



July—August 2010

No. 144

WETLAND *matters*

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

25th

25th

25th

Anniversary! Anniversary!

Picnic Picnic Picnic

Oxbow, Inc.'s 25th Anniversary Picnic is fast approaching. We need your early reservation so we know how much food to order. The picnic will be held at Agner Hall at the Lawrenceburg, Indiana 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, entertainment and, of course, guided trips into the Oxbow. Founding member David Styer is returning from California to help us celebrate properly and will give a talk at 2:00 pm on the beginnings of Oxbow, Inc. 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. Join your friends and bring your family to the celebration of what a few dedicated people such as yourselves can do. Use the form below to make your reservation now.

25th 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 16, 2010. Tickets at the door will be \$12 per adult.

Oxbow Inc. PROGRAMS

To get to the Oxbow, Inc. office take Highway US 50 south from the #16 exit of 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 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, July 13, 2010, 7:30 p.m.
301 Walnut St., Lawrenceburg
The Oxbow, Inc. Office

Loyola Walter and Meg Riestenberg teach two courses at the College of Mount St. Joseph that combine science with art - ART 334 The Art of the Nature Journal, and IDS 305 The Artist as Naturalist: The Naturalist as Artist. The courses are designed to serve people who love to be in nature and wish to see it and understand it more fully through the kind of observant looking and seeing inherent in the study of science and in the practice of drawing. Students have the opportunity to assemble and sew their own hard-bound journals, and to use them as they "journal" and draw during their time spent in the natural world. The courses include many field trips, including, but not limited to, excursions to the Lloyd Library, Historical Society's library in the Museum Center, to several Hamilton County Parks, to Boone Cliffs in Burlington KY, to the Edge of Appalachia in Adams County and of course, to Oxbow. Loyola and Meg will bring a sampling of students' art as well as slides to show Oxbow members what our talented students have created during their time outside in the "real world."

Tuesday, August 10, 2010, 7:30 p.m.
301 Walnut St., Lawrenceburg
The Oxbow, Inc. Office

Dr. Steve Pelikan has been listening to and recording songs of Cardinals from around the Cincinnati for over 12 years. He'll update us on some of his observations and conclusions and also share a number of other bird song recordings.

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.

Date & Time: Saturday, July 10 2010, 10:00 a.m.
Meet in the upper Oxbow parking lot at the main entrance to the Oxbow.

Leader: Steve Pelikan, (513) 681-2574
pelikan@math.uc.edu

Join skilled naturalist and Oxbow board member Steve Pelikan for what will be a very interesting visit into the Oxbow. The focus of this trip will be on insects and the plants they are using. Steve has a great knowledge of plants and insects, especially butterflies and flies. As Steve is also an expert birder he won't ignore the birds and is the perfect guide for a general nature trip. Since this is the middle of summer, Steve suggests bringing sunscreen, insect repellent and water to make your visit more comfortable.

Steve intends to take a leisurely walk on the farm roads through the Oxbow and expects the trip to last around two or three hours. Be sure to mark your calendar and join Steve for what will be an out of the ordinary field trip and an opportunity to learn about some of the plants and lesser known wildlife of the Oxbow. Feel free to contact Steve if you have any questions.

Date & Time: Sunday, August 22 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
jaystenger@cinci.rr.com

The focus of this birding trip will be early fall migrants through the Oxbow. The southbound fall migration of shorebirds and herons begins early and will be well under way by this date. Come join board member and expert birder Jay Stenger on what should be a great day in the Oxbow area.

In addition to several species of shorebirds, Jay expects to find numerous Great Egrets and herons including Great Blue, Green and Black-crowned Night-Herons. Purple Martins and other migrating swallows stage in the Oxbow in large numbers during this month and a diversity of other species such as terns, Osprey, Bald Eagle and many others species are quite likely. This is a great time of year to find unusual or rare species.

Jay says he will probably go at least until noon, especially if the birds are cooperative. It will likely be hot at this season so Jay suggests bringing sunscreen, insect repellent and water to make your visit more comfortable. Feel free to contact Jay if you have any questions.

Birdathon 2010 Results – A Mighty Wind

First it blew, then it blew harder, then it lightning and thundered, then it rained owls and kill-deers (all references to cats and dogs, specifically cats, are eliminated from official Birdathon chronicles), and finally it just blew. High winds hampered hearing and kept singing birds down low suppressing their singing. Heavy overnight rains sent birders indoors for shelter out of the driving rain cutting the amount of time available to find night birds. But, needless to say a good time was had by all.

