



May— June 2013

No. 161

WETLAND *matters*

Published bi-monthly for the Friends and Members of Oxbow, Inc.

Have you visited our website?...www.oxbowinc.info

Need a speaker? Call 513-851-9835

Window on the Future of Oxbow (Part II)

.....by Jon Seymour

In 2003 we realized that Oxbow, Inc. had matured. It was the same organization with several long-term Board members and volunteers but everyone's job seemed to be changing and fast. We were still a not for profit 501 (c) 3 organization but now we had to be run like a business. Financial records were becoming more complicated and what were previously handwritten notations of member donations in a log book with expenditures listed on the opposing page, needed to become computerized with dedicated lines of income and expenditures that plugged into electronic tax forms. IRS rules were changing rapidly as they scrutinized non-profit organizations more completely. The job of Treasurer of the organization, never an easy position, took on the aspect of an all-consuming hobby. Membership records that had all been carried on file cards and tracked by hand needed to be converted to computerized records. In 2007 we were gifted with a large donation from Ginny Wiseman-Witte. It came with several restrictions in our ability to manage the funds directly but it required us to rethink our entire financial management system.

Up until 2007 our entire investment strategy had been a checkbook and a Money Market Fund for our savings. Now we were faced with having to learn about stock investment management. To add to the complication our Farm Income was rising and the market collapsed all within a few months. We made a decision to start compartmentalizing our income streams to allow better management of the organization. A portion of the funds from Ginny Wiseman-Witte that were unencumbered were set aside in a fund to support K-12 education, a special

(continued on page 3)

Birdathon Participation

Oxbow, Inc. wants as many birdwatchers as possible participate in the Birdathon. While there is a basic competition for the most species seen in the Birdathon area during 24 hours, there are many ways to compete besides most species for the total Birdathon area. Consider these possible categories of competition:

-if not the entire Birdathon area then a portion-

Most Species seen: in one state, in one county or a river watershed

-maybe it is a small area-

Most Species In One Location: like the Oxbow, back yard, or a big sit

-maybe the type of team-

Most Species seen: by a family, a group under the age of 20, a school class

-maybe it can be a special category-

Most money raised: by a team, an individual, a class

-or-

Most birds seen without using fossil fuel, while building a deck, taking the kids for a hike

-or-

Most birds photographed

Create your own category. If it has anything to do with counting bird species in the Birdathon's 24 hour time window we will probably accept it.

Remember the purpose of the Birdathon is to raise money for improving Oxbow habitat and Oxbow accessibility projects. Each team or individual participating should do everything it can to raise money for Oxbow. **The way to do it is to have fun birding! Then celebrate all the fun at the Grand Tally Party**

To enter a team (or as an individual) in the Oxbow Birdathon, **please call Jay Stenger @ 513-522-4245 or Jon Seymour @ 513-851-9835.** We like to know how many will be participating in the Birdathon so we order enough pizza for the Grand Tally Party at the finish of the Birdathon. The \$5.00 participation fee per person covers the cost of the food at the Tally Party. See you ALL there.

Call for a car pool!



We have a member in Wyoming, OH who no longer likes to drive long distances at night and is looking for an occasional ride to Oxbow, Inc. Educational Meetings. These usually occur at 7:30 pm on the second Tuesday of the month. If you would be willing to give an occasional ride to a fellow Oxbow lover please call me, Jon Seymour, at 513-851-9835 and I will put you in touch with the member needing the ride. The two of you can work out whatever arrangements work for you both.

MOVING YOUR NEST?

Make sure WETLAND MATTERS goes with you!

Name _____

Old Address:

Street _____

City/State/Zip _____

New Address:

Street _____

City/State/Zip _____

MAIL TO:

Oxbow Inc.
P.O. Box 4172
Lawrenceburg, IN 47025

Please mail right away - Wetland Matters is third class mail and is not forwarded!

Midwest Native Plant Conference

www.midwestnativeplants.org

July 26, 27, & 28, 2013

The fifth annual *Midwest Native Plant Conference* will be held the weekend of July 26-27-28, 2013 at the Bergamo Conference Center in Beavercreek, OH. We are growing with each year, and hope that you will join us for this event.

