

wetland matters



OXBOW, INC. NEWSLETTER

2073 HARRISON AVENUE
CINCINNATI, OHIO 45214

No. 20 November - December, 1989

BIG CHALLENGES BRING BIG RESULTS.

It was a serious decision for the Board of Trustees to make. The issue facing them was their perception of the ability of Oxbow, Inc. to raise \$200,000 in eight months to purchase 189.82 acres of Indiana bottomland at the Oxbow. This property, containing a part of the Oxbow lake, has historically been used as a resting and feeding area by seasonally migrating waterfowl and shorebirds. It would be a key parcel for Oxbow, Inc. to own. Undoubtedly, it would be a BIG CHALLENGE for this relatively young organization but the decision to proceed was unanimous. The board committed to the challenge by securing an option to purchase the property by December 1, 1989.

Work began immediately to raise the needed funds. Throughout the summer months letters and calls went out to members. Businesses were approached for donations and other conservation organizations were solicited for financial help. The fundraising campaign was on! Money began to flow in from all sectors in response to the requests. New members were joining at a record-setting pace. BIRDATHON '89 provided a big contribution. Slowly, the land fund total began to climb, but it was evident, that in order to reach \$200,000 by December the first, a breakthrough into larger funding was a vital necessity.

October was to bring the biggest success to date. Oxbow, Inc. was awarded its first foundation grant! A \$30,000 grant was received from The Robert A. Reakirt Foundation through the Central Trust Company N.A. Trust Department!

Thanks must be given to wildlife artist, John A. Ruthven, for introducing Oxbow, Inc. to trustees of the foundation - to Greg Mendell who prepared and submitted the proposal for the funds, and to David Styer and Morris Mercer who escorted foundation trustees on a special field trip through the Oxbow. This important team effort produced BIG RESULTS - Oxbow, Inc. was awarded the \$30,000 grant! It is now hoped that this initial grant will encourage other foundations to assist in the preservation of the Oxbow.

Our SPECIAL THANKS go to The Robert A. Reakirt Foundation for demonstrating their confidence in Oxbow, Inc. by awarding it their financial assistance - it takes us a giant step closer to our December goal!



ANOTHER VIEW.

Rick Bramstedt



It's that time of the year again. Leaves are falling, the nights are frosty, and it's time again for annual waterfowl migrations to get into full swing. For some, the autumn season stirs memories of cold mornings in a duck blind scanning the sky for ducks and geese.

It's very hard to convey the feelings associated with duck hunting - constructing the blind, the painting and placement of the decoys, calling in the ducks and geese, and the moment of truth when you have fooled these wary birds and they accept the invitation to join your decoys. Many people do not understand that the best part of all of this is not bagging the ducks but all that leads up to that point.

This past year has been very tough on most duck species. A combination of long term drought in pot-hole country and wetland destruction has contributed to some of the lowest duck populations ever recorded. All duck hunters are being asked to practice "voluntary restraint" to give the ducks a chance to catch up. Also, hunting seasons have been shortened to help more ducks make it north to breed in the spring. This is why it is important to preserve wintering habitat such as the Oxbow. These areas are critical resting and feeding spots which help insure that the ducks are well fed and rested when they reach their northern breeding grounds.

Oxbow, Inc. is a diverse group which includes both birders and duck hunters. Because of this diversity both interests need to cooperate with each other. In an effort to promote this cooperation, the duck and goose hunting seasons for the Oxbow area are listed. We ask our birders to respect the legally licensed hunter's right to hunt during the posted seasons, and to report any illegal activities to the proper authorities.

OHIO RIVER ZONE
(Oxbow area.)

INDIANA

DUCKS

GEESE

November 23 - 26

November 13 - January 21, '90.

December 9 - January 3

OHIO

October 19 - 29

October 19 - November 25

December 20 - January 7

December 7 - January 7, '90

For specific hunting regulations contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or your state Department of Natural Resources.

BOOTH SCOOP.

Our sincere thanks to all the Oxbow, Inc. volunteers who worked the booth at the Cincinnati Zoo's WILDLIFE WEEKEND. We collected several hundred dollars in donations, gained several new members, and perhaps most importantly, made numerous contacts with potential supporters. Again, thanks to all who helped to make this project a success!

Oxbow, Inc. will sponsor another booth on Friday, November 10th, through Sunday, November 12th, at the Toys for Adults show at the Cincinnati Convention Center. Although the theme of the show may not seem to have any relation at all to conservation, we and other conservation groups found last year's show to be well worthwhile. Besides, it's fun.

