



May—June 2010

No. 143

# 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

## 2010 Plans

.....by Jon Seymour

As we start into 2010 we have lots of plans for the Oxbow. First up will be a clean up of the area north of the railroad tracks on Saturday, May 1. Contact Kani Meyer and tell her you are coming to help. The recent flood brought in plenty of stuff to pick up and the more we remove the healthier it will be for the wildlife. We will continue to work on the roads this year. There are plans for improved culverts, more gravel, some road closings, and a hoped for a relocation of the road along the railroad all the way to I-275.

On May 7-8 we will host the Cincinnati Area Birdathon. This is a fun way to enjoy birding and raise money for Oxbow projects. Participation and donation forms are on pages 4.

The Ohio River area south of the railroad tracks will be cleaned up Saturday, June 19. This is always an interesting time since the big river often leaves some large items that need to be removed.

We will also have our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary picnic on Sunday, July 18. See page 10 for more details and the reservation form. In September we will host one of the Cincinnati Museum Center's Heritage Program tours. We are looking forward to providing an excellent program for our museum friends.

These are just some of the projects planned for 2010. I continue to be amazed at what our dedicated all volunteer force continues to accomplish year after year. Come out and join the fun and be a volunteer yourself.

## COUNT SPECIES FOR THE 2010 BIRDATHON

Not too  
late!

IT IS NOT TOO LATE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CINCINNATI AREA BIRDATHON. SEE THE TEAM APPLICATION INFORMATION ON PAGE 4 AND CALL JAY STENGER @ 513-522-4245, OR JON SEYMOUR @ 513-851-9835

## We Need Your Pledge for Birdathon 2010!

We need your support for one of Oxbow's teams with your pledges. Fill in the pledge form on Page 4 and return it to the listed address. Help us improve the oxbow floodplain.

Your donations to the Oxbow, Inc.'s Cincinnati Area Birdathon 2010 allow Oxbow, Inc. to make improvements in habitat within the Oxbow and to improve all weather access for greater enjoyment of your visits to the Oxbow.

Make your donation check payable to Oxbow, Inc. and send to Oxbow, Inc. P.O. Box 4172, Lawrenceburg, IN 47025. We look forward to your generous contribution.

## Great Outdoor Weekend (GOW) September 25-26

Plenty of advanced notice to get ready for Great Outdoor Weekend 2010! This year is the first year that GOW is being brought to you as an initiative of Green Umbrella, the unique tri-state nature alliance. In Green Umbrella the GOW has finally found a home and hopefully continuous year to year support. Hold the dates of Saturday and Sunday, September 25-26 on your calendars and plan to attend as many of these outdoor nature events as you can. All events are free to the public.

## 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, May 11th, 2010, 7:30 p.m.**  
**301 Walnut St., Lawrenceburg**  
**The Oxbow, Inc. Office**

Sara Oser, UC geology student, spent several weeks during the summer of 2009 in Mongolia working on sequence stratigraphy and paleontology of the Upper Ordovician. Mongolia is a fascinating region both geologically and culturally. Located halfway around the world and lodged between the two superpowers of Russia and China, the Mongolians have a culture that is both adaptive and enduring. The capitol city of Ulaanbaatar is home to half the nation's population and is in a general state of renewal. Walking the streets one can see a traditionally nomadic culture melding seamlessly with the otherwise competing influences of old Soviet industrialization and an encroaching westernization. Leaving the city you enter a more nomadic realm, with families living in gers scattered across the landscape. We had our own ger, set up the region of Shine Jinst. While not in the Gobi Desert proper, it is close enough that there is no vegetation. For a geologist this is especially fortuitous - everywhere you look it's all geology as far as you can see.

**Tuesday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2010, 7:30 p.m.**  
**301 Walnut St., Lawrenceburg**  
**The Oxbow, Inc. Office**

**Jon Seymour**, President Oxbow, Inc., will recount some travel experiences from his latest trip to Arizona with floodplains and water management. Many world renowned birding areas are really floodplains, just like the Oxbow, and he will describe two - Bosque del Apache NWR in New Mexico and the Platte River Valley between Kearney and Grand Island, Nebraska. Jon will also take us on a tour of the Water Ranch, an unique city water management experiment in Gilbert, AZ. Come for an evening of discovery of the truth behind the statement, "If you have water they will come!". If you have any questions in advance contact Jon at 513-851-9835.

