Number 48, July-August 1994

At Recent Board Meetings

The Board voted to post Oxbow owned land with No Trespassing signs and to run No Trespassing ads in local papers. This is partly in response to problems caused by Off-the-Road Vehicles and partly in response to people hunting on the land without permission.

The OTRV's have caused considerable damage to the railroad embankment, and Oxbow's tenants who are farming the area are concerned about possible damage to their crops. Simply riding OTRV's down the farm roads while they are wet creates ruts, tears up the roads, and makes extra work for the farmers who maintain the roads. In past summers people have ridden OTRV's on the mud and vegetation along the lake shores. While this activity doesn't damage roads, it does kill vegetation and probably disturbs birds such as Killdeer, Mallards and Spotted Sandpipers that nest beside the lake.

If posting the area alleviates the problems, no further action will need to be taken. If problems persist, Oxbow will need to construct gates at the entrances to the land. It might even be necessary to decide on specific policies about who is allowed on the land when, and communicate these policies to local law enforcement officers.

For the time being — at least until these matters are decided — the best way to visit Oxbow's land is on foot and as part of a scheduled field trip.

The Board voted to determine the cost of surveying Oxbow's land. This would be necessary if gates are to be constructed at the entrances to the land. It would also simplify the question of property taxes. Currently, Oxbow, Inc. is billed for taxes on land that it doesn't own. This is because no one is sure where the property lines are in the area. The hope is that by billing for taxes on parcels

whose area adds up to the acreage held by Oxbow, the correct amount of taxes are being collected. The tax people have refused to make any changes unless Oxbow pays to have the land surveyed. A third reason for having a survey is the likelihood that adjacent property will be developed soon in conjunction with gambling operations.

The Board decided to start using a "sign-in" sheet for Oxbow-led field trips on which participants give their name, address, and sign a waiver of liability. Such sheets have been used by the Audubon Society on their field trips for many years.

Policy on Visitors to Oxbow, Inc. Land

While Oxbow, Inc. would like to welcome members and friends to enjoy visits to our property, there are constraints that prevent us from extending an open invitation at this time.

The first problem is that we still rely on the goodwill of our neighbors to enter our own land. It is of utmost importance that we respect our neighbors' properties. People may not enter cultivated fields or posted areas but should stay on the edges and turnrows.

In the future we hope to have land open to visitors at all times, although we anticipate having some areas closed seasonally. However, the level of visitation must always be held low enough that it doesn't substantially interfere with wildlife. Historically, individuals who treat the Oxbow area respectfully have not been asked to leave, except during waterfowl season. In any case, larger parties that plan to visit should first contact Oxbow, Inc.

Finally, Shawnee Lookout Park is part of the Oxbow area, and the public is welcome there. Also, the Great Miami River is in the public domain, and there is a boat ramp at Shawnee Lookout.

(adopted by the Board 25 October 1989)

Calendar

Meetings

12 July (Tuesday) 7:30 P.M. Oxbow Ineeting at the Cincinnati Zoo Education Building (Enter through the exit gate on Erkenbrecher Avenue.)

Jim Oeschlaeger presented a spellbinding program about dogsled racing at a recent Oxbow meeting in Lawrenceburg. We are happy to announce that he's agreed to give a program in Cincinnati as well. A veteran of Alaska's Iditarod and other sled races, he'll be able to tell us some chilling stories. What could be better on a July evening?

9 August (Tuesday) 7:30 P.M. Oxbow ~neeting at the Lawrenceburg Public Library (From Cincinnati, tum left off U.S. 50 onto Walnut Street. Tum right on High Street. The library is on the right side of High Street.)

This evening David Skidmore Jr. will share, through slides, a recent safan he made to Kenya.

11 August (Thursday) 7:30 P.M. Slide presentation at Lawrenceburg Public Library

Elvin Blasdel will present a program of his own slides entitled "Wild Flowers of the Ohio Valley". The program is free. Voluntary donations to the Dearborn Adult Center will be accepted. For more information, phone (812)-537-2602.

Field Trips

13 July (Wednesday) 7:00 P.M. Oxbow field trip

Meet trip leader Dave Styer at 50's Root Beer for a summer evening's visit to the Oxbow. Need more info? Call Dave at (513)-7724395.

18 August (Thursday) 7:00 PM. Oxbow field trip

Meet at 50's Root Beer. Morris Mercer will lead this trip. He expects there'll be many interesting things to see and that the moon will be beautiful over the lake. Morris can be reached at (513)-941-2534 if you have questions about the trip.