Birdathon 2010 is now in the history books with 21 participating teams comprising 55 intrepid birders. We had more birders under the age of 18 (4 teams) than ever before led by great mentors who built a simple Birdathon into a wonderful outdoor experience for these young people. In all the total number of species seen by all the teams together dropped to 178 this year with fewer ducks, gulls, terns, and night birds being recorded than in previous years. The tally for vagrants, not on the established list, was also lower than in recent years. Unusually warm weather early in the spring seemed to push many of the migrants through faster than in previous years. While there was one team that listed 146 species, there were 13 teams that found a species that no other team found. A listing of all the species seen by all 21 teams appears on page 11. The number that appears along side of each species in the list is the number of teams reporting the species. Only 8 species were seen by every team.

All the teams that could gathered at the end of the Birdathon for the tally party at Winton Centre. The ground crew of Anita Buck, Steve Pelikan, and Meg Poehlmann made sure all the hungry birders were fed and watered (or “soda popped”). We even had guest birders from California, guests of David and Jane Styer, who joined us for the tally.

Winners in several categories were the following: (*team names, if given, are in parenthesis and italicized*)

Single Location:

Gary Stegner & Jeff Rowe (Fernald) – 105 species
Bogosian’s (top of Indian burial mound) (*Honest Injuns*) – 44 species

Single County:

Steve Bobonick, Dave Helm & Harris Abramson (Hamilton) (*Close-N-Counters*) – 109 species
Charlie Saunders, Mike Busam, Steve Pelikan & Bob Lacker (Butler) – 105 species

Taking Photos:

Rene Layne – 42 species

Under 19:

Kathy Kitts, Liz Rising, Ethan Rising & Kathy McDonald (leader) (*Young Ohio Birders*) – 95 species
Xander Miller, Trey Kline, Teagan Carson, Megan Williams & Bill McGill (leader) (*Birds of Pray – Two*) – 79 species
Tyler Ficker, Cassidy Ficker, Maya Yates, Donald Tharp & David Tennant (leader) (*Birds of Pray – One*) – 79 species
Madeline Lippert & Jerry Lippert (leader) (*The Cardinals*) – 44 species

Individual: (*Solitary Verios*)

Ned Keller – 116 species
Jerry Lippert – 90 species
Jim Upson – 25 species

Single Watershed:

David Brinkman, Don Moore Jr. & Jon Seymour (Miami Whitewater) (*The Ruffled Grouches*) – 118 species
Paul Krusling, Joe Kappa & Robyn Lung (Miami Whitewater) (*Two Eagles and a Robyn*) – 115 species
Kirk Westendorf & Eric Burkholder (Little Miami) – 96 species

Birdathon Area: Most Species

Paul Wharton, Joe Bens & Jay Stenger (*Beasts of Birdin’*) – 146 species
Bob Foppe & Mark Gilsdorf – 123 species
Erich Baumgardner & Wayne Wauligman (*Finneytown Fabulous Flying Fortune Seekers*) – 119 species
Chris & Suzanne Clingman – 116 species
John & Evan Leon (*Two in a Bush*) – 113 species
Sister Marty Dermody & Katherine Miller (*Ladyhawks*) – 109 species
Tyler, Bert, Molly & Katie (Xavier Univ.) George Farnsworth (leader) (*The Bird X-perts*) – 97 species

Now that the counting is over we need to finish up the collecting. Birdathon is about fun and community but it is also about raising money to improve the Oxbow.

If you have not already sent in your donation, please do so by making your check out to Oxbow, Inc. and sending it to Jon Seymour, 854 Ligorio Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45218.

Oxbow 25th Anniversary Photography Contest Winners Announced

The Ohio Valley Camera Club, in conjunction with Oxbow, Inc., organized a photography contest to celebrate the diversity of nature in the Miami-Whitewater Valley in Hamilton and Dearborn counties. The year long contest unfortunately did not attract as many entries as we hoped but winners were named in 4 of the six published categories for photos, as well as an overall winner. Over the course of the next few months we will publish each of the winning category photos. We will also be mounting the winning photos and displaying them at the Oxbow Office in Lawrenceburg.

The winners by categories are:

Plant Life:

- "Milkweed Seed" by Tom Croce
- "Dutchman's Breeches" by Paul Miles

Birds:

- "Summer Sparrow" by Bob Schlake
- "Flaps Up and Fly" by Nancy Clark

Landscape:

- "July Thunder" by Bob Schlake
- "Oxbow" by Liz Nofsinger

Insects, fish, and aquatic life:

- "Web of Dew" by Bob Schlake
- "Caterpillar" by Malina Skrobosinski

Grand Prize:

- "July Thunder" by Bob Schlake

We wish to thank all the participants and prize donors (Sea Pine Software, Kelly Ricetti, and the Ohio Valley Camera Club) for their ongoing support.