We are looking for volunteers to work approximately three-hour shifts on all three days. A board member will be in the booth at all times. To volunteer, or for more information, call Ned Keller at 941-6497. As always, volunteers will receive free admission to the show.

Oxbow, Inc. Memorials

Oxbow, Inc. has established Memorials in honor of those who have passed on. Each Memorial, established in the name of a friend or loved one, 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 and should be sent to Oxbow, Inc. 2073 Harrison Avenue, Cincinnati, OH. 45214. Be sure to enclose the names and addresses of the donor and those to receive an acknowledgement.

YEAR OF 1989

<u>In Memory of</u>	<u>Donor</u>
* 1988 Dr. E.A. Kindel, Sr.	Wm. Rowell Chase
* 1989 Gus Reininger	Albert E. Lane
* Dale Durbin	Kenneth Fulmer
* Dale Durbin	Art & Jinny Wiseman
* Dale Durbin	Bill & Ann Moring
* James J. Anderson	Snowden Rowe
* James J. Anderson	Gilbert R. Symons
* Stanley Rowe, Sr.	Snowden Rowe
* Barbara Kay	Norma L. Flannery
* Barbara Kay	Julie Godsey
* Daisy Gick	Norma L. Flannery
* Mrs. Ruth M. Espy	W. Rowell Chase
* Mrs. Thos. M. Warrington	W. Rowell Chase
* Robert Schwalle	Norma L. Flannery
* John E. Gilmore, Jr.	John E. Gilmore III
* Hall C. Park	Mrs. Joan W. Park
* Mrs. Emma Jean Corsmeier - G.E co-workers	Robert Corsmeier

NEW MATCHING CHALLENGE GRANT ANNOUNCED.

Art Wiseman.

Oxbow, Inc. announced that they have a matching Challenge Grant now in effect. The new Challenge will match any amount of new money up to \$5000. New money is simply an amount that a member has not pledged before. The donor of the grant is anonymous.

If you have already contributed, we thank you. For those who have not, this is your chance to double your gift. Be sure to mark your pledge or your check "Challenge Grant."

And THANKS!

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Art Wiseman

Oxbow, Inc.'s efforts to raise \$200,000 for land acquisition have been tremendously successful. Individual contributions have ranged from \$5 to \$10,000. We thank all who have been so generous with their donations, large or small. We look forward to hearing from those members and friends who still may be preparing to contribute at a later date. Keep in mind, we only have ONE MORE MONTH to go to meet our goal.

BIRDATHON '89 has produced a final figure of \$17,000. This figure more than doubles last year's income from BIRDATHON '88. Special recognition must go to the CINCINNATI NATURE CENTER for their hefty contribution of \$4,000. Two individuals, Rich Peckham and Charles Saunders must also be mentioned for racking up \$500 each. Thanks, and congratulations to all for a job well done!

The WETLAND SEMINAR produced \$750 but more importantly, stimulated interest in the Oxbow and brought in a batch of new members. More memberships continue to be received daily.

Currently, we have raised about \$145,000 in cash for the land fund. We must still raise about \$55,000 by December 1st, and it will take the effort of every member to accomplish the task. We ask you to make a concerted effort to promote this project. We thank you for your cooperation and your participation.

TICKETS, WE HAVE TICKETS!

Oxbow, Inc. is looking for people who are willing to sell tickets for a chance to win William Zimmerman's print, "Mallard Ducks." Call Jinny Wiseman, 513-481-4302 for details and to secure your tickets. I'm sure Aunt Minnie will be good for two, and the guys at work for ten at least.....

NOTICE OF ELECTION.

Election to the board of Oxbow, Inc. will be held at the January general meeting in Cincinnati, OH. If you would like to take a more active role in Oxbow, Inc. by serving on the board, or if you know of someone who would be a good choice as a board member, please contact the chairman of the nominating committee, David Styer. Phone 513-772-4395.

Holiday Gifts for Young and Old

**WE'VE GOT
T-SHIRTS !**

If you're looking for a remarkably attractive, yet inexpensive holiday gift, we can help! Oxbow, Inc. T-shirts, bearing an original CHARLIE HARPER design, are now available in NINE sizes at low, low prices. You can order by mail or pick them up at 2073 Harrison Avenue, Cincinnati, OH. (Call 513-481-4302 before coming). T-shirts are sold at field trips, programs and meetings of Oxbow, Inc., Raptor, Audubon Society of Ohio and the Cincinnati Bird Club. They may also be purchased at Farbach-Warner Nature's Niche, the Museum of Natural History and the Cincinnati Nature Center at non-member prices only. Your purchase is not tax deductible.