Environmental and legal studies

Environmental Assessment Services is doing a study of the Oxbow area. The Board of Trustees felt that it would need detailed, up-to-date environmental information in order to comment on the relative merits of the plans of companies proposing development for riverboat gambling in the Oxbow area. During May and June E.A.S. employees have been busy doing field work in the Oxbow. Work has been completed for the surface and groundwater quality, sacred sites, aquatic and terrestrial vegetation studies. Work is nearly complete on the land use, mussel, archeology, and wildlife/wildlife habitat and air quality studies. The final report should be ready by the beginning of July —before the Indiana Gaming Commission holds hearings in Lawrenceburg.

Oxbow Inc. has already received the final report of the legal study done by the firm of Frost and Jacobs. The study provides a summary of all the Federal and Indiana laws pertaining to development in wetlands and floodplains together with copies of the laws themselves. An additional section details the ways in which Oxbow Inc., or interested individuals, can take part in the review and permitting procedures which are required for such development.

Gifts to Oxbow

The employees of FERMCO (Fernald Environmental Restoration Management Company) celebrated Earth Week in April by, among other things, distributing trees to plant. Everyone who got a tree gave a dollar and the company added some matching funds. The result was a donation of \$1343.00 to Oxbow, Inc. Oxbow member and FERMCO employee John Homer presented the check to Norma L. Flannery at the June meeting in Lawrenceburg.

Each year Paramount's Kings Island's Wild Animal Habitat runs a four-day educational program entitled Wildlife Discovery Days. The program is designed for elementary aged children and attempts to instill in them the beginnings of a conservation ethic. Proceeds from the event are donated to conservation organizations. This year, Oxbow, Inc. was selected as a recipient of one of these generous awards.

Oxbow sincerely appreciates the generosity of such donations. The recognition of some of our region's leading businesses is also very gratifying.

Help! Oxbow Needs a Treasurer

Jim Rettig has served as Oxbow's treasurer for many years. He plans to step down at the end of 1994.

Oxbow is an all volunteer organization and relies on its members to perform all the vital tasks. This is the only way we can devote every penny of our funds to protecting the Oxbow area.

If you (or someone you know) have the skills and interest to perform the important job of treasurer, Oxbow needs to hear from you! Phone Norma L. Flannery at (513)-471-8001.

Zoning Awareness Workshop

Oxbow Inc. sponsored a Zoning Awareness Workshop which was held at Bright Christian Chruch on May 17th. The speakers were attorney Tim Mara and city planner Chris Kreider. About 80 people attended.

Mr. Mara spoke about the laws governing zoning: their purpose and general nature, who makes them, who enforces them, and who makes exceptions to them. He also explained the various "open door" laws governing citizens' right to attend meetings and inspect documents.

Mr. Kreider described various ways that planners use zoning (and other methods) to protect the environment, property values, and the local economy. He gave examples of the work he has been doing in Lawrenceburg and stimulated a great deal of interest in systematic planning for the community of Bright.

Thank you, Melanie

For years, Oxbow has benefited from the careful work of a volunteer most members don't know. Melanie Millspaugh handled the Oxbow Memorials: processing the paper work, keeping records, and writing acknowledgments. People joke that it was her beautiful handwriting that made her especially suited for the job, but certainly it was more than that. As the Memorials coordinator, she represented Oxbow, Inc. to many people, some who previously knew nothing of Oxbow and many of whom were in great distress over the loss of a loved one.

Melanie is expecting a child soon and has stepped down as Memorials coordinator. Needless to say, she'll be busy for a while! Oxbow thanks her for all the fine work she's done. It is the willing efforts by volunteers like Melanie that makes Oxbow, Inc. possible.

The Economics of Gambling

An interesting article appeared in the *The New* York Times on June 12th (page 5 of the Business Section). Entitled "The False Promise of Development by Casino", it reported on economists' attempts to estimate the "hidden" costs of gaming developments. For example, compulsive gambling encouraged by easy access reduces the productivity of workers in other local industries and has been linked to crimes such as embezzlement and fraud. Also, late-night gambling adds extra costs to the community through an increase in alcohol related crimes such as drunk driving and violent behavior. An economist from the University of Illinois, Earl Grinols estimates that the added costs to the community of a gambling operation are equal to about half the revenues from the gambling — and much less than the municpal income from direct and indirect taxes derived from the gambling business.

The article points out that the owners of gambling developments have little interest in minimizing the negative effects their business has on the community because most of them expect to make back their investment (and a sizable profit) in just a few years. Similarly, local politicians, who are always concerned about the next election, have generally opted for quick revenue from gambling development rather than of the long-term welfare of the community.

The article mentions suggestions that researchers have made to lessen the costs gambling imposes on a community. Many point out that it is important to discourage gambling by local residents, and that gaming operations should be small, designed to serve only as many visitors as can be housed and fed by locally owned hotels and restaurants.

A striking analogy provided by Professor Grinols has to do with his estimates of the effect of having a gambling development within 100 miles of every U.S. resident. The added costs to society, he says, would come to about \$200 per year per person — the equivalent of cleaning up after one Hurricane Andrew each year.