Oxbow Grows but Doesn't Grow

.....by Jon Seymour

The property known as the Corning Easement now is fully owned by Oxbow of Indiana, Inc. Former Board member Bill Corning (now deceased) and his wife Barbara had negotiated a easement on their property within the Oxbow area many years ago. The property lies along the west side of I-275 and just north of Wood Duck Slough. The 31+ acres of land was one of the first easements obtained by Oxbow, Inc. With the permission of the Corning's the land was planted with a mixture of trees, predominately Bald Cypress, Ash, and Swamp Oak. Dogwood rings portions of the perimeter. Currently several healthy Bald Cypress 4-6 inches in diameter populate the easement.

Recently Barbara Corning decided to convey the deed to the property to Oxbow, Inc. as a gift. Gary Conant, representing Barbara who was not able to attend due to health issues, presented the deed to Oxbow of Indiana, Inc. during the May Board meeting at the office in Lawrenceburg. Oxbow of Indiana, Inc. gratefully accepted the deed as a welcome addition to our land holdings. Barbara and Bill Corning were early, ardent supporters of Oxbow and this recent gift further illustrates their confidence in the goals and long term aspirations of Oxbow of Indiana, Inc. A plaque commemorating the gift will be placed near the entrance to the property.

Set the Weekend of September 25-26 for Great Outdoor Weekend (GOW)

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 of these GOW events are free to the public. This year's programs can be viewed at www.cincygreatoutdoorweekend.org.

Wish List for volunteers:

- A volunteer to write the specifications and application to present to the Indiana Department of Natural Resources to impound 14 acres of flood water during the winter. There is guidance on the internet for how to fill out the documents.
- 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
Steve & Brenda Bailey	Marie Seitz
Jeanne Bocklage	Jeanne Splain
Maurene Bosken	Marie Seitz
Peter & Teresa Gaughan	Marie Seitz
James & Bonnie Ison	Marie Seitz
Bill Kyle	Marie Seitz
George & Bobbie Murphy	Marie Seitz
Joyce E. Romer	Don Hanon
Dr. James & Marjorie Ryan	Marie Seitz
Linda Schultz	Marie Seitz

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.



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

Larry & Jane Austing
Polly Bassett
Wayne Wauligman



"July Thunder" by Bob Schlake is the Grand Prize winner in our 2008 contest. The property is owned by the Hamilton County Park District. This area has been previously used as a training area for the Ohio Eagle's Nest and north of the Oxbow up the Whitewater



Gary Conant, power of attorney for Barbara Coming, presents the deed for the 31 acres of the Corning property to Jon Seymour, President of Oxbow of Indiana, Inc. Barbara and her husband Bill (deceased) have been long time supporters of Oxbow and decided to gift the deed for the property to the organization. Barbara, who was in poor health at the time, was unable to attend the ceremony. This is only the second gift of land to Oxbow but represents the largest gift of land we have received in our 25 year history. A plaque commemorating the gift will be erected on the property. (photo by Allan Claybon)



in our 25th Anniversary Photography Contest. This photo of a July thunderstorm approaching the Kilby Road gravel pits that are now
 s been a hot spot for grassland birds and recently hosted a brief visit from a Swallowtail Flycatcher. The area is just south of the Har-
 itewater River. The area is hunted by Bald Eagles and sometimes they can be glimpsed moving up and down the river.

About 1/3 of Jackpot Pond's prairie was burned in our winter attempts to burn the prairie. However, this is not enough to properly maintain the prairie. Land manager, Kani Meyer, arranged for the bush-hogging of the area. Bush-hogging is mowing for grass, shrubs, even small trees. This treatment will allow the regeneration of the grassland plants without the competition from woody plants. (photo by Jon Seymour)



The 2010 Financial Planning for the Oxbow

.....by *Jon Seymour*

Treasurer Jim Poehlmann has provided and summarized the financial report Oxbow, Inc and Oxbow of Indiana, Inc. (Pages 8 & 9). As Jim explains we were again fortunate to make more money than we spent in 2009. The profit from our fundraising activities and fund management goes into our general fund where it builds in preparation for purchasing the remaining floodplain land.

Oxbow, Inc., and its sister organization Oxbow of Indiana, Inc. (referred to here as "the Oxbow"), continue to enjoy a robust financial situation. However, we are not immune from the economic downturn. After several years of membership growth, the last two years have shown a continuing downward trend. Over the last two years we have been unable to recruit new members faster than we lose old members. The rate of loss has increased 50% during that period and the recruitment rate has not kept up. As a result we have lost about 8% of our membership since 2007. While financial strength is important, it is equally important to maintain a strong membership as it is the strength of the membership that gives credibility to the organization. This membership loss has occurred despite strong efforts to recruit members through tours, presentations, and public education events. We look forward to membership growth when the economic situation eases.

