



# WETLAND *matters*

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

Have you visited our website?... [www.oxbowinc.info](http://www.oxbowinc.info)

Need a speaker? Call 513-851-9835

## Rethinking the way we grow is vital to the health of the Oxbow wetlands

.....By Tim Mara

Way back in 1985, the founders of Oxbow, Inc. came together for the purpose of saving the Oxbow wetlands from being destroyed to make way for a major river barge terminal. In the ensuing twenty-five years, the Oxbow membership has succeeded in permanently setting aside more than 1000 acres of important wildlife habitat, and we hope to acquire even more land as it becomes available.

But simply focusing on “acres of land preserved” at the confluence of the Great Miami and Ohio Rivers may not be enough, because the way land upstream from the Oxbow wetlands is developed may be determinative of the health or integrity of the preserved habitat. To ensure the health of the Oxbow wetlands, it may be necessary for Oxbow, Inc. to become more aggressive in advocating sustainable development in the watershed upstream, particularly in the lower reaches of the Great Miami closest to the Oxbow. Let me explain.

### Growth upstream from the Oxbow

Since the end of World War II, the American landscape has dramatically changed. We’ve gone from a nation of relatively compact, walkable, transit oriented cities, to a largely suburban nation living in houses on large lots, often without public sewers, in communities which are auto-oriented and not at all pedestrian friendly. Meanwhile, our cities have shrunk in population – Cincinnati lost about 30% between 1960 and 2000.

These trends are no more evident than in Western Hamilton County and the portions of Dearborn County closest to the state line which, coincidentally, are the areas upstream and closest to the Oxbow wetlands (see **Figure 1**).

These nearby upstream communities have experienced explosive growth since 1960 (see **Figure 2**),

and that growth is likely to accelerate in the near future, particularly in the communities west of the Great Miami River.

Figure 1

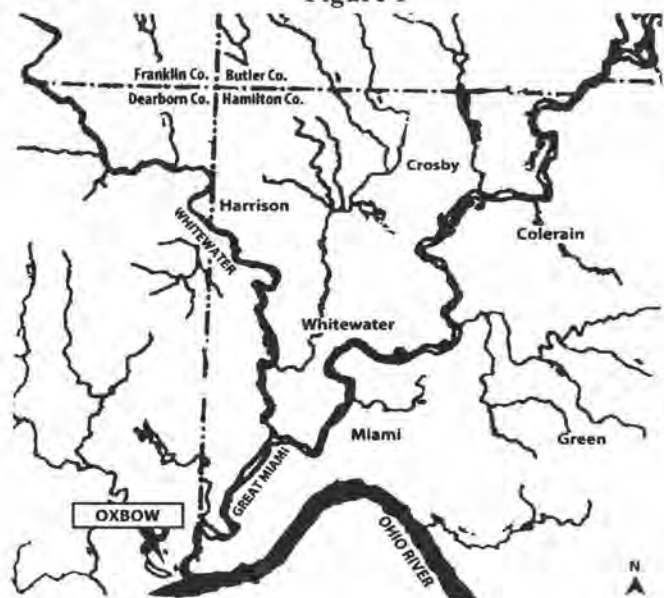


Figure 2 - Population

	1960	2000
Dearborn County	28,674	46,109
Hamilton County		
City of Cincinnati	503,998	336,400
Colerain Township	28,632	60,144
Crosby Township	1,464	2,748
Green Township	37,290	55,660
City of Harrison	3,878	7,487
Harrison Township	1,647	4,982
Miami Township	2,336	9,093
Whitewater Township	2,883	5,564

Source: U.S. Census

(continued on page 2)

Rethinking the way we grow... (Con'd from page 1)

### Current development practices

Much of the development which has occurred in Western Hamilton County and in Dearborn County has not been sensitive to the natural environment. Instead of leaving steep hillsides untouched, they were flattened. Instead of building around streams, they were rechanneled or replaced with storm sewers. Wooded areas, isolated wetlands, and other natural features were seldom spared. These development practices only served to increase erosion, add to the volume and velocity of storm-water runoff, and otherwise negatively impact the quality of water in the Great Miami River and other streams flowing through the Oxbow area.

