlic mustard root, sliced
- 4 tablespoons fresh chives, chopped
- 6 ounces virgin olive oil
- 8 cups cooked penne pasta
- Salt to taste
- 4 ounces Parmesan cheese, grated

Time estimates

Prep time: 15 minutes

Total time: 40 minutes

Directions

1. Toss garlic mustard greens, pine nuts, root, and chives into food processor. Add olive oil slowly while blending.
2. Serve with cooked penne pasta. Sprinkle with Parmesan.

Serves 6 to 8

Respecting Green Spaces

By Martha Harter Buckalew

I recently discovered *The Park Pulse* produced by **Parks Project**. It's a monthly roundup of news and updates from around the country with charming line drawings by Peggy Dean. And it's full of fascinating info about our nation's parklands from California to Kentucky and from Hawaii to New Jersey.

One such article was about the font (on the right) seen on wooden trail signs in many parks now digitized and available for free download designed by a volunteer who works for the Rocky Mountain National Park.

The mission of the **Parks Project** on a much grander scale mirrors that of Friends of the Ravines.

Whether it's supporting bear conservation in Denali or organizing trail restorations in Muir Woods, our convictions, commitments, character, and attitudes are best summed up by our respect for, and trust in, the outdoors. The responsibility to maintain our parks is up to all of us.

Friends of the Ravines mission —to foster the protection and restoration of ravine areas in Franklin County through community education and conservation— is printed on page 12 of each issue of *Ravinia*.

The Park Pulse is produced by **Parks Project** @ info@parksproject.us.



YES! I WANT TO BE A SUPPORTING MEMBER OF FRIENDS OF THE RAVINES.

Name _____ E-Mail _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Indicate any special instructions for listing of your name in the Roster of supporting members. _____

Membership Category *Make Check Payable to Friends of the Ravines.*

☐ Friend: \$15 ☐ Sponsor: \$35 ☐ Sustainer: \$50
☐ Contributor: \$25 ☐ Household: \$40 ☐ Patron: \$100 ☐ Corporate (Over \$100) _____

I want to volunteer to help Friends of the Ravines carry out its mission to protect ravine areas and educate the public. I can help by:

☐ Distributing *Ravinia* ☐ Writing Articles for *Ravinia* ☐ Preparing Mailings
☐ Assisting with the Website ☐ Giving Computer Advice ☐ Helping with Ravine Cleanups
☐ Planning Events ☐ Removing Invasive Plants in Ravines ☐ Becoming an On-Call Volunteer

My special area of expertise is _____.

My favorite ravine is _____.

Friends of the Ravines, PO Box 82021, Columbus, Ohio 43202
friendsoftheravines@gmail.com

Supporting Members:

(September 16, 2018 – March 16)

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Ravinia
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Ravinia is the official publication of Friends of the Ravines.

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Friends of the Ravines is an all-volunteer non-profit 501c3 organization whose mission is to foster the protection and restoration of ravine areas in Franklin County through community education and conservation.

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Thank You:

Assistance & Support

Columbus Recreation & Parks
Columbus & Franklin County Metro Park
Franklin County Cartographer, Ben McCown
Indianola Informal K8 School &
Science Teacher, Jared Laughbaum

Operation Assistance

Numerous Proofreaders
Kenwel Printers

Photography for *Forest Keeper* Article

Special Thanks to Karen Gengler-Nowak

Ravinia Design & Production

AJaX Designs



100% recycled paper, 20% post-consumer waste