



January—February 2015

No. 171

# WETLAND *matters*

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

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## What's Taking Flight

.....by Jon Seymour

The year 2014 has come to a close and Oxbow, Inc. continues to be a force in local nature organizations, enjoying progress in several important conservation areas.

The most important advance in 2014 was the completion of a nearly 30 year effort to rezone the Oxbow area from Manufacturing to Agriculture. The problem started at the time Interstate 275 was built right down the middle of the Great Miami floodplain. It seems that all the adjacent property was reclassified from agriculture to manufacturing with \$\$\$ signs in the eyes of the local officials who approved the classification. By 2004 some realization that floodplains had greater benefits for the community in flood protection and water purification were starting to be broadly realized and some local politicians were paying attention, not only in Dearborn County but in other places in the Mississippi drainage. The county started a land use planning project and Oxbow, Inc. was asked to participate. We lobbied for greenspace, watershed protection, water treatment, and of course classification of the floodplain as Agricultural. It took a few years and several rounds but the County Commissioners finally approved the county development plan and the floodplain was designated a agricultural/open space area.

This was not a rezoning but merely a plan to guide future development in the County. However, early in 2014 we were informed that the County might be interested in making the zoning match up to the plan, not only in the floodplain but in other areas. We jumped at the chance to work with the County planners and contacted our neighbors and easement holders whose property adjoined ours within the County jurisdictional boundaries. Some

*(continued on page 2)*

## Check Off to help our Natural Heritage.

.....by Jon Seymour

YOU can help Indiana and Ohio's state nature preserves by making individual public donations directly to support our natural heritage. How? By checking the appropriate box on the Ohio or Indiana income tax return.

Millions of dollars have been donated in both states in the last several years and donations have been used for Department of Natural Resources projects.

Currently these donations make up a significant portion of the funds used to protect the natural heritage in both states. You may be familiar with the severe budget cuts imposed on the Department of Natural Resources in both states. YOU can have a direct role in counteracting those cuts by checking the box on your tax return.

I ask you to do all you can to help promote the checkoff program and strongly support the natural areas checkoff program. It's an important way of helping protect our state nature preserves. It is essential that these donations increase in number and amount so the preserves can receive additional help. Please help in any way you can. Thank you.

## BIRDATHON 2015

For the 28<sup>th</sup> year, the Greater Cincinnati Area Birdathon is off to a great start. We will be celebrating the birds of the Greater Cincinnati area and having fun doing it. In the process we will raise money to make the Oxbow a better place. What could be better? Join us on May 8-9 for another birding blast followed by the Tally Party at Fernald where all will be revealed. Stories from the Birdathon is the feature of the party along with the annual review of bird species seen. Pizza, snacks (some of them healthy) and beverages make for the perfect ending of a 24 hunt for species. Come join us and tally some birds. We still have plenty of room for participants.

Can't be there in person? Support the hard working(?) teams with your donation, which will support habitat and access improvements in the Oxbow. HAPPY BIRDATHON TO ONE AND ALL.

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

of the easements are in the City of Greendale and have a separate zoning status that offers some protection. Along with many of our neighbors we were able to propose that nearly 1000 acres of the floodplain lying within the jurisdiction of Dearborn County be rezoned to Agriculture.

We thank our neighbors Constance Sedler, Eleanor Pope, and Katheryn Graham-Undercoffer and the Indiana Dept. of Natural Resources for joining our petition for reclassification. Tim Mara, Esq. represented us with the County Commissioners and we were able to win approval for the change. While not affecting any current uses of the land, it provides an extra measure of protection for the Oxbow area. The action sets a precedent and standard that should make conversion of future Oxbow purchases easier.

We realized this year that we have entered a new phase of land acquisition. This new phase is not based on agricultural land values but on values real or imaginary regarding some type of development potential on land we wish to acquire. We made two unsuccessful bids for land purchase this year only to see one parcel fall to the hands of another bidder and in the other case the seller decided they were not interested at the amount we were offering. As a result, the Board decided to change our tactics and signed a contract with an agent to represent us in trying to arrange purchase of several parcels in the floodplain that we are interested in buying. This is viewed as a long term investment on the part of Oxbow, Inc. The unfortunate realization from our efforts this year is that we will need to consider making offers that are higher than those based on farmland values and past land evaluations and sales. My best *guesstimate* is that we will need roughly twice the money we currently have available to make these final purchases. It will be necessary as the goal of these purchases is to connect the 1200 acres of Oxbow owned property and conservation easements with the 800 acres of Shawnee Lookout County Park and the 1100 acres of Great Parks of Hamilton County conservation easements in Ohio. Add the proposed 250 acre Indiana State Park in Greendale that overlooks the Oxbow and you create a 4000 acre (6.5 square miles), two state, contiguous natural area only 16 miles from downtown Cincinnati.