Last year we had 30 vendors and exhibitors selling everything from native plants, paintings, jewelry, photography, books, note cards and t-shirts, including information from various native plant organizations. We had 7 native plant vendors, making it one of the largest groups of Native Plant Vendors in Ohio gathered at the same venue. The 2012 conference was filled to capacity with participants who enjoyed browsing the vendors throughout the day, and we hope for the same in 2013! We will be open to the public on Saturday 9-5 for additional sales and there will be ample time throughout the weekend for our conference attendees to shop.

We are pleased to announce that our keynote speakers are Doug Tallamy, author of "Bringing Nature Home", David Fitzsimmons, award winning freelance photographer and author of "Animals of Ohio's Ponds and Vernal Pools", also Judy Burris and Wayne Richards, brother & sister team back by popular demand. Our breakout session speakers will be David Brandenburg, Terry Fredrich, Don Geiger, Andrew Gibson, Bob Henn, John Howard, Janet Creamer Martin and Macy Reynolds. Friday afternoon and Sunday morning field trips will be offered to round out the weekend.



interest of Ginny and Art Wiseman. Now we were in the Grant giving business and a structure was put in place to solicit and evaluate grants for education.

In a similar thread the publication of "The Last Child in the Woods" brought focus to the problem we were all aware of but had not articulated – the younger generations were losing touch with nature. In response the Board added educational grants to qualified high school seniors intent on studying nature to our arsenal of support for education and encouraging lifelong interest in nature. In addition we stepped up our approach to educating K-12 directly with volunteers making more frequent presentations to K-12 students and participating in more gatherings where K-12 students were in attendance.

Our adult education program was stepped up also. By 2002 the program had come to a major cliff. Morris Mercer, the major component of the outreach education program was in failing health and no longer able to accept calls for outreach programs. Kani Meyer, Steve Pelikan, Velda Miller and I stepped into the breach and we now currently average about 20 outreach programs per year and the number could be increased since we currently do not advertise our availability. Velda has taken a special interest in the K-12 program and is working on ways and methods to build up our impact. It is more difficult in this day and age of state standards and tight money for field trips but we are playing catch up and trying to learn from the experience of other groups. We know that people value only what they know. Getting children to know nature and learning to value it is a key piece in assuring the long term survival of the Oxbow. We do not do this alone as it is a top priority focus for almost all nature related groups, but we are trying to do our part in our little corner of the world.

On the state and national front we have started to play a role in organizations that have impact beyond that little corner I just mentioned. Most of our property lies in the State of Indiana. This is through no particular intent of ours but has been a function of how things have worked out. Mostly this is due to the effective partnership we have with the Hamilton County Park District who has acquired ownership or conservation easements on most of the area of the flood plain on the Ohio side of the border. Their organization has been able to marshal matching grants through the Clean Ohio Fund granting system. This large source of funds and the Park District's willingness to aggressively pursue a protection strategy has allowed

Oxbow, Inc. to concentrate on the Indiana side of the border where neither state nor federal help, of any magnitude, is available.

One of our acquisitions in 2000 has served as the laboratory for our land management practices. The purchase of the 45 acre farm that Greendale used to build the levee along highway US 50 gave us a 23 acre hole in the ground and a 22 acre overgrown farm stubble field. Floods filled the hole in the ground and we named it Osprey Lake, in the hope that we might attract a pair of osprey to two nesting platforms we placed on either end of the lake. So far no luck, but we remain hopeful. Aquatic seeds and animals came with the flood waters and an active lake ecosystem began to establish itself. Seed purchased from Hamilton County Park District's Shaker Trace Seed Nursery was used to seed the stubble field and a prairie has grown up around the lake. This is managed with controlled burns and when the burns are not possible (more often than not) by mechanical bush hogging. The burn management also required placement of firebreaks around the areas to be burned. In the process of building this prairie we also encountered many invasive plants which volunteers and Boy Scout troops have been active in cutting down. Protection of the prairie ecosystem is a major priority and we have recently purchased six special safety outfits recommended for individuals involved in controlled burns.

