



January—February 2014

No. 165

WETLAND

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

What's Taking Flight?

.....by Jon Seymour

"To be a practitioner of conservation on a piece of land takes more brains and a wider range of sympathy, forethought, and experience, than to be a specialized forester, game manager, range manager, or erosion expert in a college or a conservation bureau."
Aldo Leopold, *"Conservation Economics"* (1934).

Boy is that quote ever true! To really manage a piece of land you need to be all of those things and more. Thank goodness none of us has to do it alone. Oxbow, Inc. is blessed with a board that has experience in conservation, limnology, natural history, law enforcement, hunting, fishing, biology, physiology, construction, toxicology, kayaking, farming, land management, and wildlife management. The structure is referred to as a working board and it is critical to the success of Oxbow, Inc. This gathering of expertise is supplemented by additional volunteers and advisor experts, who are often called on to give advice, solve problems, share their expertise, or just plain pitch in with a helping hand. Oxbow, Inc. would not be able to function without them. We are blessed to have them.

While it was a rather quiet year in the Oxbow it was a year still filled with a lot of behind the scenes activity. We held our largest ever "members meeting" by putting on the movie "Green Fire" about the life and legacy of Aldo Leopold. We had over 180 people attend, and other than a very warm spring day in which Sharon Woods did not provide air conditioning, all went well. We had a distinguished panel of experts talk about the Leopold legacy as it applied to ongoing activities in the Greater Cincinnati area.

In the Oxbow itself we continued to work on the roads and will continue for the immediate future.

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Oxbow Needs

If you can help. Call Jon at 513-851-9835 or send an email to jlsjks@hotmail.com

This New Year consider giving a gift to Oxbow, Inc. of yourself, your time and talent. The kinds of gifts that Oxbow needs are listed below and you may be able to think of others.

We need someone to be our volunteer coordinator. Your gift of time and effort would be used staying in contact with our volunteer workers and making them aware of volunteer opportunities.

We need a gift of time and effort for someone to document the amazing efforts of our volunteers and ensure their stories are told in *Wetland Matters*. This would mean interviewing a volunteer or two every two months and writing their story for publication in *Wetland Matters*.

We need your gift of time and talent to monitor our Conservation Easements once a year and fill out a report on the monitoring visit.

Year-end Giving;

As part of your year-end giving, think of Oxbow, Inc. We are seeking donations specifically to our endowment fund for the future stability of the organization or for donations to our education fund that is used to support local educators teaching nature to children. Donations may be made to Oxbow, Inc. and marked on the envelop or on the check, endowment or education fund. Send those donations to Oxbow, Inc., P.O. Box 4172, Lawrenceburg, IN 47025. If you are interested in making a large donation or naming Oxbow in your will, contact us and we will help make the necessary arrangements. Contact Jon Seymour, 513-851-9835 or send an email to

What's Taking Flight...(continued from page 1)

Our goal is to keep the road from Hardintown to the back of Hollywood Casino open year round and in all weather. We will not be plowing, so deep snow implies a caution to any would be drivers and, of course, driving the road while it is under several feet (or even a few inches) of water is ill-advised. Common sense is the rule of the road. We still have cars towed out of the Oxbow when they have gone off road or tried to drive on one of the unimproved roads that are still just silt. As a result of the improved Oxbow Lake Road we have many more visitors who have a more pleasant experience in the Oxbow than ever before. You can still get out and walk—it is highly encouraged. There is no better aerobic workout than traipsing through the Oxbow with 1-3 pounds of mud on each boot.

The road improvements also allow better coverage of the area by our security force of off duty Dearborn County Sheriff's Deputies. While we have had great success with these random patrols we found that the mouth of the Great Miami River at its junction to the Ohio River in Indiana was turning into a spot where campers and fishermen were abusing the rules of fair play in the Oxbow. We will be increasing patrols in that area specifically to attempt to eliminate the abuses taking place. Current plans call for reestablishing the road from Hollywood Casino down to the Great Miami River which, when completed, will help security personnel monitor the area more frequently and with greater efficiency.