Birdathon Results: Who saw what?

Below are the teams that participated, the members of the team, and the tally the team reported. All teams competed for the Golden Starling (most species by a team in the entire Birdathon Area) unless indicated otherwise. The checklist shows how many teams reported a species unless it was found by no more than two teams. In that case, the teams reporting the species are indicated by their number.

In all, 207 species were reported. Despite the rain (or maybe because of it) tallies were high. Joe Bens and Paul Wharton set a new record for high birdathon count (159) and the 2nd place team tied the old record of 156.

- 1. "Fire and Brimstone Birder's Guild" (159) (Golden Starling Award) Joe Bens, Paul Wharton
- 2. "No See-Ums" (156) Joanne Olman (driver), Steve Pelikan, Charlie Saunders, Dave Styer
- 3. "Birds R Us" (155) Jeff Hays, Ned Keller, Jay Stenger, Alan Walls
 - 4. "Cape May West" (143) David & Stan Hedeen
- 5. "Weather-Shafted Flickers" (135) Paul Poronto, Goeff & Mickey Seymore
- 6. "Solitary Warbler" (119) (Solitary Vireo Award) David Dister
- 7. "Close N Counters #2" (117) Steve Bobonick, Bill Creasey, Eric Heineke
- 8. "Bluegrass Buteos" (113) Joe & Kathy Caminiti, Lee McNeely, Tommy Stephens
- 9. "Finneytown's Fabulous Flying Fortune Seekers" (111) (County Confines Award —Hamilton County) Erich Baumgardner, Jerry Lippert
- 10. "Bush Thrashers" (104)(One county) John & Peggy Hughes, Carol & Jim Mundy
- 11. "Tyrants" (103) Marty Dermody , Teddy Mechley
- 12. "The Dynamic Duo" (102) (One County) Bill Bocklage, Wayne Wauligman
- 13. "Close N Counter #1" (97) Jim Black, Linda Franklin, David Tennant, Dennis Timberlake
- 14. "Raptor #1" (97) Hank Armstrong, Kathy Parker, Ginny Herbst
- 15. "Birders I & II" (94) Eric Schwartz, Connie Wakeman
- 16. "Another Raptor, Inc. Team" (91) David Axt, Susan Wilkinson
- 17. "Geriatric Gents and a Junior" (90) Sandy Cooper, George Laycock, Jerry Meyer, Karl Maslowski
- 18. "Two Old Coots and 3 Young Turkeys" (85) Beck Castaldo, Jeff Davis, Jeff Humphries, Chris & David Wheat

- 19. "Cincinnati Zoo Junior Zoologists" (88) (Fearsome Fledglings Award) Carrie Cooper-Fenske, Kristen Humbach, Todd Hallowell, Jennifer Kretser, Stan Rullman, Jennifer Snell, Cedric Wright
- 20. "Cuckoos" (85) Lee Abell, Ted Ellis, George Sadler
- 21. "New Birder" (81) (Solo, One County) Lester Peyton
 - 22. "Two in the Bush" (73) John & Sarah Leon
- 23. "Birds of Paradise" (62) Lesta Cooper-Freytag, Holly Daltabuit, Judy Ellis, Gina Garnett, Darlene Sadler, Joyce Silvester
 - 24. "Birdus Eludus" (48) Barb & John Eckles



Something birdathoners missed: Bald Eagle (Photo by Morris Mercer)

Common Loon	10
Grebe, Pied-billed	፞ፚ
Horned	
Double-crested Cormorant	16
Bittern, American	4
Least	
	44,12
Great Blue Heron	22
Egret, Great	10
	10
Little Blue Heron	
Cattle Egret	
Green-backed Heron	10
Green-parked neron	19_
Night-Heron, Black-crowned	49,10
Yellow-crowned	
Swan, Tundra	
Mute	6
Carrie Car William Carrie	
Goose, Gtr White-fronted	
Snow	
Canada	22
	23
Wood Duck	24
Green-winged Teal	-
	5
American Black Duck	J#6
Mallard	24
	1
Northern Pintail	l
Blue-winged Teal	19
Northern Shoveller	8
Gadwall	4
American Widgeon	6
	<u> </u>
Canvasback	
Redhead	ш
— <u>— — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — </u>	7
Ring-necked Duck	4
Scaup, Greater	
Lesser	5
Oldsquaw	
Scoter, Black	
Surf	ł
White-winged	1
Common Goldeneye	
Bufflehead	Ч
	1 1
Merganser, Hooded	- 4
Common	3
Red-breasted	0
	4
Ruddy Duck	1 4
Vulture, Black	2
	1 = -
Turkey	20
Osprey	12
Bald Eagle	
	