### Another surge of growth on the horizon

The current recession – the greatest economic downturn since the Great Depression – has temporarily slowed development in Western Hamilton County and in Dearborn County. But when the economy rebounds, development pressures will surely bring a resumption of large scale residential and commercial development in these areas. In fact, Hamilton County Commissioners see major growth in Western Hamilton County as the most important way to offset population out-migration to Clermont and Warren Counties and to Northern Kentucky.

On the national level, some observers are urging that we not resume the great American migration to suburbia and beyond once the economy improves. They argue that continued low-density sprawl into the countryside is unsustainable, and they propose a return to our cities or, in the alternative, that whatever development

occurs outside existing urban areas be less impactful in the environment and the economy. If we embrace the latter alternative, it will require a wholesale rethinking of the rules of the land development game – zoning, environmental regulations, etc. One of the tools with the greatest potential is “conservation design”, most often in the form of a “conservation subdivision.”

### Conservation subdivisions a solution

Conservation subdivisions are characterized by common open space and clustered compact lots. They are usually density neutral, meaning that the same number of lots are built in a conservation subdivision as would be built in a conventional subdivision. A conventional lot-by-lot subdivision spreads development evenly throughout the tract without regard to topography or other natural features, whereas with a conservation subdivision homes are located on one part of the tract and the balance is left as open space.

Conservation subdivisions should not be confused with the so-called planned or cluster developments featured in so many advertisements by the development industry in the Cincinnati area. They generally are poor imitations and preserve little if any of the natural environment. Whereas open space provisions in cluster developments are usually set fairly low, such as 25 to 35 percent of the gross tract, conservation design sets minimum open space requirements as a percentage of the net buildable land area, meaning the area not constrained by wetlands, floodplains, or steep slopes.

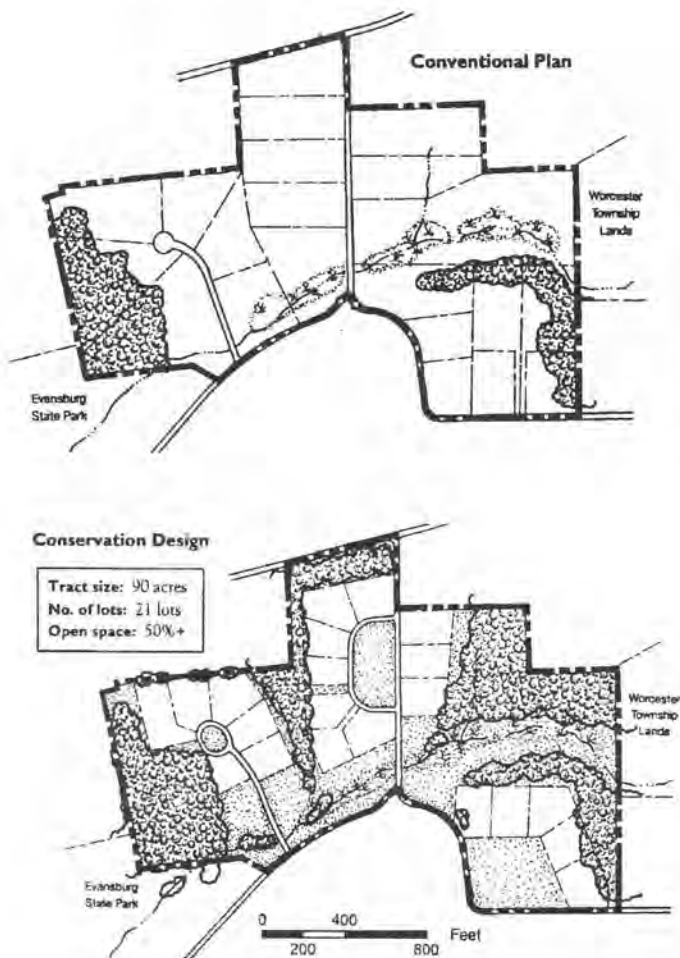
(continued on page 3)