## Oxbow Inc. FIELD TRIPS

*To reach the upper Oxbow, Inc. parking lot near the cement plant, turn south from Rt. 50 at the Shell gas station in Greendale, drive back to the cement plant, turn right to the end of the road, then left. The lot is on your right.*

**Sunday, May 23 2010, 8:00 a.m.**  
**Meet in the upper Oxbow parking lot at the main entrance to the Oxbow.**  
**Leader: Jay Stenger, (513) 522-8147,**  
**[javstenger@cinci.rr.com](mailto:javstenger@cinci.rr.com)**

May is without a doubt the best overall month for birding. It is during this month that the greatest diversity and the most species are present. During May spring migration peaks and our summer residents have returned and the Oxbow and lower Great Miami River valley is a great place to find them. So birds will certainly be the focus of this morning trip. Our leader will be expert birder Jay Stenger and one of Oxbow Inc.'s founding members. Jay says we can expect to find a diversity of raptors, herons, shorebirds, migrant and resident warblers and other songbirds over the course of the morning. While warbler migration will be just a bit past peak by this date, there should still be many moving through and of course our breeding birds will be back in abundance. Jay plans to cover a wide area over the mornings birding, visiting several spots in the Oxbow as well as a few hotspots on the Shawnee Lookout side of the river. Prepare for mud if conditions are wet. Feel free to contact Jay if you have any questions.

**Saturday, June 26 2010, 9:00 a.m.**  
**Meet in the upper Oxbow parking lot at the main entrance to the Oxbow.**  
**Leader: Wayne Wauligman, (513) 922-4430,**  
**[wrrwpgw@aol.com](mailto:wrrwpgw@aol.com)**

The focus of this trip will be on finding the reptiles and amphibians that inhabit the Oxbow. Our trip leader will be Wayne Wauligman who is an expert herpetologist as well as a skilled birder. There are several species of frogs, turtles and snakes in the Oxbow and Wayne says we will attempt to find, catch, show and release them. There are no guarantees on what we will find of course, but Wayne is an old hand at this and is usually successful. Wayne advises preparing for mud in case it's wet. The trip will end around noon. Be sure to join Wayne on what will certainly be an interesting morning afield. If you have any questions or would like more information don't hesitate to contact Wayne.

*(Printing this article by Karl Maslowski, one of the founders of Oxbow, Inc. was suggested by Oxbow member and local historian, Majorie Burress. It seemed to fit right in with our reflection on 25 years of service to the environment at the mouth of the Great Miami River. Permission to reprint this article was granted by the Maslowski family.)*

### **Naturalist Afield**

(Reprinted from *The Cincinnati Enquirer*, Sunday August 30, 1987)

#### **Civilization indelibly writes its history on environment**

*By Karl Maslowski*

I had climbed the hill many times over the years and always found the big fallen log at the top a welcome place for a breather. As I rested I contemplated the sad changes in my physical make-up. Years ago the hill had been an easy climb. Now it was a "two-stopper".

While resting I compared my aging with changes that in the environment since the coming of the white settlers. A small flock of starlings, unaware of my presence, flew across the ridge within 10 yards. That flock served as a small window through which I could peak at the American character that had influenced the environment, both past and present.

Helpful, too, in the analysis were comments that my son Pete, a history teacher in Nebraska, had made to me while we were fishing a farm pond in that state just a couple of months earlier.

Pete explained that the first colonists to this continent were unencumbered with a physical setting bearing the shape of centuries of occupation. The early settlers faced a clean slate, and they were free to mark on it as they chose. For almost three centuries as American migration rolled westward the horizon always contained a practically clean slate. The way these men and women chalked upon that slate tells us a great deal about them and their social values. Likewise, the way we alter the slate is going to reveal to the future what the present was like.

Today the presence or absence near my resting spot of such plants and creatures as American elm, bush honeysuckle, passenger pigeons, yellow ladyslipper orchids, plantation mink, Norway rats, wild turkeys, starlings and bullfrogs could tell us a good deal more about ourselves than written social documents. The environment is a true historical paper just as susceptible to interpretation as letters and constitutions.

