

## Author biography

Judy Burris and Wayne Richards, a sister-brother author and photographer team, are from the greater Cincinnati area. They have been intrigued with butterflies since they were children and always enjoyed spending time on hiking trails looking for animals and trying to identify trees, wildflowers and insects. As adults, this childhood interest in animal and plant life has translated into a nearly full-time devotion to gardening specifically to support butterflies in every stage of their development from egg, caterpillar, chrysalis to butterfly. Judy and Wayne have spent many years observing, hand-raising, and photographing these miraculous creatures in their own backyards. They enjoy teaching others about flower gardening, nature photography and insect life cycles. They encourage everyone to give more serious thought to natural habitat conservation and responsible, chemical-free management of their yards to support native flora and fauna for future generations to enjoy. Their first book, *The Life Cycles of Butterflies* won two Teacher's Choice awards. Over the years they also documented the life cycles of many other insects including lightning bugs, giant silk moths, ladybugs, lacewings, praying mantis, and others so they decided to write a book about those too. Their second book, *The Secret Lives of Backyard Bugs* won the National Outdoor Book Award (NOBA) and also a Teacher's Choice award. Burris and Richards' third book, *Nature's Notes*, is a user-friendly guidebook with activities and projects that teach families how to have fun in the forest. Each of the authors' books contain more than 400 color photographs showing the amazing, intricate details and fascinating designs of their subjects up close and personal.

### Sample interview questions:

What sparked your interest in butterflies and nature?

What other interests do you have?

How do you manage to co-author your books?

Who is your intended audience?

What kind of message would you like your readers to get from your books?

What challenges have you faced as authors?

Do you have any advice for other writers?

How long did it take you to write this book?

What is your ultimate goal for this book?