Much of our recent spending has gone to three areas: roads, security, and legal counsel. We view all three areas as large upfront expenses that should decrease with time to lower level maintenance levels. We found we were spending inordinate amounts of volunteer time and expense trying to keep the dirt roads passable. We also found the dirt roads were attracting off-road vehicle users that looked upon them as private playgrounds. The decision to gravel the roads has reduced off-road activity, decreased complaints, and reduced the destruction of agricultural fields from well-meaning folks driving around rutted roads. We will continue to build the road system until there is appropriate access to the Oxbow land that allows farming, security, and maintenance operations to occur easily. Once the initial road building expense is incurred, only a minimum maintenance should be required annually.

Security has been a major expense for the past few years but we feel we are making real progress. A reflection of that progress is the Oxbow Board's decision to limit 2010 costs to two-thirds of the 2009 costs. Work with the Dearborn County Sheriff's office yielded a comprehensive schedule to accomplish the cost reduction while maintaining high quality security. Our long term goal is to continue security reduction until only a minor level is required to maintain a controlled area. With 900 uninhabited acres we will always attract mischief-makers and require a minimum level of security.

Legal expenses have many causes and vary greatly from year to year. One major expense is the legal activity that takes place due to purchase of land. Much of the 2009 legal expenses were due to the purchase of the Jansen property. However, we incur legal expenses for other reasons.

In 2009 one of the major expenses was defense of the quality of the watershed. As the recipient of ALL the water coming down the Great Miami and Whitewater Rivers, the Board has felt it appropriate to extend our concerns beyond the borders of our property to concern ourselves with major impacts to the quality of the water that comes down each of the rivers. Defending the watershed is not new to Oxbow (we have been doing it since the organization began) but expenses vary yearly with activity along the rivers. While reduction in our legal costs over time is less certain we hope that continued diligence in this area will further a culture of protection for the river and prevent costly contamination of the floodplain in the future.

Oxbow, Inc. 2009 Treasurer's Report

James W. Poehlmann, EA

While the economy overall didn't see much improvement, Oxbow, Inc. has weathered the economic storm fairly well. Gross profit saw a four percent increase over 2008, while expenses were down eight percent.

On the profit side, only earned revenues, which includes dues, interest from investments and rent revenue from farmland, saw a 22% decrease, due almost entirely to reduced interest rates. All other categories of revenue increased from legacies and bequests, which saw a 10% increase to contributed support, which increased by 287%. This was attributable to several notable one-time donations. This particular category tends to fluctuate from year to year, but donations of all sorts are what keep Oxbow going.

Where our expenses experienced a double-digit increase in 2008 over 2007, our overall expenses decreased in 2009 by the aforementioned eight percent. The large jump in expenses the previous year was attributable to establishing our permanent office in Lawrenceburg, which has proven to be a boon to the organization.

2009 saw the purchase of the Jansen property, bringing total acreage protected to over 1,100 acres. Roads were again improved in 2009 with the application of gravel and leveling of low spots.

In the coming year, more roads will be improved while we continue to pursue additional property to purchase. None of this can take place without the continuing support of our members. Oxbow, Inc. is a 100% volunteer organization-no salaries or expense accounts are paid for by the organization. We are beholden to the generous support of the membership and the public. The IRS tax returns Forms 990 for Oxbow, Inc. and Oxbow of Indiana, Inc. may be inspected at www.guidestar.org.

Category Per Report	Profit and Loss		
	Oxbow, Inc.	Oxbow of Indiana, Inc.	Combined Figures
Contributed Support	\$29,359.75		\$29,359.75
Legacies & Bequests	\$40,126.65		\$40,126.65
Earned Revenues (1)	\$70,274.27	\$72.75	\$70,347.02
Special Events	\$9,792.10		\$9,792.10
Restricted Funds Activity	\$0.00		\$0.00
<u>Cost of Goods Sold</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>		
<u>Total Income</u>	<u>\$149,552.77</u>	<u>\$72.75</u>	<u>\$149,625.52</u>
Less: Cost of Goods Sold	\$0.00		\$0.00
Gross Profit	\$149,552.77	\$72.75	\$149,625.52
Grant & Contract	\$0.00		
Program Expenses-Ed.	\$0.00		
Security	\$9,380.00		
Legal & Accounting	\$13,140.60		\$13,140.60
Non-Personnel Expenses (2)	\$13,928.06		\$13,928.06
Occupancy Expenses (3)	\$13,206.30	\$1,685.55	\$14,891.85
Conference & Meeting	\$390.00		\$390.00
Depreciation	\$962.00		\$962.00
Miscellaneous	\$5,251.52		\$5,251.52
<u>Business Expenses</u>	<u>\$150.00</u>	<u>\$200.00</u>	<u>350</u>
Total Expenses	\$56,408.48	\$1,885.55	\$58,294.03
Transfer to Oxbow of Indiana, Inc.	(\$75,000.00)	\$75,000.00	
<u>Net Income</u>	<u>\$18,144.29</u>	<u>\$73,187.20</u>	<u>\$91,331.49</u>