Our former President, Norma Flannery, always viewed Oxbow, Inc. as unique and local and did not think that we were a Land Trust. After Norma died and I became President of the organization, I realized that Oxbow, Inc. met every definition of a Land Trust. In about 2004 the national Land Trust Association (LTA) started to publish standards of operation in response to several IRS issues that had resulted from mismanagement and outright fraud from a few rogue non-profit organizations. The IRS agreed with the national management of the LTA that self-regulation was preferable to imposed regulation, as land trusts were not a general problem for the IRS. Thus, land trust accreditation was born and best management practices that were single sentence guidelines became 20 pages of standards and best management practices – for each of 12 core standards. Although we were not seeking accreditation we knew we needed to pay attention to these published standards and work toward quick implementation of as many as we could. A tall order for an all-volunteer organization whose organizational glue is a mutual love and respect for a 3000 acre floodplain!

Horseshoe Bottoms Diary

April 4, 2013 Diary – not in the Bottoms
.....by Jon Seymour

Contrary to how this diary makes it seem, the job of representing Oxbow, Inc. in our community does not always put me out along the shores of Oxbow Lake watching Eagles soar or listening to Sandhill Cranes bugling their way south. I wish it were so, but much of this position (The word “job” implies work and takes the “love” out of the equation. “Position” implies a certain amount of choice and pride – a stand tall type of feeling. Yes, I like “position”.) involves lots of meetings and lots of time spent typing something on a computer and usually sending it to someone only to get an immediate answer that requires a response, and so on.....

I am on my way to REI, the outdoor gear store at Rookwood Commons. It is 8:30 am and the store won't open for another hour and a half. I head for the side door and push the little black button beside the door and wait. A distinct buzz lets me know I can open the door and I step inside the quiet and dimly lit store. It is not a meeting of the local CIA (Conservation of International Anteaters), but the regular meeting of the Meet Me Outdoors Action Team of Green Umbrella, the Greater Cincinnati sustainability coalition.

Three of the nine action teams (Outdoors, Land, and Water) that are direct concerns of Oxbow, Inc. One is the Meet Me Outdoors Team whose primary mission is to get people outdoors enjoying the benefits of nature and being part of it. This team is the sponsor of Paddlefest, Pedalfest, Kid's Outdoor Expo, Cincinnati High School Adventure Clubs, and Great Outdoor Weekend. I usually try to get to their meetings as they are great sources of information and an opportunity for collaboration. Velda Miller has also attended some of these meetings for Oxbow. The meeting is in a special area in the back the store that can be converted in just a few moments from a store clothing area to a screened-off meeting room.

The discussion today centers around a report from a sister action team, Local Foods. They are looking to share success stories as well as what didn't go so well and in return they are seeking ideas or solutions for their issues from our group. We are listening attentively to see if they have any solutions that we can use for our own problems. One particular concept that is going well is looking for cooperative

opportunities with the bus company on routes and special maps that link attractions like parks to specific bus routes. The same could be worked out for farmer's markets and maybe even a few farms and allow downtown city dwellers to reach fresh local food markets economically. We will see where that goes in the future but it is a great idea.

After the meeting ends at 10:30 am., I drive to the University area. I have an 11:30 meeting with Bill Thompson, the young graphic design artist who has donated many hours of effort in designing and obtaining the sign we put up on the levee about 6 years ago to provide information for people walking on the levee bike/foot path so they could learn about Oxbow. Early last year we discovered that the 10 year life guarantee of the display board was a gross overestimate and that the board was severely weather damaged. After learning of the signs deterioration, I took some photos and sent them to Bill, which he sent to the manufacturer. It was agreed they would create a replacement at a prorated discount. We decided this would be a good time to make some minor changes to update the sign. At this point I dropped the ball and never got around to sending the changes to Bill. Then it seemed with another winter approaching it did not make sense to put in a new sign and have it experience a full winter's wear before anyone actually had a chance to see it. Now I had a lunch meeting with Bill to finally nail down the details and proceed with the replacement.