Northern Harrier	#11, 15
Hawk, Sharp-shinned	-
	1 2,5
Cooper's	15
Red-shouldered	10
Hawk, Broad-winged	14
	7
Red-tailed	1 20
Rough-legged	1
	+
American Kestrel	19
Peregrine Falcon	3
Ring-necked Pheasant	1125
	# 3,5
Ruffed Grouse	
Wild Turkey	#8,10
	14.07-0
Northern Bobwhite	16
Virginia Rail	3
Sora	1-6
	, D
Common Moorhen	6
American Coot	1
	10
Sandhill Crane	#2
Plover, Black-bellied	1 3
	 3
Lesser Golden	
Semipalmated	14
	+
Killdeer	4
American Avocet	1
6	•

Yellowlegs, Greater	14
Lesser	16
Solitary Sandpiper	14
Willet	
Sandpiper, Spotted	19
Upland	#2,3
Ruddy Turnstone	
Sanderling	
Sandpiper, Semipalmated	6
Western	
Least	11
White-rumped	#1
Baird's Pectoral	
Dunlin	9
Sandpiper, Stilt	10
Buff-breasted	-
Dowitcher, Short-billed	#14
Long-billed	#17
Common Snipe	7
American Woodcock	3 8
Phalarope, Wilson's	
Gull, Bonaparte's	£5,14
Ring-billed	18
Herring	12
Tern, Caspian	8
Common	8
Forster's	8
Black	9
Dove, Rock	23
Mourning	24
Cuckoo, Black-billed	
Yellow-billed	3
Owl, Barn	
Eastern Screech	4
Great Horned	14
Barred	13
Long-eared Short-eared	┼
Northern Saw-whet	
Common Nighthawk	8
Chuck-will's-widow	<u>и</u> 17
Whip-poor-will	#17
Chimney Swift	24
Ruby-thrtd Hummingbird	16
Belted Kingfisher	17
Woodpecker, Red-headed	14
Red-bellied	1 - 5
	163
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	23 #2,15
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker Woodpecker, Downy	
	# 2,15
Woodpecker, Downy	# 2,15 Z4
Woodpecker, Downy Hairy Northern Flicker Pileated Woodpecker	# 2,15 Z4
Woodpecker, Downy Hairy Northern Flicker Pileated Woodpecker Olive-sided Flycatcher	# 2,15 Z4
Woodpecker, Downy Hairy Northern Flicker Pileated Woodpecker Olive-sided Flycatcher Eastern Wood-pewee	2715 24 15 23 19
Woodpecker, Downy Hairy Northern Flicker Pileated Woodpecker Olive-sided Flycatcher Eastern Wood-pewee Flycatcher, Yellow-bellied	23 15 23 19 11 #15
Woodpecker, Downy Hairy Northern Flicker Pileated Woodpecker Olive-sided Flycatcher Eastern Wood-pewee Flycatcher, Yellow-bellied Acadian	2715 24 15 23 19
Woodpecker, Downy Hairy Northern Flicker Pileated Woodpecker Olive-sided Flycatcher Eastern Wood-pewee Flycatcher, Yellow-bellied Acadian Alder	2,15 24 15 23 19 11 #15 8
Woodpecker, Downy Hairy Northern Flicker Pileated Woodpecker Olive-sided Flycatcher Eastern Wood-pewee Flycatcher, Yellow-bellied Acadian Alder Willow	23 15 23 19 11 #15
Woodpecker, Downy Hairy Northern Flicker Pileated Woodpecker Olive-sided Flycatcher Eastern Wood-pewee Flycatcher, Yellow-bellied Acadian Alder Willow Least	2,15 24 15 23 19 11 #15 8 #14
Woodpecker, Downy Hairy Northern Flicker Pileated Woodpecker Olive-sided Flycatcher Eastern Wood-pewee Flycatcher, Yellow-bellied Acadian Alder Willow Least Eastern Phoebe	2,15 24 15 23 19 11 #15 8 #14
Woodpecker, Downy Hairy Northern Flicker Pileated Woodpecker Olive-sided Flycatcher Eastern Wood-pewee Flycatcher, Yellow-bellied Acadian Alder Willow Least Eastern Phoebe Great-crested Flycatcher	2,15 24 15 23 19 11 #15 8 #14 9 16 20
Woodpecker, Downy Hairy Northern Flicker Pileated Woodpecker Olive-sided Flycatcher Eastern Wood-pewee Flycatcher, Yellow-bellied Acadian Alder Willow Least Eastern Phoebe Great-crested Flycatcher Eastern Kingbird	# 15 # 15 # 15 # 15 # 15 # 15 # 15 # 14 9 16 20 20
Woodpecker, Downy Hairy Northern Flicker Pileated Woodpecker Olive-sided Flycatcher Eastern Wood-pewee Flycatcher, Yellow-bellied Acadian Alder Willow Least Eastern Phoebe Great-crested Flycatcher Eastern Kingbird Horned Lark	2,15 24 15 23 19 11 #15 8 #14 9 16 20 20 15
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Woodpecker, Downy Hairy Northern Flicker Pileated Woodpecker Olive-sided Flycatcher Eastern Wood-pewee Flycatcher, Yellow-bellied Acadian Alder Willow Least Eastern Phoebe Great-crested Flycatcher Eastern Kingbird Horned Lark Purple Martin Swallow, Tree Northern Rough-winged	# 15 23 19 11 # 15 8 # 14 9 16 20 20 15 19 23 23
Woodpecker, Downy Hairy Northern Flicker Pileated Woodpecker Olive-sided Flycatcher Eastern Wood-pewee Flycatcher, Yellow-bellied Acadian Alder Willow Least Eastern Phoebe Great-crested Flycatcher Eastern Kingbird Horned Lark Purple Martin Swallow, Tree	# 15 # 15 # 15 # 15 # 15 # 15 # 15 # 14 # 20 20 15 19