Category Per Report	Balance Sheet as of 12/31/2009		
	Oxbow, Inc.	Oxbow of Indiana, Inc.	Combined Figures
Checking/Savings	\$1,355,210.05	\$40,271.23	\$1,395,481.28
Other Current Assets	<u>\$8,919.95</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$8,919.95</u>
Total Current Assets	\$1,364,130.00	\$40,271.23	\$1,404,401.23
Land	\$245,551.60	\$1,350,738.36	\$1,596,289.96
Easements Owned	\$231,963.28	\$0.00	\$231,963.28
Land Improvements	\$6,734.10	\$0.00	\$6,734.10
Office Furniture & Equipment	\$3,783.00	\$0.00	\$3,783.00
(Less) Accumulated Amortization-Land Improvements	(\$1,478.00)	<u>\$0.00</u>	(\$1,478.00)
(Less) Accumulated Depreciation-Office Furniture & Equipment	(\$3,144.00)	<u>\$0.00</u>	(\$3,144.00)
Total Fixed Assets	<u>\$483,409.98</u>	<u>\$1,350,738.36</u>	<u>\$1,834,148.34</u>
Other Assets	<u>\$600.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	\$600.00
Total Assets	<u>\$1,848,139.98</u>	<u>\$1,391,009.59</u>	<u>\$3,239,149.57</u>
Net Worth	<u>\$1,848,139.98</u>	<u>\$1,391,009.59</u>	<u>\$3,239,149.57</u>

Witte Endowment: 12/31/2009 \$1,457,410.90 12/31/2008 \$1,267,981.48 (4)

(1) Earned Revenues consist primarily of Dues, Interest and Cropland Rental

(2) Non-Personnel Expenses consist primarily of Office, Fundraising, Special Event, Postage and Printing Expenses.

(3) Occupancy Expenses consist of expenses related to renting our office and maintaining our land.

(4) Witte Endowment is not the property of Oxbow, Inc. Presented here for clarity.



usings

by Dave Styer

Birding in Cincinnati

In May my wife Jane and I spent a long Mother's Day weekend in Cincinnati with birding friends Carole and Larry Rose. Here in California the Eastern U.S. warblers often show up in the fall. They are relatively drab in plumage then, and they don't sing at all. I wanted to show the Roses what it is like when all the males are in their brightest colors, and they are all singing away.

We hoped to catch a migratory wave, but the wind was in the north. It was cold and clear. As Oxbow's Birdathon teams could tell you, that's not the right weather to have lots of migrants arriving. The trouble with waves is that there is a peak and a trough: and evidently we were there at the bottom of the wave.

We saw fifteen species of warblers that were breeding in the area, and over ten migrant species. All the males were in their high colors, and they were singing full force. To see the migrants we just kept at it until we stumbled upon them, so to speak. To see the breeding species we went to the right places.

The Prothonotary Warblers at the edge of the Oxbow were memorable. Their bright colors, and the density of the population, with singing males all along the way, gave us a superb show. These warblers didn't used to nest along the edge of the Oxbow lake; Oxbow, Inc. should be pleased.

The bird chorus at Miami Whitewater Forest was unmatched. It seemed that everything was there, but hardly any could be seen. We did get great looks at Orioles, Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, and Red-bellied Woodpeckers. The Yellow-throated Vireos at Boles Woods, Miami Whitewater, seemed especially abundant. They added prominently to the chorus, even if we could barely see one. The Cerulean Warblers were high on the Roses' list of birds to see. They were singing at Boles Woods but we didn't get good looks until we went to Shawnee Lookout Park.

The Roses were really impressed at the extent of fine natural areas around such a large urban area as Cincinnati. They feel that a lot of people must care about maintaining a nice environment. I was reminded of the time when Oxbow, Inc., with Stu Welsh's guidance, helped support a Park District levy at an election. The levy passed, and the Hamilton County Park District bought over 900 acres of conservation easements in the Oxbow area flood plain near Shawnee Lookout Park.