The white T-shirts are the best-quality 50% cotton, 50% polyester, and are machine washable. (Slight shrinkage). The two-color design is printed on a blue water background. The characteristic marks of the wood duck are clearly presented in bright white.



Sizes and prices: Youth 2-4, 6-8, 10-12, 14-16, members \$8. non-members \$9;
Adult S, M, L, XL, members \$8. non-members \$10. XX-L, members \$10 non-members \$12.

Mail orders: Add \$2 PER MAILING ADDRESS for postage and handling.

These T-shirts make an ideal gift so make a list and give us a ring or mail your order with your check---NOW!!!

**ORDER
FORM**

Oxbow T-Shirts Order Form

Quantity	Size	Price	Amount
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Postage & Handling \$2.00 per mailing address _____

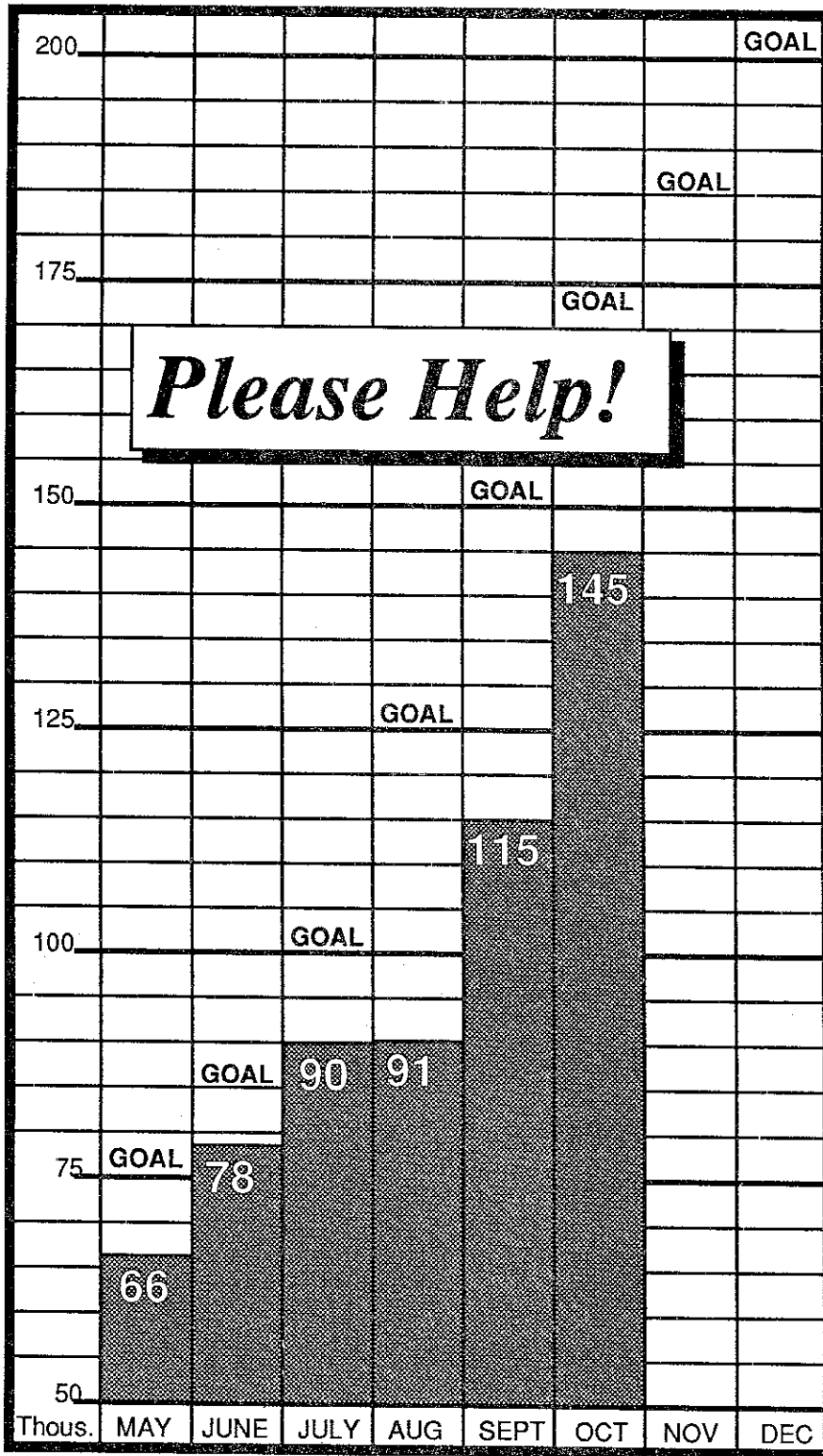
Total Amount _____

MAILING INFORMATION:

Name _____
 Address _____ Apt. # _____ Allow ten days for delivery
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Make your check payable to: Oxbow, Inc.
 2073 Harrison Avenue
 Cincinnati, OH 45214

FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN



Please Help!