Bill works 75 yards up hill from the Skyline at Clifton and Ludlow. So we roll downhill for lunch and between bites, we go over the changes, discuss why we think the deterioration occurred and why the company sold it to us as a 10-year product. I charged Bill with finding out if there are better materials. It is not that we made it easy for the sign to last. We mounted the sign on top of a treeless levee with absolutely no shade and of course facing full west into the afternoon sun. Completely exposed to the elements! Still it was supposed to last 10 years! Bill gathers up everything and we chat on about his adventures and I compare them to things my son has gone through. I love our volunteers. We all share a love of nature and the Oxbow in particular, so getting together with any of them usually feels like a family experience. Bill has to get back to work, he gets paid for what he does, I just take my pay in feel good currency. Funny how that 75 yards downhill before Skyline feels like 150 yards uphill with a three-way in the tummy.

Now it is off to Lawrenceburg to pick up the display for tomorrow's Western Wildlife Corridor

(continued on page 11)

Birdathon 2012 Pledge Form
(May 11-12, 2012)

Name _____

Address _____

My Pledge for Birdathon 2012 is: Fixed Amount: \$ _____ () Check Enclosed () Bill me after the Birdathon
(Be sure to pick a team to support with your check. It means a lot to the birders.)

Per Species Pledge: (Circle One, you will be billed after the Birdathon):

\$ 5.00 \$4.00 \$3.00 \$2.00 \$1.00 \$0.75 \$0.50 \$0.25 Other \$ _____

My Pledge is to Support the following Oxbow, Inc. Team

- _____ Highest Scoring Team
- _____ Team #1 – Paul Wharton, Jay Stenger, & Joe Bens
- _____ Team #2 – Wayne Wauligman, Erich Baumgardner, & Jerry Lippert
- _____ Team #3 – Sister Marty Dermody, Lois Shadix, & Chris Moran
- _____ Team #4 – Charlie Saunders and Bob Lacker
- _____ Team #5 – Jon Seymour & the First Timers
- _____ Team #6 – Dave & Jane Styer (West Coast Big Day)

Mail To: Oxbow of Indiana, Inc
P.O. Box 4172
Lawrenceburg, IN 47025
Attn: Birdathon

Birdathon Participation

Oxbow, Inc. wants to have as many birdwatchers as possible participate in the Birdathon. While there is a basic competition for the most species seen in the Birdathon area during 24 hours, there are many ways to compete besides most species for the total Birdathon area. To get your mind working, here are some possible categories of competition:

- *if not the entire Birdathon area then a portion-*
- Most Species seen: in one state, in one county or a river watershed
 -maybe it is a small area-
- Most Species In One Location: like the Oxbow, back yard, or a big sit
 -maybe the type of team-
- Most Species seen: by a family, a group under the age of 20, a school class
 -maybe it can be a special category-
- Most money raised: by a team, an individual, a class
 -or-
- Most birds seen without using fossil fuel, while building a deck, taking the kids for a hike
 -or-
- Most birds photographed

If you want to enter a team (or as an individual) in the Oxbow Birdathon, **please call Jay Stenger @ 513-522-4245 or Jon Seymour @ 513-851-9835.** We like to know how many are going to be participating on the Birdathon so that we can get the Pizza order right for the Grand Tally Party at the finish of the Birdathon.

You can even make up your own category. If it has anything to do with counting bird species in the Birdathon's 24 hour time window we will probably accept it.

Remember the purpose of the Birdathon is to raise money for improving Oxbow habitat and Oxbow accessibility projects.
The way to do it is to have fun birding! Then celebrate all the fun at the Grand Tally Party



Allan Claybon found this perched Bald Eagle in the Oxbow and had the right light and the proper camera equipment to take this perfect photo showing the majesty of our national symbol.



The new Oxbow, Inc. t-shirts are coming with an original design by local wildlife artist Ann Geise. The composite features well known Oxbow wildlife around an Oxbow scene. The shirts will be available for \$15.00 and we will be working on the best method to take orders and get people their shirts. The scene is a direct print onto the shirt which will be a high quality white t-shirt from Port.