This year we added more outdoor programs. We retained our monthly bird walks but added additional nature walks with different focal points. They proved to be hugely popular and we will continue the practice. We also had good turnout for our two clean-up and eradicate days. Participants divided into two or more groups and tackled different tasks that suited

them the most. We followed both work days with a pizza party to thank the participants. We will also continue that delicious practice.

We again gave five \$500 scholarships to a senior from each of the local high schools who were planning on continuing their studies in an area of natural science. We also awarded a \$1,000 dollar grant to the Foundation for Ohio River Education. The organization organizes and conducts workshops in which middle and high school biology/science classes learn to sample the water and evaluate the health of the Ohio River, all from a Queen City river boat converted for the day to a biology/water chemistry lab.

Oxbow sponsored the 27th annual Greater Cincinnati Area Birdathon. We had 19 teams in the field with 50 participants who located 201 species in the tristate Birdathon area during the 24 hours of competition. While having a ball they also raised \$3,359 for conservation in the Oxbow. Thanks to all involved and we hope everyone and a few more will return to the field next year. We had a full house at the Oxbow office for the Tally Party so we have made arrangements to move the Tally Party for 2015 to Fernald where we will have much more room.

Oxbow continues to be active in local conservation issues that effect the Dearborn County area. We support the Taking Root campaign for planting trees in the tristate area, and we are advocates for the Trails group who want to get walking and bike trails through the Lawrenceburg area and along the Oxbow and up the Whitewater. These trails would connect to other trails in the area that would follow the Ohio River or take you to Indianapolis or Columbus and beyond.

We also spent considerable effort making our voice heard on the IDEM granting process for the development of the industrial park being developed along the Whitewater just west of West Harrison, IN. We want to be certain that development proceeds with the protection and health of the Whitewater River in mind.

So another year passes and we enter 2015 with anticipation and expectation that we can continue to expand the Oxbow and improve the area for wildlife and education.

## Late Summer Is a Great Time for a Field Trip

.....By Jay Stenger (Field Trip Leader)

Friday, August 15th., Oxbow, Inc. conducted what has become a popular evening field trip in the Oxbow floodplain. By my count, 37 folks participated on this super pleasant, sunny, 70 degree evening. A Western Sandpiper was the highlight of the trip. As you know, shorebird habitat is unpredictable in the Greater Cincinnati area. In some recent years decent mudflats developed in the late summer and early fall on Oxbow Lake. That is not the case this year as Oxbow Lake is full to the brim, certainly due to the very wet spring and early summer.

We did not find any shorebirds in the Oxbow Lake area, but we did see many Great Blue Herons, around 20 Great Egrets, 3 Green Heron and an adult Black-crowned Night-Heron, Belted Kingfisher, and several Wood Ducks and broods. August is usually slow for songbirds but we managed to find Prothonotary Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Warbling Vireo, Eastern Kingbird, Eastern Phoebe, Gray Catbird, gobs of Indigo Buntings and American Goldfinches, and numerous swallows and other residents.

We moved over to Lost Bridge, at the upper end of the floodplain, around 8:00 p.m. and stayed there until dusk when we broke up to head home. Unlike some recent reports we did not find many shorebirds here either; although the water conditions were great. Aside from many Killdeer, the only other shorebirds we found were a couple of Lesser Yellowlegs and a juvenile Western Sandpiper - a rare bird in our region. Other species seen at Lost Bridge included an Osprey (just before we left, some early leavers missed it), 30+ Double-crested Cormorants roosting in the trees, another Black Crowned Night-Heron, 3 more Green Herons, a few more Great Egrets and Great Blue Herons, Belted Kingfisher, 50+ Chimney Swifts, and lots of swallows, including at least 10 resident Cliff Swallows, and several groups of flocking Red-winged Blackbirds.