While we were not able to add any land to our holdings this year it was not for lack of effort. We are a willing buyer but it also takes a willing seller to make a deal. We sent out letters of interest to the four remaining land owners in our area of interest. We had no replies from two landowners, and we entered into conversations with the other two. One owner received an offer and did not accept. We slightly increased the offer, based on newer market data, but were rejected again without receiving a counter offer from them, so the offer went cold. In the fourth case we never got to an offer point but we continue to have discussions about the possibilities of a sale. We continue to believe that patience is our greatest ally and that we need to be ready to purchase as soon as any of the remaining owners change their minds on the matter.

We had a wonderful article written about Oxbow, Inc. in the Beacon (out of Bright, IN) that took ¼ of their front page and about ½ of each of pages 4 and 5 of the Beacon. We had several color pictures and Oxbow friend, Matt Stenger, was also interviewed

for the piece. The Beacon, a free monthly news magazine, has a wide distribution in Dearborn County. The beauty of the article was captured in the number of people that saw it and found a way to comment that they were Dearborn County residents but had no idea that the Oxbow existed.

Velda Miller led our education committee with a focus on students in grade K-12. We reached hundreds of children at our booth at Kid's Outdoor Expo at Coney Island in conjunction with Paddlefest. We also had one of our largest children's groups visit Oxbow this year with 60 fourth-graders from local Dearborn County schools for a tour. Multiple presenters conducted simultaneous sessions in different areas of the Oxbow and on different aspects of the Oxbow. It was a lot of fun and from the kids' responses it was just as much fun for them.

We continued to award college scholarships to aspiring young students of nature. Five deserving area high school seniors were selected for \$500 scholarships. Our granting process for projects related to nature education in the greater Cincinnati area continues to provide results. Grants were made to the Miami Valley Audubon Society and to the St. Lawrence Elementary school. The Miami Valley Audubon grant went to obtain reusable materials for their Spring Bird Festival, designed to teach hundreds of children how to interact, observe, and attain a greater appreciate of nature. The grant to St. Lawrence Elementary went for improvements to their vegetable garden on school grounds, which is used to grow early spring vegetables. The gardening activity features learning opportunities involving soil, seeds, weather conditions, nutrients, insects, soil bacteria and the biology of plants. A tall order for "How does your garden grow?" The topper is that prior to the end of school the crops are harvested and used in a special lunch served in the school cafeteria. These students will know that carrots do not just come from the grocery store.

We again sponsored the Greater Cincinnati Area Birdathon with more than 45 participants in the field, 15 competing teams, 20 reporting units, and a great group of 18 and under participants (8). This collection of teams registered 198 species of birds in the Greater Cincinnati area and raised \$4418 for habitat and access improvement in the Oxbow. To see where Birdathon funds have gone, stop by the entrance and visit the demonstration vernal pools that were constructed using Birdathon dollars. All this

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Taking Flight (continued from page 2)

birding would be so hard to do if it wasn't so much fun. When the counting is over we gather for the Tally pizza party at the end of the Birdathon and share all the wonderful, special, and often humorous stories. If you have not participated before, join us in 2014 and be prepared to have a wonderful time.

This year we took another step to expand our management of donated funds. In the last few years we have been gradually building our knowledge and experience in the proper management of donated funds. Ten years ago our experience was limited to savings and checking accounts, and a Money Market Fund. Now we are learning to manage our investment accounts of CDs, stocks and bond portfolios. While we are financially well off at the moment, we continue to build funds toward what we know will be our largest and by far the most expensive purchase we have ever made. At this time we probably have only about two-thirds of the funds on hand that will be needed to make the purchase.

While we have not expanded the acreage of the Oxbow this year, we have expanded our area of concern, further up the watershed, for the protection of the lower Great Miami and lower Whitewater Rivers. We are becoming a voice for the protection of the lower watersheds of both great rivers. This is important as the water in the Great Miami (40% from the Whitewater) shapes and influences the Oxbow floodplain in numerous ways. One of the most important ways is the exposure of the land to the waters of the Great Miami River during flood. At high water levels the flow in the Ohio River actually stops the flow from the Great Miami river near its mouth and the waters of the Great Miami back up over the Oxbow and submerge all its land, lakes, and plants. Any contaminants in the river settle upon Oxbow water and land surfaces where they can pollute or even poison the plants and animals living in the floodplain. Enhanced runoff from developments cuts away at banks and moves tons of soil downstream, sometimes all the way to New Orleans. In the past we have filed comments on subdivision development, gravel operations, turkey processing plants, and most recently, this year, on an industrial park (tax incentives) just getting started in the land along the Whitewater just west of West Harrison, IN. We are concerned about water flow and contamination of the Whitewater River as it flows just past these new industrial sites. The Whitewater River is considered to be one of the cleanest rivers flowing

into the Ohio River. We would like to be sure it stays that way.