Maria McLain's Animal Behavior Class from Northern Kentucky University came to the Oxbow to learn about behaviors of animals in the wild. This is the third year that Dr. McLain has brought her class to the Oxbow to get a little field learning.
(photo by Jon Seymour)

Oxbow Inc. PROGRAMS—submitted by Kani Meyer

To reach the Oxbow, Inc. office take Highway US 50 west from the #16 exit off I-275. Pass the Hollywood Casino exit and turn left at the second stop light onto Walnut St. 301 Walnut is on the right side at the second stoplight at the corner of Walnut and Center Streets. Free parking is available on Walnut St., Center St., and in the parking lot behind the building. All meetings are at The Oxbow, Inc. Office, 301 Walnut St., Lawrenceburg unless otherwise noted

Tuesday, May 14, 2013 @ 7:30pm

301 Walnut St., Lawrenceburg—The Oxbow, Inc. Office

The Mill Creek Watershed Council enables the Mill Creek communities to protect and enhance the value of the Mill Creek, its tributaries and watershed. Through collaborative action, the Council strives to make the Mill Creek area a more desirable place to live, work and play. Jennifer Eismeier, Executive Director, will be speaking on watershed action planning and how it ties to overall water quality improvement in an urbanized stream.

Tuesday, June 11, 2013 @ 7:30pm

301 Walnut St., Lawrenceburg—The Oxbow, Inc. Office

The Truth About Bats program covers basic biology, ecological niches, and "myths" concerning bats. This program focuses on local species and their adaptations and even provides a bat encounter with a Big Brown Bat, the most common species in our area. Oxbow member Vicki Shepherd has done wildlife rehab for over 20 years and has specialized in bats since 1997. She presents bat programs for EchoBats, Inc. and has been involved with banding bats also.

Tuesday, July 9, 2013 @ 7:30pm

301 Walnut St., Lawrenceburg—The Oxbow, Inc. Office

David Noem is a certified herbal consultant working at "Serenity Now", a holistic health care center located in Union, KY as their herbalist. Having the knowledge of edible and medicinal plants has been lost in our culture. Everything is just a weed until we understand what it can do for us. David is committed to teach, share and use this knowledge about the plants to use in our everyday life and to regain our health through them.

Oxbow Inc. FIELD TRIPS—submitted by Jay Stenger

***Revised Directions for Oxbow Inc Field Trip Meeting Location**—Unless otherwise indicated, all trips start at the upper Oxbow parking lot. Go south on US Hwy 50 from the I-275 #16 exit. In about 200 yards, turn left (east) at the edge of the Shell/Subway and go over the levee to where the road T's with a fence directly in front of you. Turn right and go to the Oxbow entrance sign. Turn left into the Oxbow. The upper parking area is immediately on the right.

Saturday, May 18, 2013, 7:30 AM

Meet: In the Shawnee Lookout Boat Ramps Upper Parking Lot

Leader: Ann Oliver, (513) 307-0929, annicobirden@yahoo.com

To reach Shawnee Lookout from I-275, take the Kilby Road exit and turn right onto Kilby Road, then turn right onto U.S. 50, then left onto Lawrenceburg Road, cross the bridge, then turn right and go approximately 1.5 miles to the park entrance. The parking lot is on the right. The upper boat ramp parking lot is located directly across from the entrance to Shawnee Lookout.

Ann Oliver, is an enthusiastic and outstanding birder who expects us to find a great diversity of birds. We should see numbers of raptors, herons, shorebirds, migrant and resident warblers and other songbirds. While warbler migration will be just a bit past peak, there should still be many moving through and our breeding birds will be back in abundance. Ann plans to cover a wide area during this trip, visiting several spots in the Oxbow as well as a few hotspots on the Shawnee Lookout side of the river where we will start the day. Prepare for mud if conditions are wet. Feel free to contact Ann with any questions. For further info and directions to Shawnee Lookout, use the following link. A motor vehicle permit (\$10 annual, \$3 daily) is required and can be purchased at the entrance. <http://www.hamiltoncountyparks.org/parks/shawnee-lookout.html>

Saturday, June 15, 2013, 8:00 am

Meet: In the upper Oxbow parking lot at the main entrance

Leader: Paul Wharton, (513) 353-3403, pwharton@fuse.net

Join Paul Wharton for a pleasant summer morning walk in the Oxbow. We will be sure to see a wide variety of birds, as there are many breeding birds in the Oxbow during the summer months including Prothonotary Warblers, Blue Grosbeaks and a number of other interesting birds. Last summer Dickcissels were found breeding in the Oxbow for the first time. Paul also has a great understanding of all the natural history of the area and intends for this trip to be a general nature hike around the Oxbow, taking in everything we see. Paul's goal is to take our time and see all the natural diversity of the Oxbow. Paul has been involved with Oxbow Inc. since it began in 1985 and knows quite a bit of the history of the area. Summer can be hot, so you might want to bring water and sun screen to make your walk more enjoyable. Feel free to contact Paul if you have any questions.