The Western Sandpiper was foraging on the close sandbars in mid-river on the south side of the bridge. Several notable area birders were present (Joe Bens, Ann Oliver, Kathi Hutton, Karl Gross, etc.) and I believe everyone agreed on the ID. Some pictures were taken, but I have not seen them yet. And we were aware that separating Semipalmated Sandpiper (fairly common locally) from Western Sandpiper is one of the more challenging and difficult identifications. We didn't have the best light (sunset to dusk) but it was good enough and the bird was not terribly far away.

## Environmental Science Learning Extends Beyond the Classroom, Students

.....by Susan VonderHaar, instructor

You've heard it many times, "Science is the study of the world around us." To that pursuit, SCI 1850 offers class credit for participation in area events focused on sustainability issues or the natural world. BMC (Brown Mackie College) Cincinnati Business student, April Fisher, has taken the initiative to heart (and home). On Sunday, September 14th this year, she brought her children with her to the Oxbow for a beautiful morning hike of the wetland and bird watching during the active Fall migration.

The Oxbow is preserved land near U.S. 50 and I-275. Oxbow, Inc. is a non-profit land preservation society which maintains the 1000 + acre area for enjoyment by families, naturalists and sportsmen alike. Guided hikes are hosted for the public throughout the year. (For more information visit [www.oxbowinc.org](http://www.oxbowinc.org)) Wetlands are the most endangered biome in the U.S.

This is what Oxbow organizer, Velda Miller, had to say when she sent an email to me documenting April's visit. *"I had the pleasure of meeting your student, April Fisher, her two daughters and her son. Her children were as interested in nature, birds, flowers, seeds, caterpillars and other critters as she was. I explored some of the life in this area with the children and April, too. My time in the Oxbow was certainly enhanced by the extra sets of sharp eyes and youthful curiosity."*

Also in September, class members attended the Xavier University, College of Business, Distinguished Speaker Series to enjoy a free lecture by a P&G sustainability planner and enjoyed a lunch provided by PNC Bank. Stay tuned for more adventures of SCI 1850, including BMC students and Oxbow, Inc. joining forces to install a wetland at Dater Montessori, a Cincinnati Public School. *(this article originally appeared in the BMC newsletter)*



## Birdathon Participation

Oxbow, Inc. wants to have as many birdwatchers as possible participate in the Birdathon. While there is a basic competition for the most species seen in the Birdathon area during 24 hours, there are many ways to compete besides most species for the total Birdathon area. Here are some other possible categories of competition:

*-if not the entire Birdathon area then a portion-*

Most Species seen: in one state, in one county or a river watershed

*-maybe it is a small area-*

Most Species In One Location: like the Oxbow, back yard, or a big sit

*-maybe the type of team-*

Most Species seen: by a family, a group under the age of 20, a school class

*-maybe it can be a special category-*

Most money raised: by a team, an individual, a class

*-or-*

Most birds seen without using fossil fuel, while building a deck, taking the kids for a hike

*-or-*

Most birds photographed

You can even create 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. Each team or individual participating should do everything it can to raise money for Oxbow. **The way to do it is to have fun birding! Then celebrate all the fun at the Grand Tally Party**

If you want to enter a team (or as an individual) in the Oxbow Birdathon, **please call Jay Stenger @ 513-522-8147 or Jon Seymour @ 513-851-9835**. We like to know how many will 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. There is \$5.00 fee person

### Birdathon Pledge Form for Birdathon 2015 (May 8-9, 2015)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Mail To:

Oxbow of Indiana, Inc

P.O. Box 4172

Lawrenceburg, IN 47025

Attn: Birdathon

#### My Pledge is to Support the following Oxbow, Inc. Team

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

\_\_\_\_\_ Highest Scoring Team

\_\_\_\_\_ Team #1 – Joe Bens, Jay Stenger, and Jack Stenger

\_\_\_\_\_ Team #2 – Wayne Wauligman and Erich Baumgardner

\_\_\_\_\_ Team #3 – Sister Marty Dermody, Lois Shadix, Katherine Miller, and Chris Moran