*Figure 3 - the developer removed all trees as well as the steep hillside and streams to create a flat 37 acre site for the Kohl/Meijer's retail complex at the I-74 Harrison/Rybolt interchange. In the foreground, a 10 acre hillside was leveled for three fast food restaurants. These sites drain into Taylor Creek which in turn flows into the Great Miami (Photo by Roland Johnson)*

Rethinking the way we grow... (Cont'd from page 2)

The benefits of a conservation subdivision over a conventional subdivision were dramatically demonstrated by the Natural Lands Trust for a 90 acre tract in Montgomery County, PA. There, township leaders were concerned about a conventional subdivision proposed for a partly wooded parcel flanked by township and state parks and traversed by a high quality stream. The Natural Lands Trust proposed an alternative layout which accommodates the same number of building lots but preserves about half the site in open space, (see **Figure 4**, comparative site plans, below).



**Figure 4** – Comparison of conventional plan and conservation design. Source: National Lands Trust

I recently had the pleasure of attending a conference on sustainable growth, which included an all day workshop taught by Randall Arendt, a pioneer author and lecturer on the subject of conservation design. In his book *Growing Greener: Conservation by Design* Arendt suggests an open space allowance of 50% to 70% of the net usable tract area, plus all of the land constrained by wetlands, floodplains, or steep slopes. I know of no residential or commercial development in the Cincinnati area which preserves so much open space.

If land upstream from the Oxbow wetlands was to be developed following the conservation design principles advocated by Arendt, the impact on water quality in the Great Miami River and other streams that feed the Oxbow wetlands would be far less significant than if developed traditionally. Instead of clearing the land of trees, flattening the topography, piping streams, and generally destroying a site's natural features to facilitate maximum development, the preserved trees and vegetation would filter impurities out of the water before it reaches the Oxbow wetlands. Erosion and sedimentation would be greatly reduced. But conservation subdivisions just don't happen. It's up to all of us to demand more conservation design.

### A case in point

At a public hearing on April 16, 2009, Oxbow, Inc. joined with the Land Conservancy of Hamilton County, Rivers Unlimited, and neighboring homeowners in opposing Phase II of the Vista View subdivision in Miami Township. That subdivision near Cleves was to have been built on extremely steep terrain just uphill from the Great Miami River. It required wholesale earth moving and destruction of a number of on-site streams. Our concern was that this project would negatively impact water quality in the river and ultimately in the Oxbow.

Unfortunately, we were successful only in persuading OEPA to insist that the developer make some minor adjustments to the plans for Vista View. These adjustments were not as significant as we had urged, and reflect OEPA's generally lax attitude about enforcement of environmental regulations (see Final Issuance of Certification, OEPA ID #083310 dated September 30, 2009). This was Oxbow's first experience in attempting to influence the quality of upstream development as a means of preserving the integrity of the Oxbow wetlands, but we hope to do better next time, and would welcome feedback from Oxbow members on this more holistic approach to preserving the Oxbow wetlands.

<sup>1</sup> Projected by the county to be as much as 56,665 by 2010

<sup>2</sup> Conservation subdivisions have the added advantage of reducing development costs, fostering a greater sense of community by providing residents with a more neighborly arrangement of homes, facilitating overall management to enhance wildlife habitat, and lots in conservation subdivisions often sell faster and at premium prices. See *An Innovative Tool for Managing Rural Residential Development: A Look at Conservation Subdivisions* by Anna Haines, PhD at [www.uwsp.edu/cnr/landcenter/tracker/Summer2002/conssubdiv.html](http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/landcenter/tracker/Summer2002/conssubdiv.html), and *Conservation by Design*, Natural Lands Trust, Nov. 2008, which includes a step by step design process.