It is essential that we keep in mind that the land is an artifact that can be molded and shaped. By a conscious choice we can use bulldozers and chain saws to sculpt the physical world in one way; by an equally conscious choice we can opt to do nothing with the land, to leave it wild and natural. Whether we pulverize the land or leave it intact, the landscape is an important clue to our

social values. One might say the axe is as mighty as the sword or pen.

The log on which I rested was surely a descendant of a tree that three centuries ago was a minute part of a forest that covered 85% of Ohio. That forest and the deep mulch softened the impact of the erosive rain. Rarely were streams heavily laden with silt. Today Ohio is 15% forested and all streams are silt laden.

The clearing of Ohio forests and the building of civilization have wrought staggering changes. Gone are the bison and elk, the wolf and the mountain lion, the prairie chicken and the passenger pigeon. In their place have come the house mouse and the cat, the ailanthus tree and the cabbage butterfly, the house sparrow and the chestnut blight. It takes little insight to realize the way such introductions have degraded the environment.

Some of these changes started the moment settlers came to Ohio, but as I sat resting, my mind began ticking off radical changes I have seen in wildlife within my lifetime. Whitetail deer, beaver, and wild turkey all have been restored in great number to the list of game animals once missing from Ohio. By contrast many species of mollusks have been wiped out by altering our water courses with pollution and dams. Woods I knew in my boyhood that were carpeted in a confetti of spring wildflowers are now choked with bush and vine honeysuckle.

Birds that once regularly nested within 50 miles of downtown Cincinnati, including barn owls, black-crowned night heron and Bewick's wren, are no more. By contrast, we have far more robins, cowbirds, cardinals, chickadees and pileated woodpeckers than were here 60 years ago.

As I rose to continue my walk I wondered if anyone might stand at the spot after the old log had been recycled into the earth and consider how many generations had written on the environmental slate.

But my practical side told me there was no use to consider sympathetically the way any generation has written on the environmental slate. Man's destiny is to advance, not revert. Only another creation will provide a clean slate.

#### *Note for Naturalist Afield for Oxbow*

*Naturalist Afield appeared in the Cincinnati Enquirer on Sundays for more than 50 years. Now the Cincinnati Museum of Natural History is preparing to publish a collection of Naturalist Afield columns in book form. Spearheaded by Helen Black and edited by biology professor Stan Hedeon, the book will present a snapshot of the changes in nature in the Cincinnati area for half a century. The release date has not yet been determined, but please watch for the Museum's newest book. All proceeds go to the Museum.*

## Birdathon Participation

Oxbow, Inc. wants to have as many birdwatchers as possible participate in the Birdathon. While there is a competition for the most species seen in the Birdathon area during the 24 hours of the contest, there are many ways to participate. You do not even have to leave your own house. You do not have to compete at all, just come to the tally party and report your findings. There are also many ways to compete besides most species for the total Birdathon. Here are some possible categories of competition:

- Most Species by a Team. (most overall species by a group)
- Most Species by an Individual (most overall species by an individual)
- Most Species in a Back Yard (most species observed from one yard)
- Most Species One State (most species by state, either Ohio, Indiana or Kentucky)
- Most Species One County (most species in any one county, ex: Hamilton)
- Most Species In One Location (recorded in one defined area, ex: The Oxbow)
- Most Species Non-Fossil Fuel (recorded without using any gasoline)
- Most Species Big Sit (recorded from one fixed 30 x 30 foot spot)
- Most Species Family (most species by a family, parent/guardian and at least one child)
- Most Species Under Age 20 (most species seen by a group 19 & under, 1 adult allowed)
- Most Funds Raised by a Team
- Most Funds Raised by an Individual
- Most Funds raised by Persons Under 20 Years Old
- Make up your own category. If it has anything to do with counting bird species in the Birdathon's 24 hour time window we will probably accept it.