Barn Swallow	Z3
Blue Jay	24
American Crow	7.4
Carolina Chickadee	24
	1 2 1 2 1
Tufted Titmouse	47
Nuthatch, Red-breasted	4
White-breasted	19
Brown Creeper	#2,5
Wren, Carolina	130
House	7.5
Winter	
Marsh	6
Kinglet, Golden-crowned	
Ruby-crowned	12
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	+
	1- 42
Eastern Bluebird	40
Veery	5
Thrush, Gray-cheeked	#4,22
Swainson's	15
Hermit	1,2
	120
Wood Thrush	24
American Robin	24
Gray Cathird	24
Mockingbird	21
Brown Thrasher	
	20
American Pipit	#+
Cedar Waxwing	8
Loggerhead Shrike	
European Starling	24
Vireo, White-eyed	
	18
Bell's	#19
Solitary	8
Yellow-throated	14
Warbling	18
Philadelphia	
	#7,130
Red-eyed	21
Red-eyed Warbler, Blue-winged	
Red-eyed	
Red-eyed Warbler, Blue-winged	21
Red-eyed Warbler, Blue-winged Golden-winged Tennessee	2) 18 5 18
Red-eyed Warbler, Blue-winged Golden-winged Tennessee Orange-crowned	21
Red-eyed Warbler, Blue-winged Golden-winged Tennessee Orange-crowned Nashville	2 18 5 18 #3 12
Red-eyed Warbler, Blue-winged Golden-winged Tennessee Orange-crowned Nashville Northern Parula	2 18 5 18 #3 12
Red-eyed Warbler, Blue-winged Golden-winged Tennessee Orange-crowned Nashville	2 18 5 18 #3 12
Red-eyed Warbler, Blue-winged Golden-winged Tennessee Orange-crowned Nashville Northern Parula	2 18 5 18 #3 12
Red-eyed Warbler, Blue-winged Golden-winged Tennessee Orange-crowned Nashville Northern Parula Warbler, Yellow Chestnut-sided	2 18 5 18 #3 12 23
Red-eyed Warbler, Blue-winged Golden-winged Tennessee Orange-crowned Nashville Northern Parula Warbler, Yellow Chestnut-sided Magnolia	21 18 5 18 #3 12 12 12 23
Red-eyed Warbler, Blue-winged Golden-winged Tennessee Orange-crowned Nashville Northern Parula Warbler, Yellow Chestnut-sided Magnolia Cape May	21 18 5 18 #3 12 12 12 23 10 7
Red-eyed Warbler, Blue-winged Golden-winged Tennessee Orange-crowned Nashville Northern Parula Warbler, Yellow Chestnut-sided Magnolia Cape May Black-throated Blue	21 18 5 18 #3 12 12 12 10 7 12
Red-eyed Warbler, Blue-winged Golden-winged Tennessee Orange-crowned Nashville Northern Parula Warbler, Yellow Chestnut-sided Magnolia Cape May Black-throated Blue Yellow-rumped	21 18 5 18 #3 12 12 23 10 7 12 12 7 12
Red-eyed Warbler, Blue-winged Golden-winged Tennessee Orange-crowned Nashville Northern Parula Warbler, Yellow Chestnut-sided Magnolia Cape May Black-throated Blue Yellow-rumped Black-throated Green	21 18 5 18 #3 12 12 12 10 7 12
Red-eyed Warbler, Blue-winged Golden-winged Tennessee Orange-crowned Nashville Northern Parula Warbler, Yellow Chestnut-sided Magnolia Cape May Black-throated Blue Yellow-rumped	21 18 5 18 #3 12 12 23 10 7 12 12 7 12
Red-eyed Warbler, Blue-winged Golden-winged Tennessee Orange-crowned Nashville Northern Parula Warbler, Yellow Chestnut-sided Magnolia Cape May Black-throated Blue Yellow-rumped Black-throated Green	21 18 5 18 #3 12 12 12 10 7 12 12 12 12 23 10 7 12 12 23 23 23 23 23 23 23 23 23 2
Red-eyed Warbler, Blue-winged Golden-winged Tennessee Orange-crowned Nashville Northern Parula Warbler, Yellow Chestnut-sided Magnolia Cape May Black-throated Blue Yellow-rumped Black-throated Green Blackburnian Yellow-throated	21 18 5 18 #3 12 12 12 10 7 12 12 12 12 23 10 7 12 12 23 23 23 23 23 23 23 23 23 2