Jane, Carole, and Larry thought I was mildly out of my mind when I announced that we would go birding in a cemetery Saturday morning—Spring Grove Cemetery. In their experience, apparently, a cemetery was little more than a graveyard. When they actually saw Spring Gove Cemetery, in all its spring splendor, that may have been their

biggest surprise of the trip. In fact, the grandeur of the place was distracting from the birding for Jane and Carole. And, Carole recently reminded me of the hospitality there: when she went to use the well-kept restroom, they offered her a cup of tea and chatted with her. I especially enjoyed running across old friends hiking or participating in the Birdathon. Bird-wise, we all enjoyed good looks at a Yellow-throated Warbler singing in the Bald Cypress trees.

On learning that Fernald is now open to the public and has some great habitat, we headed there. A highlight was standing among the Dickcissels singing and displaying behind the visitors center. Shortly before I met Jane and moved to California, I had a pass to go into Fernald to inventory birds.

At 5:00 p.m. sharp we were at the Winton Centre for the Birdathon tally. That was a trip highlight for me because so many birding friends were there. It was also nice to see some new faces. On top of that Mary Saunders sent us off with a homemade cookie and muffin care package to sustain us for the rest of the trip!

Thinking of food, we enjoyed a great Indian food lunch with Anita Buck, Steve Pelikan, and Charlie and Mary Saunders. We managed to work in the obligatory trip to Graeters. Larry, Carole, and Jane are still teasing me for insisting on going to Skyline Chile for a Regular Three-way, but it was worth it.

In Boone County, we enjoyed Louisiana Waterthrushes and Eastern Phoebes on territory. In California I miss the songs of such eastern birds as the Eastern Phoebe (the real phoebe) and the Wood Thrush. We went to Boone County Cliffs to see Worm-eating Warblers, but we didn't succeed. That was our only missed target. Carole had never gotten a good look at the Ruby-throated Hummingbird. When we were about to leave the Cliffs a male hummer performed a complete courtship display right in front of us. Wow!

At Mitchell Memorial Forest we saw our first Pine Warbler of the trip, and a Pileated Woodpecker spent some time just a few feet from us. The Roses especially enjoyed brightly colored White-throated Sparrows that serenaded us.

Since we were staying near the old Voice of America fields we went there three evenings to find the Henslow's Sparrow that was known to be there. By our third try, a charm, we got great views of one singing. We could even see the sparrow and Bobolinks in our binoculars at the same time. As a bonus we watched the unique courtship performance of the American Woodcock. That was a new experience for Carole and Larry.

On our last afternoon, Steve Pelikan led us on an Adams County trip. There we enjoyed Prairie Warblers and a display of four different swallowtail butterflies at Lynx Prairie, and a bit of warbler migration and a late male Ring-necked Duck at Adams Lake State Park. We ended the evening at the Eulett Center of the Edge of Appalachia Preserve. Blue Grosbeaks were there when we arrived, and we left when the Chuck-wills-widow called.

We had a great trip, and we're thinking about returning next year.

2	BCD	Hermil Thrush
18	AAAAA	Wood Thrush
21	AAAAA	American Robin
19	BAAAA	Gray Catbird
19	BBBBB	Northern Mockingbird
16	ABBBB	Brown Thrasher
20	AAAAA	European Starling
3	EEE	American Pipit
8	DCBBB	Cedar Waxwing
10	BBBBB	Blue-winged Warbler
16	DDOCE	Golden-winged Warbler
16	BAAAD	Tennessee Warbler
10	DDD	Orange-crowned Warbler
10	BABC	Nashville Warbler
15	CCDDD	Northern Parula
17	AAAAA	Yellow Warbler
10	CBBBD	Chestnut-sided Warbler
10	DCBBC	Magnolia Warbler
3	CBBCE	Cape May Warbler
2	CCDD	Black-throated Blue Warbler
13	AAABE	Yellow-rumped Warbler
12	AAABD	Black-throated Green Warbler
12	CBBBD	Blackburnian Warbler
16	BBBBB	Yellow-throated Warbler
4	CCDD	Pine Warbler
7	CCCCC	Prairie Warbler
5	BBBCD	Palm Warbler
16	DCBBB	Bay-breasted Warbler
16	DCBBB	Blackpoll Warbler
14	BBBBB	Cerulean Warbler
7	BBBCD	Black-and-white Warbler
17	DCBBC	American Redstart
13	CCOCC	Prothonotary Warbler
2	DDDDD	Worm-eating Warbler
10	BBABC	Ovenbird
7	CCDD	Northern Waterthrush
11	BCOCC	Louisiana Waterthrush
10	CBBBB	Kentucky Warbler
1	EEE	Connecticut Warbler
1	CCDD	Mourning Warbler
19	BAAAA	Common Yellowthroat
6	BBBBC	Hooded Warbler
1	EDCCD	Wilson's Warbler
1	CCDD	Canada Warbler
15	DCBBB	Yellow-breasted Chat
14	CBBBB	Summer Tanager
15	BAAAB	Scarlet Tanager
20	AAAAA	Eastern Towhee
21	BBBBB	Chipping Sparrow
14	AAAAA	Field Sparrow