Remember the purpose of the Birdathon is to raise money for improving Oxbow habitat and Oxbow accessibility projects. **The way to do it is to have fun birding!**

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

### Birdathon Pledge Form for Birdathon 2010 (May 7-8, 2010)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

My Pledge for Birdathon 2010 is: Fixed Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) Check Enclosed ( ) Bill me after the Birdathon

**If you elect a fixed pledge please remember to specify below which team the pledge is for.**

**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, and Joe Bens

\_\_\_ Team #2 – Jerry Lippert, Erich Baumgardner, and Wayne Wauligman

\_\_\_ Team #3 – Sister Marty Dermody, Katherine Miller, Sarah Krailler

\_\_\_ Team #4 – Dave and Jane Styer (West Coast Big Day)

\_\_\_ Team #5 – Jon Seymour and the First Timers

\_\_\_ Team #6 – Steve Pelikan, Mike Busam, and Charlie Saunders

**Make checks payable to**  
**Oxbow, Inc. All donations**  
**to the Birdathon are tax**  
**deductible.**

### Wish List for volunteers:

- A volunteer to write best operating practices for Oxbow, Inc. operations.
- 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

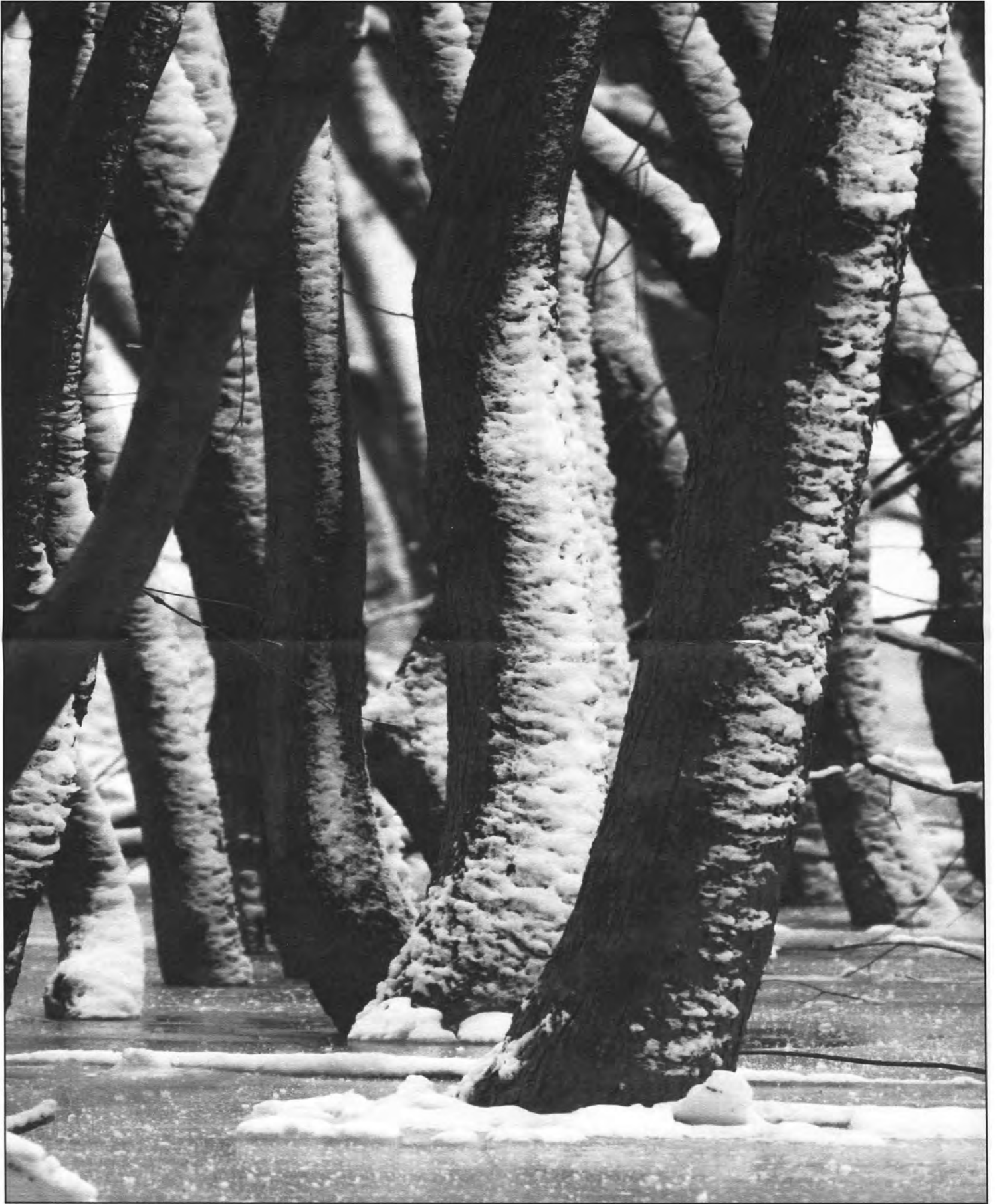
Donor	In Memory of
Bill & Do Kuhlman	Norma Flannery
Joyce E. Romer	Helen "Susie" Knierim
Joyce E. Romer	Ina Torreano
Jon & Jackie Seymour	Norma Flannery
Jon & Jackie Seymour	Morris Mercer