Red-eyed Warbler, Blue-winged Golden-winged Tennessee Orange-crowned Nashville Northern Parula Warbler, Yellow Chestnut-sided Magnolia Cape May Black-throated Blue Yellow-rumped Black-throated Green Blackburnian Yellow-throated Pine	21 18 5 18 43 12 12 23 10 7 12 7 12 7 10 10 11 7
Red-eyed Warbler, Blue-winged Golden-winged Tennessee Orange-crowned Nashville Northern Parula Warbler, Yellow Chestnut-sided Magnolia Cape May Black-throated Blue Yellow-rumped Black-throated Green Blackburnian Yellow-throated Pine Prairie	21 18 5 18 #3 12 12 12 10 7 12 12 12 12 23 10 7 12 12 23 23 23 23 23 23 23 23 23 2
Red-eyed Warbler, Blue-winged Golden-winged Tennessee Orange-crowned Nashville Northern Parula Warbler, Yellow Chestnut-sided Magnolia Cape May Black-throated Blue Yellow-rumped Black-throated Green Blackburnian Yellow-throated Pine Prairie Palm	21 18 5 18 43 12 12 23 10 7 12 7 12 7 10 11 7 15 17
Red-eyed Warbler, Blue-winged Golden-winged Tennessee Orange-crowned Nashville Northern Parula Warbler, Yellow Chestnut-sided Magnolia Cape May Black-throated Blue Yellow-rumped Black-throated Green Blackburnian Yellow-throated Pine Prairie	21 18 5 18 43 12 12 23 10 7 12 7 12 7 10 10 11 7
Red-eyed Warbler, Blue-winged Golden-winged Tennessee Orange-crowned Nashville Northern Parula Warbler, Yellow Chestnut-sided Magnolia Cape May Black-throated Blue Yellow-rumped Black-throated Green Blackburnian Yellow-throated Pine Prairie Palm	21 18 5 18 43 12 12 23 10 7 12 7 12 7 10 11 7 15 17
Red-eyed Warbler, Blue-winged Golden-winged Tennessee Orange-crowned Nashville Northern Parula Warbler, Yellow Chestnut-sided Magnolia Cape May Black-throated Blue Yellow-rumped Black-throated Green Blackburnian Yellow-throated Pine Prairie Palm Bay-breasted	21 18 5 18 43 12 12 23 10 7 12 7 12 7 10 11 7 15 17
Red-eyed Warbler, Blue-winged Golden-winged Tennessee Orange-crowned Nashville Northern Parula Warbler, Yellow Chestnut-sided Magnolia Cape May Black-throated Blue Yellow-rumped Black-throated Green Blackburnian Yellow-throated Pine Prairie Palm Bay-breasted Blackpoll Cerulean	21 18 5 18 43 12 12 12 23 10 7 12 7 10 11 7 15 17 6 9
Red-eyed Warbler, Blue-winged Golden-winged Tennessee Orange-crowned Nashville Northern Parula Warbler, Yellow Chestnut-sided Magnolia Cape May Black-throated Blue Yellow-rumped Black-throated Green Blackburnian Yellow-throated Pine Prairie Palm Bay-breasted Blackpoll Cerulean Black-and-white	2 18 5 18 18 12 12 12 10 11 15 17 16 17 17 17 17 17 17
Red-eyed Warbler, Blue-winged Golden-winged Tennessee Orange-crowned Nashville Northern Parula Warbler, Yellow Chestnut-sided Magnolia Cape May Black-throated Blue Yellow-rumped Black-throated Green Blackburnian Yellow-throated Pine Prairie Palm Bay-breasted Blackpoll Cerulean Black-and-white American Redstart	21 18 5 18 43 12 12 23 10 7 12 23 20 10 11 7 15 16 9 14 10
Red-eyed Warbler, Blue-winged Golden-winged Tennessee Orange-crowned Nashville Northern Parula Warbler, Yellow Chestnut-sided Magnolia Cape May Black-throated Blue Yellow-rumped Black-throated Green Blackburnian Yellow-throated Pine Prairie Palm Bay-breasted Blackpoll Cerulean Black-and-white American Redstart Warbler, Prothonotary	2 18 5 18 18 12 12 12 10 11 15 17 16 17 17 17 17 17 17