# Conservation Corner

by Jon Seymour

*(Disclaimer – this is not even close to a complete list of our volunteer efforts but it illustrates the interconnectedness of all these efforts.)*

There are a lot of things that go on behind the scenes at Oxbow, Inc. that have nothing strictly to do with conservation, but have everything to do with our being able to do our conservation work. Every two months several authors and photographers combine their efforts to create an excellent newsletter that is edited by Meg Pochlmann. Joanne Earls prints the over 900 mailing labels and several different people affix the labels to the newsletters. The newsletters are printed locally and in addition to the 900+ that are mailed to fifteen different states; several are distributed to the Dearborn County Visitor's Center, Lawrenceburg Library, Shawnee Lookout Visitor Center and to the Oxbow Office.

In the alternate months between the newsletters, the renewal notices go out. Joanne Earls again prints and sorts all the labels that are for folks past due and for all the new renewal notice going out for the first time. This is usually about 200 labels. I write a renewal letter for the period and send it to Jim Wilgenbusch who makes all the copies that are needed and labels all the envelopes, and stuffs them with the renewal letter and renewal envelop, and puts a stamp on each envelop. Those astute in arithmetic will notice that 1200 renewal letters per month greatly exceeds 900+ members. The excess is due to second and third reminders that go out when a member does not renew right away. This costs us labels, envelopes, letters, stamps, and time. It is the reason we encourage people to respond to their very first notice or send their renewals in advance. Each label carries the renewal date. We send out renewal notices for two months of renewals at the same time. For instance, if your membership is due for renewal in the November – December time period, the renewal notices will go out in the middle of the period (Dec 1<sup>st</sup>).

Once the renewal notices go out, the renewals start coming in. Suzanne Skidmore empties our post office box at the Madeira Post Office every week and when she is away on vacation one of her children takes on the duty. The renewals and all other correspondence are sent to me where I open and distribute all the mail. I log in all the donations, gifts, and payments on an excel spreadsheet and send information to Denny Mason who writes and sends our tax letters, to Joanne Earls who logs in the renewals in the membership database, to Barbara Varland to write thank you letters for memorials and

Kathleen Corneil to send Oxbow newsletters and information to non member memorial donors showing when their donation is published.

Checks and cash are sent to Jim Pochlmann, the Treasurer, who logs the checks in again, makes deposits, pays the bills, and manages the data entry for our accounting system. Jim's accounting forms the basis for our tax filings. Jim sends the records of his deposits and check payments back to me and I double check them with my logs and copies of the bank statements.

Our lawyer, Tim Mara, reviews Army Corp of Engineers, OHEPA and INEPA announcements and brings to the attention of the Board of Directors actions by these groups that affect the Oxbow floodplain and their surrounding communities. If there is a need, Tim and I along with selected members of the Board and the Advisory Council, prepare written responses, work with other conservation groups, and attend hearings.

Jay Stenger sets up the monthly tours of the Oxbow which involve several volunteer tour leaders. Kani Meyer sets up the monthly educational programs, seeking out entertaining and enlightening speakers and selecting the venues for each talk. Notices for these events are sent to the newsletter editor for publication in the *Wetland Matters* and Kani takes the information and puts it up on the website.

John Getzendanner coordinates our security patrols with the local Sheriff's Department. Rick Pope coordinates road care and improvement and uses his tremendous talents with heavy equipment to make the roads magically drivable. Mike Kluesener checks on our conservation easements to make certain that our legal agreements are being honored and helps coordinate some of our larger construction projects.

Velda Miller is starting to build our K-12 education outreach program. She heads a committee of three other area educators who will help build a program that will educate local children and build awareness of the value of protecting areas like the Oxbow Floodplain.

I conduct about 20 special program presentations and tours per year for many interested local groups and individuals. The goal of these programs is to increase awareness and interest in the Oxbow floodplain and to bring in new members from each presentation.

As mentioned before, these efforts do not include the efforts made to take care of the habitat in the Oxbow floodplain. That is nearly a separate subject of its own. I also know I have not included the names of people who have worked on special projects. That is also a separate subject. This narrative is intended to give the reader a bit of a picture of the routine activity that forms the underpinning of Oxbow, Inc.