*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.*





Winter is a glorious time to visit the Oxbow and since very few people do visit at this time of year you get the added benefit of solitude and peace. Winter is also a time when you can notice the many marvels of nature such as this intricate snow, tree, water and ice pattern photographed by Tom Uhlman.



These Tree Sparrows arrived in the Oxbow probably in December of last year and figured that they had come far enough south. To these hardy northern birds the weather in Cincinnati from December to February is downright balmy. The Oxbow can harbor wintering flocks numbering into the hundreds. They can look like ordinary House Sparrows, if you are too casual in your observation, but these little guys are anything but ordinary. (photo by Tom Uhlman)

Look at the top right corner Tree Sparrow in the photo above and you will see the photo of that same tree sparrow that is isolated for your closer inspection in the photo on the right. This Tree Sparrow looks mad and ready to take on anything that would dare to bother him or his mates. The famous "Mad Bluebird" photo has nothing on our own version of a angry Tree Sparrow





usings

by Dave Styer

### The Killdeer and the Common Grackle

Over thirty species of shorebirds have been seen in the Oxbow area, but only two or three species are known to breed there. The most evident of these is the Killdeer, seen along rivers, in large lawn areas such as gold courses, and even parking lots throughout the Cincinnati area. Many of us are familiar with the broken wing act Killdeer use to distract us from the nest or young. We delight in seeing the recently hatched young; they look like little fluff-balls on legs.

It seems appropriate to think about the egg development of the Killdeer, and how different it is from the typical songbird of the area. A Killdeer's egg is much narrower toward one end than the other end. The nest typically contains four eggs, and these are arranged in a neat circle with the small end pointed inward. Welty and Baptista in *The Life of Birds* have nicely pointed out that an

*advantage in such eggs is found in the compact way they pack together when there are three or four in a nest—common numbers for many shore birds. If the four eggs in the nest of a Killdeer, *Charadrius vociferus*, are disarranged, the bird will rearrange them with pointed ends inward much like the slices of a pie. Not only is the parent better able to cover its eggs, but the heat they receive from its body is dissipated less rapidly, thanks to their compact positioning.*

Now let's consider a songbird, say a Common Grackle, and a Killdeer. I have chosen the Common Grackle for comparison because the two species (especially their females) are about the same size, approximately 100 grams. Killdeer chicks hatch ready to dry out and run off to safety. Grackle chicks hatch naked, and blind. That's dramatically different. Development does take time. Perhaps it is not a surprise, then, that the Grackle eggs hatch after 11 to 12 days of incubation, while the Killdeer eggs require around 25 days of incubation before they

hatch (see *The Birds of North America*, edited by A. Poole and F. Gill).

It is easy to see the advantage of the more fully developed young in the Killdeer. The Killdeer's nest is right out in the open, usually where any predator can come along. The eggs look much like the gravel they are laid in. If the Killdeer chicks, at hatching, were like the grackle chicks they would be an obvious target for predators. For the Killdeer young, it seems best to stay in the egg as long as possible, and then move off to better cover as soon as possible after hatching.

You might now be thinking: how can Common Grackle chicks have any advantage hatching two weeks sooner, just to be helpless? I can think of one great advantage. While in the egg the developing embryo must get all its nutrition (excluding oxygen) from the egg. At the end of 25 days, when the Killdeer chick hatches, it weighs approximately ten percent of an adult. When the Common Grackle chicks hatch they are soon begging for food, the one thing they can do well. Two weeks later, about the same time that the Killdeer chick is hatching, the Common Grackle chick weighs about sixty percent of an adult, and is starting to fly.