Closer to home, things got more exciting than we would like when on the late afternoon of November 27, 2013 a tanker truck carrying 5,000 gallons of "used cutting fluid" turned over and split like a ripe watermelon, dumping its contents into two open drains leading directly downhill into the Oxbow. Fast work by local emergency teams seems to have contained the spill within the drainage system before it reached Oxbow waters. We are in communication with the EPA and the parties involved to ensure that toxic materials did not reach Oxbow waters and that the spill remnants will be cleaned up.

While all this was going on this year, I hope you got a chance to see eagles soar, palm warblers flit, warbling vireos warble, bucks cavort, and otters play. If not, you should spend more time in the Oxbow. Maybe I will see you there.

New Oxbow T-Shirts Are Here

The new oxbow T-shirts, designed by local wildlife artist Ann Giese, are available. \$15 if picked up at the Oxbow office. By mail, \$19 (including shipping). Advertise your love for the Oxbow area with this great t-shirt.

Oxbow T-shirts come in M, L, XL and XXL only. If there is a large demand for another size, we may be able to have them printed.

To order your T-shirt, send \$19.00 per shirt, to:

Oxbow, Inc.
Attn: T-shirt
P.O. Box 4172
Lawrenceburg, IN 47025

Be certain to include
your return mailing
address!



Horseshoe Bottoms Diary

Thursday, October 24, 2013 by Jon Seymour

I am waiting for Dr. Meg Riestenberg's College of Mount St. Joseph (MSJ) class to arrive at the Oxbow office. It is a little late in the season as weather gets riskier later in the year, but this is the time we could arrange and we will make the best of it. If it is cold or wet it becomes very hard to lead a tour as no one wants to leave their car or in this case the bus. Fortunately the weather is cooperating, cool but not cold, and dry. I made a run through the Oxbow earlier in the day and was disappointed that there did not seem to be any flocks of ducks settled in from migration. Twenty years ago this would have been a peak time but with global warming the ducks are arriving for Thanksgiving these days.

Meg's class arrives right on time which is good because this class is on a tight schedule. The bus has to return them to campus on time and cannot be late or their other classes are interrupted. I like leading this class (I think it is my third year). They are studying the environment but only a few are actually majoring in a related subject. They are always interested and it is important that music majors, art majors, math majors, or any kind of major learn to appreciate and support the work of preserving nature.

Meg has prepared them well, as they arrive with warm clothing, proper shoes and several have binoculars. MSJ also has a few sets of binoculars for the use of the class. This is very helpful since only one student at a time can look through my scope. The scope is great but so very often six out of twenty students get to see the bird through the scope before it flies away. Even if the bird does not fly, I have to remain the scope for every third student because the bird moves around and walks out of the scope's view. Several students with binoculars assures more of them get a good look at a bird if not a spectacular look.

Today is not a great bird day. At least the birds that are the most eye-catching are playing hard to catch. There are no ducks to look for identification marks but we do find a few Great Blue Herons and Great Egrets who are scope friendly. Most of the Great Egrets have already flown south so there is no chance of seeing spectacularly large flocks of these great white birds. It also seems like the Double-crested Cormorants have headed south. They were numerous just two weeks ago but now there are only a few around the south end of Oxbow Lake.

Fortunately for me, the class is not just here for birds but to hear about the Oxbow, how the land and the organization was created and what we are doing to protect and improve the floodplain. However, I am always hoping for an Eagle to show up and drive the point home. It happened on one of the past trips with a previous class and it certainly seals the deal.

I have one other hope but it is even rarer—that the family of otters that roams the area will show up. They have been around a bit more this last month but they can roam for miles and finding them on any given day at any given hour is not a gambling man's best bet. (Note we do pay homage to our casino neighbor with this expression).

The classes' last stop is the Oxbow Lake overlook where I set up my scope and we do get a look at more Great Blues and Great Egrets. There are two cormorants standing on a log drying out as the bus arrived but no sooner do I have my scope set up than they decide to go for a swim. Remember about the adjusting frequency of a scope on moving birds? Double that for swimming birds and just throw your hands up in the air for birds that dive frequently! The students with binoculars get to see some cormorants. I am saved a bit when several cormorants choose this time to fly by us for a reasonably close look.