\_\_\_\_\_ Team # 4 – Charlie Saunders, Bob Lacker, and Steve Pelikan

\_\_\_\_\_ Team #5 – Jerry Lippert and Madeleine Lippert

\_\_\_\_\_ Team #6 – Jon Seymour and the First Timers

\_\_\_\_\_ Team #7 – Dave and Jane Styer (West Coast Big Day)

My 2015 Birdathon pledge is:

Fixed Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

( ) Check Enclosed

( ) Bill me after the Birdathon

-OR-

Per Species Pledge: (Circle One, you will be billed after the Birdathon):

\$ 5.00

\$4.00

\$3.00

\$2.00

\$1.00

\$0.75

\$0.50

\$0.25

Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable to Oxbow of Indiana, Inc. This change allows us to better track the money for the purposes of habitat restoration and improved access. All donations to Oxbow of Indiana, Inc. are tax deductible.**

**Oxbow Inc. PROGRAMS—submitted by Kani Meyer**

To reach the Oxbow, Inc. office take Highway US 50 west from the #16 exit off I-275. Pass the Hollywood Casino exit and turn left at the second stop light onto Walnut St. 301 Walnut is on the right side at the second 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. **All meetings are at The Oxbow, Inc. Office, 301 Walnut St., Lawrenceburg unless otherwise noted**



**Tuesday, January 13, 2015  
301 Walnut St., Lawrenceburg  
The Oxbow, Inc. Office**

**Renegade or Hero?** Simon Girty...the most hated man on the English/American frontier, or was he? Girty was a foe to be reckoned with by Americans, but a champion of the British Indian Department, and an esteemed warrior among his adoptive people. Popular historian **Tom Strofeldt** will show us his outrageous career, and with it, the complexities of the inter-play of cultures and nations on the emerging American Frontier.

**Tuesday, February 10, 2015 @ 7:30pm  
301 Walnut St., Lawrenceburg  
The Oxbow, Inc. Office**

**WHY SPECIES GO EXTINCT:** Dr. Tankersley will discuss the occurrence of species extinction during periods of rapid and profound climatic and catastrophic changes. From an evolutionary perspective, these are significant periods of change, which force species to adapt, downsize, or migrate. Temporally, he will focus on the Quaternary, the geological period of time during which humans evolved.

**Tuesday, March 10, 2015 @ 7:30pm  
301 Walnut St., Lawrenceburg  
The Oxbow, Inc. Office**

**Dr. Anne-Catherine Vanhove**, post-doctoral scientist at CREW in the Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden, will give an overview of CREW's current propagation and preservation work on native endangered plants. The talk will include the ongoing restoration project of the Cumberland sandwort in Daniel Boone National Forest (Kentucky) and the current 'Frozen Garden' project in which plant samples from CREW's CryoBioBank (seeds, spores, pollen and shoot tips) are retrieved from storage in liquid nitrogen after up to 20 years to examine their viability. Both projects provide valuable information for future work to preserve the world's plant biodiversity.



Students identify fish samples as a means of judging the health of a river. (photo by Jon Seymour)



Algae blocks that have been left in the river are perfect places for algae to grow. As the algae grows it becomes inhabited by a variety of micro creatures that must be separated for the algae so that they can be classified. (photo by Jon Seymour)



As winter closes in on the Oxbow watch for the phenomenon of suspended ice sheets hanging on foliage. The sheets occur when surface water freezes at high water levels of a flood and then the water retreats from under the ice sheets as the flood recedes, leaving the ice sheets suspended on supporting foliage. (photo by Jon Seymour)





Heather Mayfield of the Foundation for Ohio River Education explains various methods of sampling river water to a high school class. The FORE group was the winner of a Wiseman-Witte grant for class equipment. *(photo by Jon Seymour)*



Assisting the class, a crew member performs the risky task of pulling the underwater sampler from the Ohio without bumping it into the side of the boat. *(photo by Jon Seymour)*



Inside the cruise boat three separate work stations were set up to examine the chemistry of the collected water, examine the diverse biology of the river, and to assess the health of the fish population. *(photo by Jon Seymour)*

Samples of wildlife collected on the river are examined macro scale as well as the micro scale. *(photo by Jon Seymour)*



**Oxbow Inc. FIELD TRIPS—submitted by Jay Stenger**

**\*Revised Directions for Oxbow Inc Field Trip Meeting Location — Unless otherwise indicated, all trips start at the upper Oxbow parking lot.** To reach the upper Oxbow parking area, go south on US Hwy 50 from the I-275 #16 exit. In about 200 yards, turn left (east) at the edge of the Shell/Subway and go over the levee to where the road T's with a fence directly in front of you. Turn right and go to the Oxbow entrance sign. Turn left into the Oxbow. The upper parking area is immediately on the right.