From the time of hatching the Killdeer needs another 25 to 30 days before it can fly. Summarizing this, from the start of incubation to flight the Killdeer requires 50 to 55 days, and the Common Grackle requires around 25 days. For a bird that has a completely exposed nest, such as a Killdeer, it seems best for the young to develop as much as possible in the egg, so that the chick can seek cover shortly after it hatches. For a bird, such as a Common Grackle, that hides its nest in a tree it seems best if the young experience the fastest general development. They can take advantage of their hidden location, and fly when they are ready to leave it.

The adult Killdeer and the Common Grackle weight approximately the same amount. Not only is the Killdeer vociferous, but the Common Grackle can be pretty noisy, too. At least we can tell the two apart by their breeding biology.



# Horseshoe Bottoms Diary

Thursday, April 1, 2010 by Jon Seymour

## April Fool's Gold

I am heading for the Oxbow at 7:15 in the morning. Behind me in the east the sun is rising in a cloudless sky, but I am watching the moonset. In front of me to the west the full moon is descending to the horizon. The view of the moon above the horizon is doubled its normal size. It is the fall harvest moon in reverse. The sun is not high enough to fully light the sky to the west and the moon is in nearly full shine in the morning sky. As the moon floats above the changing level of the horizon it reminds me of a hot air balloon that I am chasing but I never catch. As I arrive in the Whitewater River Valley the hills to the west rise closer and my moonset is obscured. Nice while it lasted!

I am out today to explore, take a bit of an inventory, and then just enjoy being in the Oxbow. The Oxbow is in low flood. As I travel south on I-275, I check the water level and note that it is up around the base of the trees on the edge of the RV Park, telling me that the backside of the Oxbow will be flooded. I pull into the Hardintown entrance. The road is dry but the condition of the road closer to Oxbow Lake is the real question. At the bottom of the hill, where the road splits, I park the car and walk to the gate that blocks the causeway road. The base of one of the poles holding the chain is dry and the other is covered in water. The chain has two padlocks, one on each end of the chain. The padlocks are different. One padlock is for the farmers to use and the other is for Oxbow trip leaders and service people. They have different keys. Some Oxbow Board members, myself included, carry both keys. The locks have been under water and I want to see if they need any work. The water around the base of one of the poles eliminates my trying that lock. It will have to wait for another day. The dry pole lock turns freely but the catch does not open. I will have to let our Indiana Agent, John Getzendanner, know. He has always had more luck with this particular lock than I have had. He can often get it open when I cannot. I will have to get him on it and see if he can work his magic.

I step over the chain and walk toward the back of the Oxbow along the causeway. I can only go about 75 yards before the high water cuts me off. There is not much wildlife present. Several Robins are working the causeway and a single male mallard is out in the Cement Plant Pond. A couple of Great Blue Herons fly over in the distance and behind them two Turkey Vultures lazily circle the sky. I pull out a few plastic bags that I always have with me and start picking up trash on my way back

to the car. (Old rule of walking in the Oxbow - Pick Up the Trash on the Way Back.)

Back at the car I drive toward the Oxbow Lake Overlook. When I reach the first culvert I decide that the approach, which is covered with corn stalks left by the receding floods, looks potentially slippery and possibly soft under the stalks. I decide to walk. The culvert is holding back water and is obviously blocked, probably with more corn stalks. One never knows if the local beaver clan might have helped just a teensie. In the resulting flooded area, near where the farmed field abuts the grass land area there are 5 Blue-winged Teal floating in and out of the remnants of the corn stalks.

Walking from the culvert area to Osprey Lake along the road I scare up what appear to be small groups of Wood Duck as I move along the road. The ducks are in groups of 2-4 huddled along the flooded trees on the edge of Oxbow Lake. The sun is in my eyes with each group that flies and the silhouettes are the only thing I can see. I flush three groups along the route but in only one case do I see the ducks long enough to make a positive identification.

In front of me a yellow flag marks an area where part of the Oxbow Lake road has washed out. During the last flood, water flowing in and out of Osprey Lake has cut a path through the road creating a temporary wash out that is about 2 feet deep. As I approach several turtles are using this cut as a pathway between the two lakes. It is not as tough a climb as up the steeper walls of the intact road. What is to me a major problem that will cost Oxbow money to fix, these turtles are looking at as a major boon to turtle commerce. One has to remember that nature has many different viewpoints.