We are done and I am about to pack up the scope and send everyone to the bus. One last look at the lake shows a little stump where there was no little stump a minute ago. After a few seconds another stump appears nearby and the first stump disappears. Now there is only one thing to do and that is to eliminate beaver. The binoculars come up and I see the head of an otter on the opposite side of Oxbow Lake and they are coming toward us. Meg is probably more excited than all the rest of us put together but between us we focus the students' attention on the bobbing heads across the water. Then a miracle occurs. One of the otters – by now we have observed four heads – has climbed from the water onto a log and is eating a fish. I swing the scope onto the otter and for only the second time in my life I am looking through the scope at an otter that is standing still. Second miracle – it stays there for two minutes while nearly the entire class gets to see it eat its snack. Meg is jumping up and down with excitement and I am astounded at this piece of luck (another casino reference). I ask if anyone in the class (besides Meg and me) have ever seen an otter in the wild before? Only one hand goes up. The deal is sealed just as well as any eagle could have done.

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, February 11, 2014 @ 7:30pm
301 Walnut St., Lawrenceburg
The Oxbow, Inc. Office

Western Wildlife Corridor's mission is to protect the scenic beauty and natural resources of the Ohio River Valley through direct land protection and through the promotion of responsible land use. **Tim Sisson, President**, will describe some of the nature preserves that WWC preserves and protects and will explain how they restore their preserves to provide a natural habitat for plants and animals. He will also describe the trails they are building in some of their preserves that allow people to enjoy them as well.

Tuesday, March 10, 2014 @ 7:30pm
301 Walnut St., Lawrenceburg
The Oxbow, Inc. Office

Have you ever wondered what the great Ohio Wilderness really looked like before European settlement in the 18th century? Fortunately some of the first naturalists, explorers, Indian captives and missionaries from that time left vivid descriptions in journals. They described the vast pristine beauty of the land and rivers, the immense trees, remarkable wildlife and native people. **Mary Louise Holt** has created a series of paintings based on the colorful descriptions from those original journals. Travel back through time with the artist as she takes you into this wilderness with compelling stories and images from her paintings.

Tuesday, April 10, 2014 @ 7:30pm
301 Walnut St., Lawrenceburg
The Oxbow, Inc. Office

Using tiny security cameras, **Dr. Cheryl Dykstra**, has been studying the nest behavior of one of our most commonly seen hawks, the Red-shouldered hawk. Join us for a peek into the secret lives of Cincinnati's Red-shouldered hawks including their diet, sibling aggression, predators and causes of mortality.

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 more ways to compete. 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

Or create your own category. If it has anything to do with counting bird species during the Birdathon's 24 hour time window we will probably accept it. Remember the purpose of the Birdathon - 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**

Enter a team (or an individual) in the Oxbow Birdathon by calling **Jay Stenger @ 513-522-4245 or Jon Seymour @ 513-851-9835**. We like to know how many will participate in the Birdathon so we get enough Pizza for the Grand Tally Party after the Birdathon finish. The \$5.00 per person fee covers the cost of the food at the Tally Party. See you ALL there.

The suspended ice sheets and the collapsed ice sheets lie side by side in the jumble of bushes and trees.
(photo by Denis Conover)



If the water is subsiding down the bank at the same time it is freezing you can get a series of micro collapses giving a shatter crystal look to the ice along the bank of Oxbow Lake.
(photo by Denis Conover)





Winter hit the Oxbow in early December and the waters of the Ohio and Great Miami rose rapidly to give us our first winter flood. The waters rise and freeze and then subside leaving ice sheets blanketing the causeway road. As the water subsides it shows yet another log left blocking the road even in better weather.
(photo by Denis Conover)



If the ice sheet freezes in the branches of trees and bushes then as the water subsides the ice sheet is left suspended, hanging from the branches that now support the ice sheet well above the water level.
(photo by Denis Conover)

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. To reach the upper Oxbow parking area, 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.

Annual Moonlit Evening Winter Walk

Date: Friday, January 24, 2014, 7:00 P.M.