by Dave Styer

The Indigo Bunting

The Indigo Bunting is one of the most common and widespread birds breeding in eastern North America. I have read that this was not likely so before European settlement. That is because the Indigo Bunting nests in brushy areas. Thus, deep woods, favored by Wood Thrushes, are not such good places for Indigo Buntings. The clearings and brushy edges formed by settlers must have immensely increased Indigo Bunting habitat.

Now the Indigo Bunting is so common that Bruce Peterjohn, in *The Birds of Ohio*, starts his account with a reminder of the saying that "familiarity breeds contempt." He reminds us that this is one of our most beautiful birds, but we usually ignore it. If it were rare we would be lining up for looks. Indigo Bunting nests are said to be much parasitized by Brown-headed Cowbirds. Biologically, this would seem to be a more serious negative than human indifference. Yet, the Indigo Bunting remains one of our commonest birds.

For biologists wishing to study birds, commonness and accessibility are great advantages. Unlike some of the birds I have written about, Indigo Buntings have been much studied, and a good amount of information about the life of birds has been gained from these studies. For example, when the buntings migrate, they use the stars for navigation. However, they don't seem to pay attention to individual stars, so much as what the stars rotate around. Of course, that essentially gives north and the birds take their bearings from that.

During the breeding season male Indigo Buntings are very persistent singers. In some songbird species the male learns its song as a nestling, and from then on the song is pretty much fixed, at least by the time it is fully developed. This is not so with Indigo Buntings. If a male summers in a new location it learns its song from its new neighbors. Even though many birds are, almost famously, known to return to the exact spot where they grew up, male Indigo Buntings are actually known to return north in Spring to new locations. It has been described as

biologically advantageous for the male to learn and sing the local "dialect." The comparison with humans is obvious; it is beneficial to "speak the language" of the folks around us. Biologists have made this connection explicit. Frank Gill's *Ornithology* mentions work at the University of Michigan by Robert Payne:

The average life span of local song neighborhoods of Indigo Buntings in southern Michigan was three times that of the individual buntings (or roughly 15 years). The song traditions of birds may provide excellent models for the analysis of rates of culturally related change in human language and in bird behavior.

In the western U.S. Indigo Buntings are replaced by the closely related Lazuli Buntings. The breeding males of the two species look quite different. The Indigo Bunting is basically blue all over, and the Lazuli Bunting is strikingly red, white, and blue. However, their songs are very similar. On the central California coast the Lazuli Bunting is common during the breeding season. I always think it would be neat to see a stray Indigo Bunting. When I hear one of these birds singing, I have to see the bird to know which species it is. I'm not sure if this is a failure on my part, or if the two species have the same song, at least to human ears. The two species can hybridize, but rarely do, and I was interested to read the following account in Welty and Baptista's *The Life of Birds*:

*The relative importance of song versus appearance as species-isolating mechanisms in wild populations is still poorly known for most species. In Indigo and Lazuli Buntings, *Passerina cyaneu* and *P. amoena*, appearance seems to take precedence over song. In Nebraska, these buntings sometimes learn each other's song syllables and respond to each other's songs in playback experiments. Yet few hybrid pairs are established. A male's advertising song may attract a female; if he doesn't look like the correct species, she probably won't pair.*

Back to the Oxbow area. One spring morning in the 1970s I was taking a group of Junior Zoologists out on their Saturday morning bird trip. I believe I was near Lost Bridge when I saw what may have been our first Indigo Bunting flying away. Applying a bit of an anagram, I said "there is an indibunt going." Leslie responded "how did you do that?" And that's a question I still haven't answered.