I reach the overlook at Oxbow Lake and sit on the benches provided by the scouts. Not much is visible in terms of wildlife. The back fields are flooded but the great flocks of ducks have already gone north. Out in the middle of Oxbow Lake a small band of Rudy Duck are diving for lunch. Three Wood Duck carefully slip in and out of the flood-covered edge trees on the opposite side of Oxbow Lake. Looking back toward where my car is still parked on the edge of the road, a small flock of American Coots swims lazily in my direction. Overhead a single Double-crested Cormorant follows the length of Oxbow Lake and then makes a hard right turn headed for Mercer Pond.

There is not much excitement in the Oxbow today but all that is happening in all Gold - April Fool's Gold.



## 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Picnic Reservation Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

State and Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

No. of Adults \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$10 each = \_\_\_\_\_

No. of Children 12 and under \_\_\_\_\_ (kids eat free)

Make your check payable to Oxbow, Inc. and send it to  
Oxbow, Inc.

P.O. Box 4172

Lawrenceburg, IN 47025

Attn: PICNIC

Deadline for reservations is July 11, 2010. Tickets at the door will be \$12 per adult.

## Anniversary! Anniversary!

25<sup>th</sup>

25<sup>th</sup>

25<sup>th</sup>

**Picnic**

**Picnic**

**Picnic**

Oxbow, Inc. 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Picnic will be held at Agner Hall at the Lawrenceburg, IN Fairgrounds on **Sunday, July 18, 2010 from noon to 4:00 pm**. We will try to cover all costs by charging a nominal fee of \$10 for adults and children 12 and under eat free. There will be games, displays, entertainments and of course guided trips into the Oxbow. There is a rumor that founding member David Styer might even return from California to help us celebrate properly. This is a great time to relish our accomplishments over the last 25 years and renew our energy for the journey of the next 25 years. Use the adjacent form to make your reservation now.

### Hunting Permit Applications Due July 1, 2010

Oxbow, Inc. members who wish to apply for permits to hunt on Oxbow, Inc. land must submit their application by July 1, 2010 to:

Oxbow, Inc.

C/o John Getzendanner

21007 Crestview Ct.

Lawrenceburg, IN 47025

Your application must include a copy of your valid Indiana hunting license and a completed memorandum of understanding printed below. Cut out the memorandum (on page 11). Complete the form and mail it with a copy of your license and a self addressed stamped envelope to John. 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.

### Go Native ..... Plants!

The Second Annual Midwest Native Plant Conference will be held August 6-8 at the Bergamo Center in Dayton, OH. The Bergamo Center is on the 150 acres of the Mt. Saint John Preserve. The theme this year is "Connect People with Nature". The Midwest is very fortunate to be a hotbed of the developing movement to return to planting native plants in yards and gardens. Native plants are much better for the environment in numerous ways but you will need to attend the conference to find out all the great ways that make native plants the way to go. Conference organizers have a wonderful line-up of speakers with the keynote speaker being Ohio's own Julie Zickefoose, author, frequent contributor to Birder's Digest, and star of innumerable NPR radio appearances. It is worth hearing Julie talk to just hear her description of the fantastic home she lives in. For specific information on the conference go to <http://www.cincinnatibirds.com/mwnp> or contact Kathy McDonald at 513-941-6497 (any evening).

## Oxbow Clean Ups

### Great Miami River Clean-Up

Saturday, May 1st

9am - Noon

Meet at Oxbow parking lot.

### Ohio River Sweep

Saturday, June 19th

9am - Noon

In cooperation with  
Hollywood Casino.

Meeting place to be determined—check  
[www.oxbowinc.info](http://www.oxbowinc.info) for the meeting place..

## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

*A hunting permission slip with a confirmatory stamp and authorized signature will be returned to you upon your application acceptance.*

### 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 attached 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 (July 1 to June 30 of the following year) only and must be reapplied for yearly.**

Mail to: Oxbow, Inc., c/o John Getzendanner, 21007 Crestview Ct., Lawrenceburg, IN 47025, Phone: 812-537-5728

**HUNTING PERMISSION REQUESTS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED BY JULY 1, 2010**

## Oxbow, Inc.

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, John Getzendanner	(812) 537-572
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.*