### Wish List for volunteers:

- A volunteer interested in organization to help us organize files in the office.
- A volunteer interested in history to organize historical documents and create a living history of Oxbow, Inc.
- A volunteer interested in interviewing other volunteers and writing up short stories, on the efforts of each volunteer, to be published in our newsletter.

*If you are interested or think you might be interested call Jon Seymour at 513-851-9835 to talk about it. Oxbow, Inc. runs solely on the basis of volunteer effort and all that we accomplish is due to our volunteers.*

### Oxbow, Inc. Memorials & Honorariums

#### Donor

Jane & Roy Bernzott  
Barb & Dick Sucietto  
Deborah Wissman

#### In Memory of

Ruth Heinold  
Lena Schmale  
Larry Wissman



#### *Oxbow, Inc. would like to thank:*

E.W. Marshall Tucker  
for his generous donation

The following groups and individuals made generous donations toward our Photo Competition:

Ohio Valley Camera Club  
Kelly M. Riccetti  
Seapine Software, Inc.

*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 43391, Cincinnati, OH 45243-0391. Be sure to enclose the names and addresses of those who are to receive the acknowledgement.*



Looking down the throat of the Morning Glory flower is exhilarating and calming all at the same time. The color seems to flow into the sky and become part of it. When we view flowers most of us look straight into the flower to see what we think is its most advantageous viewpoint that maximizes the beauty of the flower. *(photo by Jon Seymour)*

Flowers have more than one side and if you take the time to examine the flower from several angles you can be surprised to see other beauties of the flower that you might have otherwise overlooked. The symmetry and sweeping architecture of the back side of the Morning Glory approaches that of a cathedral in its proportions. *(Photo by Jon Seymour)*



The lowly Queen Anne's Lace is often overlooked as it is common along the roadsides of the Midwest. It does not have a spectacular color. Its white bunches of flowers are not apt to catch the eye of a passing traveler. It is great for feeding insects that are attracted to its pollen and nectar. *(photo by Jon Seymour)*



From down below, the flower of the Queen Anne's Lace is nothing if not spectacular. The green stems seem to burst like fireworks into a rain of soft white petals. Most everyone looks down on the poor Queen Anne's Lace. But if you take the time to look up you will discover a whole new world. *(photo by Jon Seymour)*



by Dave Styer

The Western Kingbird, a New Bird for the Oxbow Area

On August 29<sup>th</sup> Ned Killer led a trip to the Oxbow for the Indiana Audubon Society (IAS). A full account of the trip, and the Western Kingbird sighting can be found on the IAS web page. IAS Field Trip Chair, Alan Bruner, spotted the bird briefly. The group pursued and Alan again saw it briefly. The group waited, without luck, near the railroad for it to show itself. Alan was beginning to have self-doubts. Ned suggested that sometimes a bird will pop up if they appear to leave. So, they started to leave, and the Western Kingbird popped up for all to see! A fine photograph of the bird can be found on the IAS web page.

The Western Kingbird is a fairly common nesting bird throughout the western United States (excluding Alaska and Hawaii). It winters mainly in Mexico and Central America. Many eastern U.S. birds wander west during the fall migration. Not so many western birds wander east, but the Western Kingbird does. To maximize your chances of seeing Western Kingbird out of place you need to go to the coast. This seems natural: the birds going east just keep going until they reach the coast, and stop. That concentrates the stray birds in a very small area. It was fortunate that Oxbow birders and this kingbird crossed paths. In 1993 Cape May, New Jersey was averaging 10 Western Kingbirds seen each fall.