46 species

1	EEEE	Vesper Sparrow
9	CCDD	Savannah Sparrow
10	DDDDD	Grasshopper Sparrow
8	EEEE	Henslow's Sparrow
20	AAAAA	Song Sparrow
1	EDDDE	Lincoln's Sparrow
3	BCCE	Swamp Sparrow
10	AABCD	White-throated Sparrow
8	CBBCE	White-crowned Sparrow
10	DDD	Dark-eyed Junco
21	AAAAA	Northern Cardinal
15	BBBBB	Rose-breasted Grosbeak
8	EEDDD	Blue Grosbeak
20	BAAAA	Indigo Bunting
10	EDDD	Dickcissel
10	ECCDD	Bobolink
20	AAAAA	Red-winged Blackbird
19	BBBBB	Eastern Meadowlark
1	DDE	Rusty Blackbird
21	AAAAA	Common Grackle
21	AAAAA	Brown-headed Cowbird
18	BBBBB	Orchard Oriole
19	BAAAA	Baltimore Oriole
1	DDE	Purple Finch
20	AAAAA	House Finch
1	DDOCE	Pine Siskin
21	AAAAA	American Goldfinch
1	EE	Evening Grosbeak
20	AAAAA	House Sparrow
4		Laughing Gull
2		Lark Sparrow

Key ABCDE

- A = Likely on Most Outings
- B = Likely on Some Outings
- C = Likely on a few Outings
- D = Only on Occasional Outings
- E = Rare or Unusual on any outing

26 species

Birdathon 2010

CinCheck

Cincinnati Birding Checklist
cincinnatibirds.com

Date: May 8, 2010

Birders:

21 Birdathon Teams

55 Birders

Location: Birdathon Area

* 178 Species *

Notes: The Number in front of each species is the number of teams reporting that species

13 species were seen by only one team

B species were seen by every team

20	EEE	Snow Goose
18	AAAAA	Canada Goose
13	DD	Mute Swan
19	BBBBB	Wood Duck
1	DDD	Gadwall
1	CCDE	American Wigeon
20	DEEEE	American Black Duck
16	AAAAA	Mallard
1	BBCCC	Blue-winged Teal
1	CCDDD	Northern Shoveler
1	DD	Northern Pintail
1	CD	Green-winged Teal
1	E	Redhead
1	CCDDD	Ring-necked Duck
2	CCDE	Lesser Scaup
1	DEE	Bufflehead
7	DDDDD	Hooded Merganser
1	DDDE	Red-breasted Merganser
1	DDDDD	Ruddy Duck
1	EEEEE	Ring-necked Pheasant
1	CCCCC	Wild Turkey
1	CCOCC	Northern Bobwhite
5	DDDDD	Common Loon
12	BCOCC	Pied-billed Grebe
1	EE	Horned Grebe
1	CCOCC	Double-crested Cormorant
1	DDDDD	American Bittern
1	DDDDD	Least Bittern
19	BBBBB	Great Blue Heron
10	DDDDD	Great Egret
1	EE	Snowy Egret
1	EEEEE	Little Blue Heron
1	EEEEE	Cattle Egret
1	CBBBB	Green Heron
1	CCOCC	Black-crowned Night-Heron
1	EEEEE	Yellow-crowned Night-Heron
16	DDDDD	Black Vulture
21	AAAAA	Turkey Vulture
9	CCDDD	Osprey
1	DDDEE	Bald Eagle
1	DDEEE	Northern Harrier
4	DDEEE	Sharp-shinned Hawk
1	CCOCC	Cooper's Hawk
6	CCOCC	Red-shouldered Hawk
9	CCOCC	Broad-winged Hawk
19	BBBBB	Red-tailed Hawk
10	BBBBB	American Kestrel
1	EE	Merlin
7	DDDDD	Peregrine Falcon
2	DDDDD	Virginia Rail