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE UPDATE.

"EACH ONE BRINGS ONE!"

Our membership drive needs **your** effort if we are to reach our goal of 1,000 members by the end of 1989.

We need to gain 125 more members during the last two months of our drive. If you've been waiting to participate, now is your opportunity!

If your membership is due to be renewed, please stay with us. How about renewing at a higher level or sending something extra for our \$200,000 land fund?

Don't wait...renew your membership today and bring that extra person in with you!

ONLY TWO MONTHS TO GO!!!

SENDING MONEY?

Are you thinking about sending money to Oxbow, Inc.? Be sure to tell us how you wish your donation to be allocated. Land Fund? Dues renewal? Challenge Grant? Gift membership? Memorial? ... Just ear-mark your check, or send us a note, and we will assign the funds according to your direction.

Oxbow, Inc. Membership Makes an Ideal Gift

The holiday season is the time for gifts and giving, and here is our suggestion for a multi-purpose gift - a membership in Oxbow, Inc.! First, the price may be of your choosing - ten dollars on up. Second, it's a gift that's guaranteed to please anyone who is interested in nature. Third, it will help us to preserve the Oxbow wetlands through our land acquisition program. Finally, it offers wildlife a gift of unlimited value - habitat protection.



This Christmas, consider a gift membership in Oxbow, Inc. for your family and friends. It's sure to please and it's tax deductible. Fill out the gift membership form below and save yourself a great deal of shopping time and aggravation. Include additional gift memberships on a separate sheet of paper.

PLEASE SEND A GIFT MEMBERSHIP IN OXBOW, INC. TO:

NAME _____	Individual \$10.	Patron \$100.
ADDRESS _____	Family \$15.	Corner- stone \$250.
CITY, STATE, ZIP _____	Contribut- ing \$25.	Sponsor \$500.
DONOR _____	Supporting \$50.	Bene- factor \$1,000.

(Circle one).

Make this a MERRY CHRISTMAS for your friends and wildlife!
A note will announce your gift. Make check payable to:

Oxbow, Inc.
2073 Harrison Avenue
Cincinnati, OH 45214



REACH OUT AND TOUCH

Oxbow, Inc. wishes to thank The Aurora Casket Company and The Cincinnati Zoological and Botanical Gardens for the use of their telephone service. During the current fundraising campaign all of the members of Oxbow, Inc. were called by Ohio and Indiana telephone volunteers soliciting pledges for land acquisition. Our thanks to the solicitors, the members who pledged land funds, and to Aurora Casket Company and the Cincinnati Zoo.

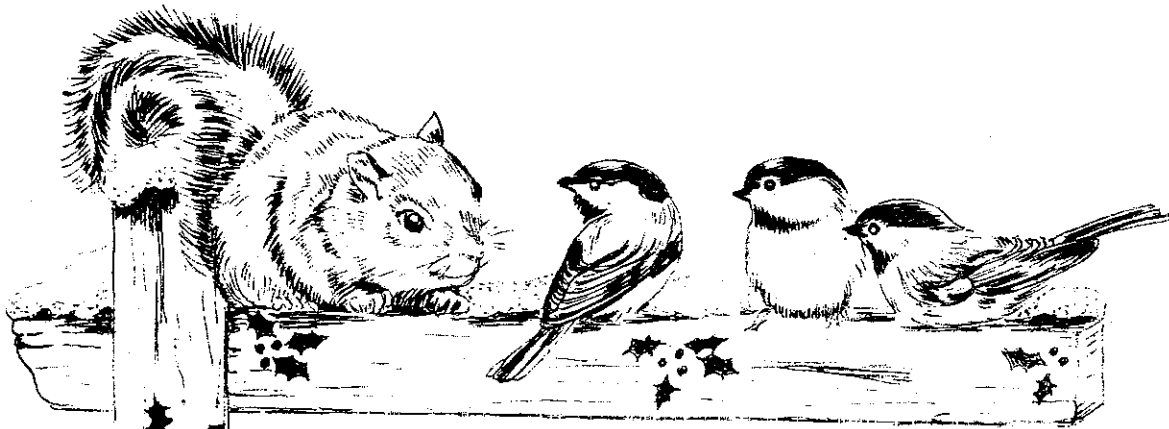
FIELD NOTES

A CHANGING SEASON.
Morris Mercer.