Meet: At the Shawnee Lookout Golf Course Parking Lot

Leader: John Klein, (513) 941-4877, john.kleinp2@yahoo.com

John Klein will once again lead this unique annual January field trip, in memory of one of Oxbow Inc.'s founders, the beloved and venerable Morris Mercer. John refers to this outing as the MMM (Morris Mercer Memorial) field trip. Morris loved the night woods, especially with snow on the ground. Many years ago he began leading this January evening trip in the Shawnee Lookout woodlands that overlook the Oxbow. John and Morris were good friends and John has kept the tradition alive.

John will lead us on a leisurely two hour walk around the park. John, a current Oxbow Inc. board member and recently retired Land manager of the Hamilton County Park District, is a skilled naturalist. It will be close to a full moon on this date and visibility should be good. John will try to hoot up some owls, we'll look at the constellations and see what other denizens of the night woods are out and about. John has begun his own tradition on this walk and will pass out M & M's. It's a fun and unique trip that you should attend. As Morris always said, "Let's hope there's some snow on the ground". The park is normally closed at night but the rangers will open the gates for us. Be sure to dress warm. If you have questions feel free to call John.

Early Spring Waterfowl Migration

Sunday, February 23, 2014, 8:00 AM.

Meet: Meet in the upper Oxbow parking lot at the main entrance just beyond the cement plant

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

If you like seeing ducks, consider joining Paul for this morning trip into the Oxbow. Early spring waterfowl are the focus of this trip and migration should be in full swing by this date. However a diverse number of other winter and early spring migrants may also be seen. It's also a great time of year to find Bald Eagles in the Oxbow. Paul, an expert birder, has great bird finding abilities so expectations are high. Paul will move to several spots in the Oxbow area depending on accessibility and water conditions. Aside from seeing waterfowl and other birds, mud is also guaranteed, so dress appropriately. Contact Paul if you have any questions regarding the trip.

Spring Waterfowl Migration

Sunday, March 2, 2014, 8:00 am.

Meet: Meet in the upper Oxbow parking lot at the main entrance just beyond the cement plant

Leader: Joe Bens, (513) 353-4229, joebens@live.com

March in the Oxbow means ducks as spring waterfowl migration reaches its peak during this month. The Oxbow has historically been a magnet for migrating birds, but especially so for waterfowl. So it goes without saying that the primary focus of any March field trip in the Oxbow has to be ducks (and geese). As one of Oxbow's long standing motto's state, "The Duck Stops Here".

Shake off your cabin fever and join our trip leader Joe Bens on this morning trip. Joe is an expert birder and original Oxbow member and he doesn't miss much in the field. We expect many species of ducks and geese, but many other early spring migrants should also be found and Bald Eagles reach peak numbers during March.

March also brings rain and potential flooding to the Oxbows bottoms so some areas can become inaccessible during this month. Joe will adjust his plans accordingly on the day of the trip. So catch "spring fever" and see a variety of birds and other wildlife. Dress accordingly for late winter and expect some mud on your shoes. Contact Joe if you have any questions regarding this trip.



usings

by Dave Styer

The Northern Flicker

The Northern Flicker is our second largest woodpecker, only exceeded in size by the much larger Pileated Woodpecker. (If I'm wrong about this because you now have the even larger Ivory-billed Woodpeckers flying around in the Oxbow area, please let me know. I'll drop what I'm doing and come to see them.) Flickers are often seen around homes. When we go for a walk during the warmer months, we often flush flickers off the ground. They spend more time on the ground than other woodpeckers, because, weather permitting, they especially like to eat ants. So, the flickers are down there on the ground scarfing up ants, and poking in the ant's mounds to eat the larvae, too.

It seems appropriate to step aside, so to speak, and consider the ants of the world. As we well know, ants seem to be about everywhere. They are often an annoying aspect of our lives. They are in our houses, at our picnics, crawling up our legs and biting or stinging. The mass of living ants of this world is thought to equal that of all living humans. Ants, then, aren't just a nuisance, they are a really big nuisance.

However, there is an entirely different way to view the situation. Any animal as widespread and abundant as ants, might be a good food source for other animals. We keep ourselves at the top of the food chain, but ants can't do that. In many parts of the world there are mammals that specialize in eating ants. These mammals are frequently called "anteaters." From southern Mexico, south into South America there are three related species of Anteaters. In Africa and Eurasia there are seven species of Pangolins or Scaly Anteaters. They are not related to the American anteaters. Australia has its Echidnas or Spiny Anteaters. These are not even closely related to the others. In all these places mammals evolved independently to take advantage of the great food source known as ants.