31 species

5	CCOCC	Sora
17	DDDDD	Common Moorhen
1	BCOCC	American Coot
1	EEEE	Sandhill Crane
1	DDOCC	Black-bellied Plover
10	EEE	American Golden-Plover
19	DDOCC	Semipalmated Plover
1	AAAAA	Killdeer
1	EE	American Avocet
17	BBBBB	Spotted Sandpiper
17	BBCCCE	Solitary Sandpiper
11	BCCDD	Greater Yellowlegs
1	EEE	Willet
13	BCCDD	Lesser Yellowlegs
1	EEEEE	Upland Sandpiper
10	EEE	Ruddy Turnstone
10	CCCB	Semipalmated Sandpiper
14	CCOCC	Least Sandpiper
1	DDD	White-rumped Sandpiper
11	CCOCC	Factoral Sandpiper
10	DDDDD	Dunlin
1	EDDD	Stilt Sandpiper
1	DDDDD	Short-billed Dowitcher
1	E	Long-billed Dowitcher
5	CCD	Wilson's Snipe
7	CCDD	American Woodcock
1	EEEE	Wilson's Phalarope
7	DDDEE	Bonaparte's Gull
1	CCOCC	Ring-billed Gull
2	DDDDD	Herring Gull
2	DDDEE	Caspian Tern
1	DDDD	Black Tern
1	DDDEE	Common Tern
1	DDDD	Forster's Tern
19	AAAAA	Rock Pigeon
20	AAAAA	Mourning Dove
18	CCBBB	Yellow-billed Cuckoo
1	DDOCE	Black-billed Cuckoo
2	EEEEE	Barn Owl
1	CCOCC	Eastern Screech-Owl
4	CCOCC	Great Horned Owl
4	CCOCC	Barred Owl
8	EDOCC	Common Nighthawk
1	EEEEE	Chuck-will's-widow
1	DDDEE	Whip-poor-will
19	AAAAA	Chimney Swift
1	CCOCC	Ruby-throated Hummingbird
15	BBBBB	Belted Kingfisher
4	CCOCC	Red-headed Woodpecker
18	AAAAA	Red-bellied Woodpecker

35 species

18	CDE	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
18	AAAAA	Downy Woodpecker
10	BBBBB	Hairy Woodpecker
17	AAAAA	Northern Flicker
15	BBBBB	Pileated Woodpecker
1	DDD	Olive-sided Flycatcher
20	DCAAA	Eastern Wood-Pewee
15	EEE	Yellow-bellied Flycatcher
15	ECBBA	Acadian Flycatcher
1	EE	Alder Flycatcher
12	DDOCC	Willow Flycatcher
1	CBBCC	Least Flycatcher
1	BCOCC	Eastern Phoebe
16	BAAAA	Great Crested Flycatcher
18	BBBBB	Eastern Kingbird
1	EEEEE	Loggerhead Shrike
15	BBBBB	White-eyed Vireo
1	EEE	Bell's Vireo
13	BBBBB	Yellow-throated Vireo
1	BBCCDE	Blue-headed Vireo
15	BBBBB	Warbling Vireo
1	DDOCC	Philadelphia Vireo
19	BAAAA	Red-eyed Vireo
21	AAAAA	Blue Jay
20	AAAAA	American Crow
1	CCOCC	Horned Lark
13	CCOCC	Purple Martin
20	BBBBB	Tree Swallow
21	BBBBB	Northern Rough-winged Swallow
1	CCOCC	Bank Swallow
17	DDDDD	Cliff Swallow
19	BBBBB	Barn Swallow
19	AAAAA	Carolina Chickadee
20	AAAAA	Tufted Titmouse
1	DDOCE	Red-breasted Nuthatch
18	BBBBB	White-breasted Nuthatch
1	DD	Brown Creeper
19	AAAAA	Carolina Wren
1	EEEEE	Bewick's Wren
19	AAAAA	House Wren
1	EE	Winter Wren
1	EEEEE	Sage Wren
1	DDDDD	Marsh Wren
1	DD	Golden-crowned Kinglet
1	ABCD	Ruby-crowned Kinglet
16	BBBBB	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
1	BBBBB	Eastern Bluebird
6	ECCCE	Veery
1	CCOCC	Gray-cheeked Thrush
18	BBAAB	Swainson's Thrush

40 species

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 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) 537-5728
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, Lynda Mason, Velda Miller, Pat Shanklin, Suzanne Skidmore, Barb Varland, Jim Wilgenbusch

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

513-851-9835

Need a Speaker?
Give Us a Call!

WWW.OXBOWINC.INFO
P.O. BOX 4172
LAWRENCEBURG, IN 47025

PROTECTING WETLANDS
OXBOW, Inc.
Founded 1985