**Come Out and Help Us
Clean Up the Oxbow**

(bags, gloves, water, etc. provided)

Meet at the entrance parking lot

Trucks most welcome

Contact: Kani Meyer @ 513-948-8630 or email

kaniyu@yahoo.com

**Great Miami River Clean-Up
Saturday, May 18, 2013
9:00 am - noon**

and

**Ohio River Sweep
Saturday, June 15, 2013
9:00 am - noon**

Hunting Permit Applications Due July 1, 2013

Oxbow, Inc. members who wish to apply for permits to hunt on Oxbow, Inc. land must submit their application by July 1, 2013 to:

Oxbow, Inc.
c/o Denny Mason
10210 Scull Rd
Cincinnati, OH 45252

Your application must include a copy of your valid Indiana hunting license and a completed memorandum of understanding printed on page 11. Cut out the memorandum. Complete the form and mail it with a copy of your license and a self-addressed stamped envelope to Denny. Once accepted you will receive a permission slip to hunt on Oxbow land designated for hunting, east of I-275. Members must have dues paid current to the time of application. Any violation of the memorandum of understanding will result in immediate revocation of hunting privileges.

If you have any questions contact Denny Mason at 513-385-3607.

Oxbow, Inc. Honorariums & Memorials

Donor	Memorial
James & Sara Krailler	Eldon Bagot, Sr.
Bill & Do Kuhlman	Norma Flannery
Jon & Jackie Seymour	Norma Flannery
Jon & Jackie Seymour	Morris Mercer

Thank You

**Oxbow Inc. would like to thank the
following donors for their generous gifts.**

Kelly Riccetti

Oxbow, Inc. has established Memorials in honor of those who have passed on. Each Memorial established in the name of a friend or relative will be enrolled permanently in the records of the Corporation. Each contribution to a Memorial will be acknowledged to the family or to those selected by the donor.

Tributes are also enrolled permanently in the records of the Corporation. Some tributes are birthday or anniversary remembrances, holiday greetings or gratitude acknowledgements. If so desired, "Happy Birthday!" or the like can be inscribed in the tribute notice.

Contributions should be sent to: Oxbow, Inc., P. O. Box 4172, Lawrenceburg, IN 47025. Be sure to enclose the names and addresses of those who are to receive the acknowledgement.

(WWC) annual Flower Festival. I have another Action Team meeting tomorrow morning (Watershed Team)(Dr. Michael Miller also covers this on occasion for Oxbow). Followed by a stint on Carol Mundy's radio talk show on WMKV (Maple Knoll) put on by the Hamilton County Park District. This weekly show called "It's Great Outdoors" showcases park events as well as other nature related activities in the Greater Cincinnati area tied to the Park District's mission. The interview tomorrow will be on *Green Fire*, a movie about the life of Aldo Leopold and the development of the Land Ethic. We are showing it at Sharon Woods on Tuesday the 9th and we will have a full house of 180 people. I throw the display materials in the car and after a swing by our P.O. Box head for Northside, where my mission is to listen in on the Green Umbrella meeting of the Action Team leaders. Brewster Rhoads, Executive Director of Green Umbrella, was asked to speak to a symposium of Kentucky Environmental Education teachers on the morning of the first day of Paddlefest. Since Brewster is the embodiment of Paddlefest he asked me to speak about Green Umbrella to the symposium in his stead. I must not have taken the two steps back fast enough because I ended up with the task. I spent yesterday morning with the planning group on a site visit and planning session with the team. Now I need to learn more about what everyone was doing so I can give the talk. I am familiar with what 4 of the nine action teams are doing but mostly draw a blank on the others so listening in at the leaders meeting is a good way to learn more about what is really going on.

After the Team Leaders meeting, the Board Meeting of Green Umbrella starts so I take my place at the table as we discuss grants, team activities, finances, and the milestone achieved this week of reaching 200+ member organizations. Green Umbrella is a concept of helping organizations work together to achieve sustainability in a wide variety of ways from land and water, to energy and food. It is unique to the Cincinnati area as defined by its scope and degree and membership breadth. We hope that by harnessing and projecting the power of our combined efforts we can begin to influence policy and behavior in a way that will lead toward a sustainable community.

At 7:00 pm it's time to head home for a late dinner and a little rest. You know that old saying about retired people wondering how they ever had time to work. Well it is true!

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

(A hunting permission slip with confirmatory stamp and authorized signature will be returned on acceptance of your application.)