In view of this eastward movement of Western Kingbirds one might think that ornithologists from the east coast would have named the species by the year 1800. That is not at all what happened. In fact, it was discovered (for science) by the Long Expedition about July 20, 1820 near the Arkansas River in Colorado. Quoting Howard Ensign Evans in *The Natural History of The Long Expedition to the Rocky Mountains*:

*The naturalists took a flycatcher with a yellow breast and a small orange spot on top of the head. [Thomas] Say provided a description, naming the bird *Tyrannus verticalis*, a name that still stands for the Western Kingbird. It seems odd that they had not encoun-*

*tered this species sooner, as it is a common and widely distributed western bird.*

Perhaps, the Western Kingbird was far less common and widespread then than now. This is not a bird of forests. Here, in California, I think of going to open, grassy areas to see this bird. But that could be misleading. From all I read, they want a building, or a phone pole, or an isolated tree, or fence post to be content. The Great Plains may have been essentially lacking in Western Kingbird habitat until the great western expansion took place in the 1800s. A great eastward expansion of the Western Kingbird during the nineteenth century would explain why it hadn't been seen earlier, and it would explain why there are now fall records on the east coast of the United States.

When I was a youngster there were bird books in the house, but then they all called the Western Kingbird the "Arkansas Kingbird." When I recently read where the Western Kingbird was discovered, I was reminded of a passage in *Journey into Summer*, one of Edwin Way Teale's wonderful books on the four seasons. There he writes about the Arkansas River:

*In many ways it is a remarkable stream. It is the only river I know that, midway in its course, changes the pronunciation of its name. From its source to the Oklahoma line it is known as the "Arkansas" River. From the Oklahoma line to its juncture with the Mississippi it is the "Arkansaw." That pronunciation has been required by law in the State of Arkansas ever since an act of the legislature in 1891.*

Now I'm left in a quandary. I always thought the Western Kingbird was called the "Arkansas" Kingbird, as in the State of Arkansas. But it didn't even live in Arkansas! It never occurred to me before now that the Western Kingbird might have been called the "Ar-kansas" Kingbird, after the name of the river it was first found near. Maybe that's why the American Ornithologists Union changed its name to Western Kingbird; they didn't know how to pronounce it. They haven't changed the name of the Cape May Warbler, a bird that was first seen in Cape May County, New Jersey, in 1811, but not seen there again until 1920!



## Have you thanked a plant today?

The versatile Jack Beringer returned to the Oxbow Office to present on "The Secret Life of Oxbow Plants". Jack pointed out that some of the families of plants found in the Oxbow, like cyanobacter, have been around little changed for millions of years. Some Oxbow plants were cultivated by Indians and changed by their contact with humans to new genotypes, like a current corn variety, that may be genetically only a few years old. Plants are responsible for the appearance and maintenance of oxygen on earth. They generate oxygen from carbon dioxide during a process, which we all learned about in third or fourth grade, called photosynthesis. We used to focus on this process for the life giving oxygen that it generates but now we are just as interested in the process of removal of carbon dioxide, the primary greenhouse gas, from the atmosphere.

Did we mention plants as the source of all food? The world's animals consume the world's plants, converting the sun energy stored in the plants to bone, muscle, nerves and offspring. Carnivores may not eat plants directly but they eat animals that eat plants. It all starts with the plants. So if you enjoy breathing and having a nice breakfast/lunch/dinner (pick one), remember to thank a plant today and say a kind word to them in passing.



## Birdathon 2009 The Dollars for Ducks Side

....by Jon Seymour

The final donation totals are in for Birdathon. We raised \$5292.10 which was unfortunately lower than last year's total. Even though we were blessed with more participants than in 2008, the total number of donors and the average amount they donated was lower.



As with many other organizations, we too are feeling the economic downturn, even in the Birdathon. While we were disappointed with the total, we celebrate all the individual donors and thank each one of them for their generous donations. We are still blessed to have raised over \$5000 for the habitat and access improvement fund. Recent visitors to the Oxbow will notice the access improvements made on the roads. It is now possible to drive the main road (Shell to Slot) many more days per year due to the gravel layer that has been laid down. Also the prairie restoration habitat improvement project around Osprey Lake is going strong and looking really good.