Red-eyed Warbler, Blue-winged Golden-winged Tennessee Orange-crowned Nashville Northern Parula Warbler, Yellow Chestnut-sided Magnolia Cape May Black-throated Blue Yellow-rumped Black-throated Green Blackburnian Yellow-throated Pine Prairie Palm Bay-breasted Blackpoll Cerulean Black-and-white American Redstart	21 18 5 18 43 12 12 23 10 7 12 23 20 10 11 7 15 16 9 14 10
Red-eyed Warbler, Blue-winged Golden-winged Tennessee Orange-crowned Nashville Northern Parula Warbler, Yellow Chestnut-sided Magnolia Cape May Black-throated Blue Yellow-rumped Black-throated Green Blackburnian Yellow-throated Pine Prairie Palm Bay-breasted Blackpoll Cerulean Black-and-white American Redstart Warbler, Prothonotary	21 18 5 18 43 12 12 23 10 7 12 23 20 10 11 7 15 16 9 14 10
Red-eyed Warbler, Blue-winged Golden-winged Tennessee Orange-crowned Nashville Northern Parula Warbler, Yellow Chestnut-sided Magnolia Cape May Black-throated Blue Yellow-rumped Black-throated Green Blackburnian Yellow-throated Pine Prairie Palm Bay-breasted Blackpoll Cerulean Black-and-white American Redstart Warbler, Prothonotary Worm-eating	21 18 5 18 43 12 12 12 23 10 7 12 20 10 11 7 15 17 6 9 14 19 10 20 5
Red-eyed Warbler, Blue-winged Golden-winged Tennessee Orange-crowned Nashville Northern Parula Warbler, Yellow Chestnut-sided Magnolia Cape May Black-throated Blue Yellow-rumped Black-throated Green Blackburnian Yellow-throated Pine Prairie Palm Bay-breasted Blackpoll Cerulean Black-and-white American Redstart Warbler, Prothonotary Worm-eating Ovenbird	21 18 5 18 43 12 12 12 23 10 7 12 20 10 11 7 15 17 6 9 14 19 10 20 5
Red-eyed Warbler, Blue-winged Golden-winged Tennessee Orange-crowned Nashville Northern Parula Warbler, Yellow Chestnut-sided Magnolia Cape May Black-throated Blue Yellow-rumped Black-throated Green Blackburnian Yellow-throated Pine Prairie Palm Bay-breasted Blackpoll Cerulean Black-and-white American Redstart Warbler, Prothonotary Worm-eating Ovenbird Waterthrush, Northern Louisiana	21 18 5 18 43 12 12 12 23 10 7 12 20 10 11 7 15 17 6 9 14 19 10 20 5
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Red-eyed Warbler, Blue-winged Golden-winged Tennessee Orange-crowned Nashville Northern Parula Warbler, Yellow Chestnut-sided Magnolia Cape May Black-throated Blue Yellow-rumped Black-throated Green Blackburnian Yellow-throated Pine Prairie Palm Bay-breasted Blackpoll Cerulean Black-and-white American Redstart Warbler, Prothonotary Worm-eating Ovenbird Waterthrush, Northern Louisiana Warbler, Kentucky Connecticut	21 18 5 18 18 12 12 12 12 13 20 10 11 7 15 14 16 9 14 19 10 20 20 20 19 19 19 10 10 11 11 10 20 10 11 11 11 12 13 16 17 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18
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Warbler, Wilson's	# 4
Canada	
Yellow-breasted Chat	11
Tanager, Summer	17
Scarlet	16
Northern Cardinal	24
Grosbeak, Rose-breasted	18
Blue	#12
Indigo Bunting	22
Dickcissel	#8
Rufous-sided Towhee	22
Sparrow, American Tree	
Chipping	20
Field	22
Vesper	4
Lark	1
Savannah	12
Sparrow, Grasshopper	6
Henslow's	3
Fox	—
Song	7.3
Sparrow, Lincoln's	HZZ
Swamp	8
White-throated	24
White-crowned	24
Dark-eyed Junco	#15
Longspur, Lapland	
Snow Bunting	
Bobolink	7
Red-winged Blackbird	24
Meadowlark, Eastern	24
Blackbird, Rusty	3
Common Grackle	24
Brown-headed Cowbird	2-4
Oriole, Orchard	19
Northern	24
Finch, Purple	世3,7
House	24
Pine Siskin	6
American Goldfinch	74
Evening Grosbeak	
House Sparrow	24
	,