Autumn has come to the Oxbow. It is a season to be enjoyed here at the mouth of the Great Miami River. Great blue herons have been easy to find the last few months. Thirty or more could be seen most any day in the fields near the Oxbow. I saw numbers of great egrets on each trip I made into the area. Several double-crested cormorants have been seen at the lake. Warblers, stopping over to rest and feed, were seen in good numbers on a September day in Shawnee Lookout Park by Dave Styer. They are on their long migration to southern wintering grounds. Members of Raptor Inc., on a field trip into the Oxbow, were rewarded with the sighting of a peregrine falcon, and I've enjoyed watching an osprey fish along the Great Miami below Lost Bridge. The flight of 17 wood ducks carried them just above the willows - a beautiful picture against a clear, blue October sky.

For those of you who have never seen Lost Bridge, you will have to hurry. It is being rapidly dismantled and will soon be "Lost" forever.



*Wishing you a Joyous Holiday
and a Happy New Year*

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Meetings

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14TH, 7:30 P.M. Cincinnati Zoo Education Bldg.
Enter through the Exit Gate on Erkenbrecher Avenue.

Speaker Michael Arloski presents "Healing of the Earth." Michael is a psychologist with 16 years experience in helping people grow. He has presented at National and International environmental and wellness conferences promoting the oneness of human and environmental health. He is an accomplished outdoorsman and photographer who has camped and backpacked through North America and Canada.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 7:30 P.M. Lawrenceburg Public Library. Turn left off of U.S. 50 onto Walnut Street. Turn right onto High Street. The library is on the right side of High Street.

The program? "Bloopers and Blunders and the World's Many Wonders!" It's time for the home-grown nature photographer to shine. Have you been someplace scenic or fascinating recently? The Oxbow area qualifies, of course. Share six or ten of your favorite slides with the Oxbow, Inc. members and friends. Plan to bring slides? Call Bonnie Fancher for room in the slide tray. Bring a few holiday cookies to share if you like. Coffee and tea will be available. Don't be shy! If no one calls, we won't have a program.

Bonnie Fancher 812-438-3641

Field Trips

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11TH - 9 A.M.

Meet Dave Styer at the Shawnee Lookout Park boat-ramp parking lot. We wish to emphasize that the boat-ramp is a meeting place only and is not an indication of a boat-trip. Field trips leaving from this location are hiking trips to find wildlife in the Oxbow area.

Dave Styer 513-772-4395

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9TH - ANNUAL BIRD COUNT.

Oxbow, Inc. will participate in the Hamilton County Park District Annual Bird Count. Meet Morris Mercer at 8:30 A.M. at the upper boat ramp parking lot at Shawnee Lookout Park. See how many little birdies you can count. Park Motor Vehicle Permit required.

Morris Mercer 513-941-2534.



MOVING?

Make sure your WETLAND MATTERS newsletter goes with you.

Name _____

New Address _____

Old Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

City/State/Zip _____

Effective Date _____

Mail to: Oxbow, Inc. 2073 Harrison Ave Cinti, OH 45214
Please notify us immediately so we can update our records. The post office does not forward third class mail.

Corporation Officers

President, Norma Flannery	513-471-8001
Vice President, Rick Bramstedt	812-438-2129
Secretary, Bonnie Fancher	812-438-3641
Treasurer, Art Wiseman	513-481-4302
Agent, Dave Styer	513-772-4395

Committee Chairpersons

Fund Raising, Greg Mendell	812-926-1966
Preservation, Ned Keller	513-941-6497
Programs, Judy Bramstedt	812-438-2129
Research, Kaniaulono Meyer	513-948-8630
Speakers' Bureau, Kaniaulono Meyer	513-948-8630
Volunteer Coordinator, Cay Tuck	513-631-5933

Editor

Norma Flannery	513-471-8001
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Oxbow, Inc.

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

Help us save this unique wetland. You can make your state a richer place in which to live by helping us preserve this precious resource.

Membership in Oxbow, Inc. is solicited and encouraged.

Individual	\$10	Organization/Club	\$25	Cornerstone	\$250
Family	\$15	Supporting	\$50	Sponsor	\$500
Contributing	\$25	Patron	\$100	Benefactor	\$1000

Mail to: OXBOW, INC. 2073 Harrison Avenue Cincinnati, Ohio 45214

Need A Speaker? Give Us A Call!



2073 HARRISON AVENUE
CINCINNATI, OHIO 45214