The individual donors and group donors are listed on page 11. If you see any of these special people around the Oxbow, be certain to thank them for their support. The Birdathon brings birding enthusiasts, young and old, together for a celebration of a special portion of Cincinnati's natural heritage. Birdathon 2010 will celebrate our 25th anniversary and hopefully with a recovering economy we can turn around the donations and start climbing again. **Reserve the dates of May 7-8, 2010 for the next Cincinnati Area Birdathon.**

### Oxbow Inc. PROGRAMS

*To get to the Oxbow, Inc. Office take Highway US 50 south from the #16 exit of I-275. Pass the Argosy exit and turn left at the second stop light onto Walnut St. 301 Walnut is on the right side at the second stop light 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.)*

**Tuesday, November 10, 2009, 7:30 p.m.**  
**301 Walnut St., Lawrenceburg**  
**The Oxbow, Inc. Office**

Join **Kani Meyer** for a quick trip to China. But, sorry, no birds. One year ago Kani had the good fortune to accompany Cincinnati's Mayor Mark Mallory on a Sister City visit to Liuzhou in the south of China. The visit also included Beijing and Shanghai and was most notable for the absence of any birds. Come see her slides and we'll speculate about the lack of birds.

**No Program in December – Have a Happy Holiday!**

**Tuesday, January 12, 2010, 7:30 p.m.**  
**301 Walnut St., Lawrenceburg**  
**The Oxbow, Inc. Office**

Learn about the early written history of the Oxbow through the eyes and lives of such larger than life characters as John Cleves Symmes and William Henry Harrison. Discover the unique history of Fort Finney and its critical role in the formation of the United States of America. **Tom Strofeldt**, former curator of the Ohio Historical Society, is a student of frontier history and is an avid hiker and canoer. He worked at Williamsburg, VA for ten years as a trained rifle maker. He has published 47 articles on the American frontier.



### Oxbow Inc. FIELD TRIPS

**November 2009**  
**Oxbow Inc. Field Trip**

**Date & Time:** Saturday, November 7th, 2009, 8:00 a.m.  
**Where:** Upper Oxbow parking lot at the main Oxbow entrance  
**Leader:** Charlie Saunders, (513) 829-6981

Every season has its charms, but Autumn is my favorite and the Oxbow is one of my favorite places during Autumn. The fall harvest is in the air and the subtle hues of the landscape, interspersed with brilliant colors offer up a stark beauty. The approaching winter is in the wind, but is not quite here yet.

### Oxbow Inc. FIELD TRIPS (cont)

The changing season also has wildlife active and on the move. Birds that have summered in the far north will have returned to spend the winter in our relatively, milder season. Other species are migrating through on their way to warmer climes. But when naturalists think of November and the Oxbow, the first thing that comes to mind is waterfowl as peak Fall waterfowl migration occurs in our region during November, and as one of Oxbow Inc.'s catch phrases states, "The duck stops here".

We should expect a number of species of ducks and other waterbirds. Hawks will be seen and Bald Eagles are almost a given. Late migrant and winter songbirds should be abundant. Even Sandhill Cranes might be seen. Join skilled naturalist and trip leader Charlie Saunders for what should be a pleasant autumnal visit to the Oxbow. Remember, the Oxbow can be muddy in places at this time of year and November weather can be cold & wet, so prepare accordingly. Feel free to call Charlie if you have any questions.

### **2009 National Audubon Society Ohio River Christmas Bird Count**

**Date & Time:** Saturday, December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2009, 7:45 am  
**Where:** Shawnee Lookout Park upper boat ramp parking lot.  
**Leader:** Paul Wharton, (513) 353-3403

Join Paul Wharton on this annual holiday bird count which censuses winter bird populations in a 15-mile diameter circle, which includes the Oxbow, Shawnee Lookout Park and most of Dearborn County Indiana. Everyone is invited to participate regardless of skill level. There is a \$5.00 participation fee. You can participate all day, for just a couple of hours or just by staying home and counting the birds at your feeders (no charge for feeder watchers). If you're interested please contact Paul for more information.