In North America, north of Mexico, there are no such mammals. However, we do have a bird, the Northern Flicker, which has developed adaptations

for eating ants. Woodpeckers, in general, have remarkable tongue structures. This structure goes behind the skull, then up over the top of the skull, and is finally attached near a nostril, on the top of the bill. This enables woodpeckers to stick their tongues out way farther than you would think possible. I quote Oliver L. Austin, Jr. in *Birds of the World*:

Woodpeckers have a long extensile tongue, which most species can stick out to astonishing lengths beyond the bill. The tongue has backward-pointing barbs at its tip, and the salivary glands of many species secrete a gluey substance that coats it so insects adhere to it. When a woodpecker opens the tunnel of a bor-er, the long tongue snakes into it to spear the grub and hook it out.

Applied to flickers, in particular, Austin writes of their ant feeding habits:

Driving their bill into ant burrows, they extend their long sticky tongue, and withdraw it loaded. The sticky substance from the salivary glands which coats their tongue is strongly alkaline, perhaps to counteract the ant's formic acid.

Apparently, we have Northern Flickers as anteaters, rather than some tropical mammal. Of course, flickers live far to the north of the tropics, and they have a couple of adaptations to deal with the cold winters. Most woodpecker species barely migrate, but Northern Flickers certainly do. Flickers also switch to more of a fruit diet during the winter. What could be better than a fine crop of Poison Ivy berries? Why don't flickers simply move up into the trees and forage like other northern woodpeckers? Since they excavate fine nest holes in trees, I believe they would be able to dig grubs out of the wood. Perhaps that would be too much of a change for them, or maybe that change would use up an already limited resource.

The next time you flush up some flickers from the ground, think about the ecological role they play. Also, enjoy the beauty of seeing and hearing them.

**Birdathon Pledge Form for Birdathon 2014
(May 9-10, 2014)**

Name _____

Address _____

My Pledge for Birdathon 2014 is:

Be sure to pick a team to support with your check. It means a lot to the birders.

Fixed Amount: \$ _____

() Check Enclosed

() Bill me after the Birdathon,

-OR-

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, Jack Stenger & Joe Bens
- _____ Team #2 -- Wayne Watligman & Erich Baumgardner
- _____ Team #3 - Sister Marty Dermody, Lois Shadix, Katherine Miller & Chris Moran
- _____ Team #4 – Charlie Saunders, Bob Lackner & Steve Pelikan
- _____ Team #5 -- Jerry Lippert & Madeleine Lippert
- _____ Team #6 – Jon Seymour & the First Timers
- _____ Team #7 – Dave & Jane Styer (West Coast Big Day)

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

Make checks payable to Oxbow of Indiana, Inc. Note this is a change to allow us to better track the money for the purposes of habitat restoration and improved access. All donations to Oxbow of Indiana, Inc. are tax deductible.

Oxbow, Inc. Honorariums & Memorials

Donor

Wanda Apgar
Jaycox Kemp & Cynthia Fink
Family of Wendell Long

Memoriam

Ronald Apgar
Roy Kadle
Wendell Long

Donor

Jaycox Kemp & Cynthia Fink

Honorarium

Phyllis Kadle

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

L. G. Benjamin
Michael & Tucker Coombe
Joan Jeffrey
Andrew MacAoidh Jergens
Jean A. Kearns
Charlie Noc
David & Jane Styer
Scott & Molly Thomas

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.

Hunting Permit Applications Due July 1, 2014

Oxbow, Inc. members who wish to apply for permits to hunt on Oxbow, Inc. land must submit their application by July 1, 2014 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.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

(A hunting permission slip with a confirmatory stamp and authorized signature will be returned to you upon 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

I understand that hunting privilege 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 is granted for one year only (July 1 to June 30 of the following year) and must be reapplied for yearly.)

HUNTING PERMISSION REQUESTS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED BY JULY 1, 2014

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

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

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Easement Inspection, Mike Kluesener	(812) 623-7800
Education, Velda Miller	(812) 584-0187
Field Trips, Jay Stenger	(513) 522-4245
Land Management, Kani Meyer John Klein	(513) 948-8630 (513) 941-4877
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**Need a Speaker?
Give Us a Call!**

www.oxbowinc.info
LAWRENCEBURG, IN 47025
P.O. BOX 4172