Red-hecked Laon #2
Red-hecked Phalarone #14
Merlin #4
Sedgewien #3

Oxbow Memorials

Heidi Bosse
Julie Godsey
Carl Hess
Dolores Jean Holthaus
Dominic Quadrano
Lillian Schlegel
Mildred White

Cheryl Winslow, D.V.M.
CMSGT James and Mrs. Billie Godsey
Mary Pitcher and Marcia Grace
Norma L. Flannery
Fred and Peggy Gatch
Tina and Bob Schlegel
Gary and Jenny Cecil

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 those selected by the donor. Contributions should be sent to Oxbow, Inc., P.O. Box 43391, Cincinnati, Ohio, 45243-0391. Be sure to include the names and addresses of those to receive the acknowledgement.

Birdathon Thanks

Thank you to the **Hamilton County Park District** for the use of Winton Centre where we held the Birdathon tally in a spacious, comfortable (and dry!) room.

Thank you to **LaRosa's Pizza** for providing the pizza dinner we all enjoyed so much.

Thank you to **Fritz Haas** who designed yet another Birdathon T-shirt that is sure to be the envy of birders continent-wide.

Thank you to Connie McNamee and Greg Mendell for organizing and running the dinner, rounding up the trophies, picking up and packaging the T-shirts and countless other tasks and errands without which Birdathon '94 would have been less than it was.

Thank you to **Paul X.Hellmann** for acting as M.C. at the tally dinner and keeping all the birders in line while the checklist was read.

Thank you to **Anita Buck** and **Ken Fulmer** for their essential behind-the-scenes work at the tally dinner.

Thank you to the **birders**, the **organizations** that sponsored them, and to **everyone who pledged** to support a Birdathon participant. For all the competition and trophies, the real winner of this year's Birdathon was the Oxbow area that we all are dedicated to protecting.

Field Notes Morris Mercer

A couple of weeks ago Jim Simpson and I made a trip to the Oxbow. The moming was clear and cool, the trees that special green of spring. Our trip was under a bright blue sky but when we reached the Oxbow we found the valley shrouded in fog. We made our way back toward Wood Duck Slough. Near the lower end of the Oxbow lake, almost as if by magic, the fog lifted.

From across the water hole and somewhere in the lacy green willows came the clear sharp call of a Prothonotary Warbler. A dozen Mallards busied themselves along the opposite shore. We moved on over the bank closer to the water, and heard the alarm cry of a Wood Duck. We saw it fly away just a few feet above the water, and watched as she crashed back into the water. Was her wing broken or were both wings broken? She looked so pitiful struggling in the water.

We turned our attention back to where she came from and there were the reasons for her pitiful struggle. Nine little Wood Ducks, in a very close group, hurried toward the other shore. We looked back to see that Mrs. Woodie had made a most remarkable recovery and was in full flight to join up with her little ones. The family soon disappeared into the flooded willows. I told Jim I would like to nominate Mrs. Woodie Wood Duck for an academy award for the performance she had just given.

Slow wing beats carried a Great Blue Heron up over the willows. Around the bend a Double Crested Cormorant was standing on a stump in the water and holding its wings out to dry in the morning sun.

We moved on as we wanted to check the Beaver Pond. We could see that the farmer was about ready to plant the Oxbow field. It was Rick Pope, so we stopped to say "Hi" and to meet his uncle. Rick said that when he finished the Oxbow field his spring planting would be all done. He also said they were trying no-till planting and that no-till methods really cut down on erosion. Rick was all hooked up to go. The rig he was using would plant 16 rows of soybeans on each trip around the field.

Tear the Beaver Pond Jim mentioned we hadn't seen a Great Egret all morning. Just then a large white bird came over, dropped down on cupped wings, landed near the water with a few running steps. The bill was small and black, and this

bird was wearing yellow sneakers. It wasn't a Great but a Snowy Egret. This was okay with us, since Snowy Egrets are much less common around the Oxbow than Great Egrets.

A Black-crowned Night-heron flew over. We counted 29 Great Blue Herons standing out in the field. There were a dozen Turkey Vultures out in the field as well. We could hear Horned Larks in the air. What a pretty sound. But it was time to move on as we wanted to make a stop at Shawnee on our way home. We also wanted to check out the mud flats in the last flooded corn stubble as we left the Oxbow.

We could see a lone Canada Goose in the mud. There was a nice male Blue-winged Teal there, and half a dozen Mallards dabbling in the shallows. There were Killdeer but also a few one-strippers — Semipalmated Plover — as well as a couple Ring-billed Gulls and some real class: a Ruddy Turnstone in breeding plumage. Semipalmated Sandpipers took off as a group with wings flashing in the sun, made a tight circle and came back to the mud flats. Ah, the Oxbow on a beautiful spring morning and the wildlife. How sweet it is.

I couldn't help but think about the change that is to come to the area. If the riverboat gamblers' dreams come true, there will be more than a million visitors come to the area each year, night and day traffic to the airport and Cincinnati, hotels, lighted parking lots, shopping center, marina, Nature Center, and other entertainment facilities. Yes! if the gamblers' dreams come true it will be my worst nightmare.

Morris

Moving?

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A nonprofit 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 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.

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