You may also be interested in these other two local National Audubon Society Christmas Bird Counts. If interested contact Ned and Jay for more information.

**Western Hamilton County Christmas Bird Count**  
 Sunday, December 20<sup>th</sup>, 2009  
 Ned Keller, (513) 941-6497, [keller@one.net](mailto:keller@one.net)

**Cincinnati Christmas Bird Count**  
 Sunday, December 27<sup>th</sup>, 2009  
 Jay Stenger, (513) 522-8147, [jaystenger@cinci.rr.com](mailto:jaystenger@cinci.rr.com)

**For more information on Audubon Society Christmas Bird Counts visit the following website:**  
<http://www.audubon.org/bird/cbc/>

### Donors List for the 2009 Birdathon

Oxbow, Inc. wishes to gratefully thank all the donors, individuals and organizations, that contributed money for this year's Birdathon. Money from the Birdathon goes directly to habitat improvement and to improvement of access to areas where wildlife can be viewed safely. Birdathon 2009 was a great year and we hope to do even better in our 25th Anniversary year of 2010.

Robyn and Pat Aungst	David and Susan McCamey
Deborah Bauer	Kani and Dave Meyer
Erich and Sally Baumgardner	Miami Valley Christian Acedemy
John and Elizabeth Beckmeyer	Ken Miller and Bethia Margoshes
Ruth Bockenstette and Victoria Forde	Chris Moran
Jeanne Bocklage	Al and Regeana Morgan
Therese Bocklage	Janet Morgan
Don and Barbara Bogosian	Jon and Marylou Nicodemus
Judy Bohn	Sr. Marian Oldiges
Penny Borgman	Steve Pelikan
Allen and Katherine Bornemann	Pat and Kerry Persing
Rick and Judy Bramstedt	Ronald Persing
Dave and Bridget Brinkman	Timothy and Diana Peters, D.D.S.
Cincinnati Nature Center	Robert and Joanne Ponikvar
Chris and Suzanne Clingman	Kelly M Riccetti
Cathy Cole	Jon and Jackie Seymour
Kathleen Corneil	Anna Siemantel
S. Marty Dermody	William and Jeanne Splain
Tim and Laura Dornan	Gary and Sally Stegner
John and Barbara Eckles	Jay and Paula Stenger
Eric Elfner	Jim and Louise Stinchcomb
George and Vanessa Farnsworth	Thomas More College Animal Behavior Class
Joan Franchi	Dave and Vicki Tozier
Mark Gilsdorf	Joan Carlson Walson
Jeffrey Grothaus	Wayne Wauligman, DDS
Debbie and David Hausrath	Whit and Bon Wharton
James and Gretchen Hill	Wesley Paul Wiemann
Joseph and Catherine Kappa	Jim and Judy Wilgenbusch
Ned Keller	Gale and David Wulker
James and Sara Krailler	David and Margaret Yelton
Bob and Patricia Lacker	
George and Ellen Laycock	
John and Sarah Leon	
Jerry and Pamela Lippert	
Lawrence Lippert	
Angela Lonsway-Cole	

## Oxbow, 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 known 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, John Getzendanner	(812) 537-5728
Recording Secretary, Dwight Poffenberger	(513) 241-2324
Corresponding Secretary, Dennis Mason	(513) 385-3607
Treasurer, Jim Poehlmann	(513) 931-4072
Ohio Agent, Dwight Poffenberger	(513) 241-2324
Indiana Agent, John Getzendanner	(812) 537-5728

## Committee Chairpersons

Conservation, Dr. Jon Seymour	(513) 851-9835
Easement Inspection, Mike Kluesener	(812) 623-7800
Land Management, Kani Meyer	(513) 948-8630
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	

Member Communications: Jennifer Borneman, Joanne Earls, Kathleen Corneil, Lynda Mason, Velda Miller, Pat Shanklin, Suzanne Skidmore, Barb Varland, Jim Wilgenbusch

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