Application and Memorandum of Understanding

I am a member in good standing of Oxbow, Inc. and request permission to hunt on Oxbow, Inc. property east of I-275 as will be shown on the map affixed to the permission slip that must be carried while hunting on Oxbow property.

I agree: to hunt subject to the following Oxbow, Inc. rules:

- I will practice good hunting ethics at all times.
- Others may rightfully visit the area and my activity has no priority over that of others.
- During my use of Oxbow, Inc. property I will not litter, remove or damage Oxbow, Inc. property, or cause any habitat destruction.
- I will not leave any structures on the property (ie. hunting stands, duck blinds, etc.).
- I will carry a valid permission slip at all times while hunting on Oxbow, Inc. land.
- I will obey all applicable laws

Mail to: Oxbow, Inc.
c/o Denny Mason
10210 Scull Rd.
Cincinnati, OH 45252
Phone: 513-385-3607

I understand that hunting privileges will be revoked if any of the above regulations are violated. I understand that I enter Oxbow, Inc. property entirely at my own risk and hold Oxbow, Inc. free of liability for any hazards, known or unknown to it. I HAVE INCLUDED A COPY OF MY VALID INDIANA HUNTING PERMIT and A SELF-ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE.

Your Signature: _____ Date _____

Return Mail Address: _____

Phone: Home _____ Work _____

HUNTING PERMISSION REQUESTS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED BY JULY 1, 2013

(Hunting permission is granted for one year (July 1 to June 30 of the following year only and must be reapplied for yearly.)

Oxbow, Inc. and Oxbow of Indiana, Inc.

A nonprofit organization formed by conservation groups and concerned citizens of Ohio and Indiana for the purpose of preserving and protecting a wetlands ecosystem know locally as the Oxbow, Hardintown, or Horseshoe Bottoms, from industrial development and to preserve the floodplain at the confluence of the Great Miami and Ohio rivers for use as a staging area for the seasonal migrations of waterfowl. This agricultural area is rich in geological, archaeological, and anthropological history.

Help us save this unique wetland ecosystem. Make your state a richer place in which to live by helping us preserve this precious resource. **Membership in Oxbow, Inc. is encouraged and solicited.**

Prothonotary Warbler	\$ 15	Wood Duck	\$ 25
Great Blue Heron	\$ 50	Green-winged Teal	\$100
Great Egret	\$250	Osprey	\$500
Bald Eagle	\$1000		
Charm of Goldfinches (Group Level)	\$25		

Mail to: **Oxbow, Inc.**
P.O. Box 4172
Lawrenceburg, IN 47025
513-851-9835

Corporation Officers

President, Dr. Jon Seymour	(513) 851-9835
Vice President, Kani Meyer	(513) 948-8630
Recording Secretary, Dwight Poffenberger	(513) 241-2324
Corresponding Secretary, Dennis Mason	(513) 385-3607
Treasurer, Ed Gemperle	(812) 539-3666
Ohio Agent, Dwight Poffenberger	(513) 241-2324
Indiana Agent, Mike Kluesener	(812) 623-7800

Committee Chairpersons

Conservation, Dr. Jon Seymour	(513) 851-983
Easement Inspection, Mike Kluesener	(812) 623-7800
Education, Velda Miller	(812) 584-0187
Field Trips, Jay Stenger	(513) 522-4245
Land Management, Kani Meyer	(513) 948-8630
John Klein	(513) 941-4877
Programs, Kani Meyer	(513) 948-8630
Research, Dr. Steve Pelikan	(513) 681-2574
Speakers Bureau, Dr. Jon Seymour	(513) 851-9835
Newsletter Editor, Meg Poehlmann	(513) 931-4072
Newsletter Email: meggster@fuse.net	

Wetland Matters, the newsletter for members of Oxbow, Inc., is published bimonthly.

Printed on recycled paper by
Rapid Copy Printing • 513-385-0888

513-851-9835



**Need a Speaker?
Give Us a Call!**

WWW.OXBOWINC.INFO
P.O. BOX 4172
LAWRENCEBURG, IN 47025



OXBOW, Inc.
FOUNDED 1988
PROTECTING WETLANDS