**Annual Moonlit Evening Winter Walk**

**Date: Friday, January 30, 2015, 7:00 P.M.**

**Meet: At the Shawnee Lookout Golf Course Parking Lot**

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

Oxbow Inc.'s beloved Morris Mercer loved the night winter woods, especially if there was snow on the ground. He and his good friend John Klein started this night walk in the Shawnee Lookout woodlands that overlook the Oxbow many years ago. Morris is no longer with us, but John loves the tradition and has kept Morris's spirit alive. We now refer to this annual event as the Morris Mercer Memorial field trip.

If you are looking for a unique experience come and join John as he leads us on a one and a half to two hour night walk around the Park to see what the night woods have to offer. John, an Oxbow Inc board member and retired Land Manager for the Hamilton County Park District, is the perfect guide. There will be a near full moon on this date and there is a good chance that owls, deer and flying squirrels will be seen or heard. John will talk about the history of the Oxbow and Shawnee Lookout area and also have a scope available for stargazing. And as always at some point, John will pass out M & M's to celebrate Morris's memory.

Meet John in the parking lot of the Shawnee Lookout Golf Course Clubhouse at 7:00 pm. The park is normally closed at this time of night but the rangers will have the entrance gates open for us. John is like Morris, in that he would like a little snow on the ground. However severe weather will cancel this trip. If you have any doubts as to whether the trip is cancelled, call John at (513) 941-4877. This trip is highly recommended. Be sure to dress warmly.

**Early Spring Waterfowl Migration**

**Sunday, February 15, 2015, 8:00 A.M.**

**Meet: In the upper Oxbow parking lot at the main entrance to the Oxbow**

**Leader: Gary Stegner, (812) 667-6433, [garyandsally@hotmail.com](mailto:garyandsally@hotmail.com)**

Spring waterfowl migration should be getting into full swing by this date and those species will be the primary focus of this trip. We should see many different species of ducks and geese and this is a great time of year to find multiple Bald Eagles in the Oxbow. A diverse number of other seasonal and migrant birds and wildlife should also be seen.

Our trip leader, Gary Stegner, is a long time Oxbow member and an experienced naturalist and birder. You may know Gary as the recently retired Communications Director of Fernald Preserve, where he was instrumental in leading field trips and educating the public on the wildlife in the preserve. Gary also knows the Oxbow area extremely well and plans to lead us to several spots in and around the Oxbow. Much of Gary's plan will depend on accessibility and water conditions, as flooding is the norm in the Oxbow at this season. Aside from seeing waterfowl and other birds, mud and cold weather is also guaranteed, so dress appropriately. This is a morning trip that should end before noon. Feel free to contact Gary if you have any questions regarding the trip.





## Musings

by Dave Styér

### The Common Goldeneye

More than any other duck in the Oxbow area, I viewed the Common Goldeneye as our dedicated winter duck. Even in the late 1970s, when nearly everything was frozen over, I could usually find a Goldeneye where there was some open water. Upon checking Ned Keller's web page on Cincinnati area bird sightings, I was not surprised that I found no Common Goldeneye reports through November this fall. Upon checking E. H. Forbush's classic book, *Birds of Massachusetts*, I was surprised to see the Common Goldeneye described as their real winter duck. After all, the Massachusetts coast is much more northern than the Oxbow. There, it is not uncommon to see eider ducks; at the Oxbow we can only dream of seeing such a northern duck as an eider.

Forbush's eloquence expresses the view that the Common Goldeneye is the real winter duck:

The Golden-eye comes with the biting frost. No bird is more typical of winter on the New England coast. In days of brief winter sunshine when harbors are filled with floating ice, at daybreak keen and cold when hoar frost clusters on trees along our icy coast—then we may hear the clear, melodious whistle of the Golden-eye's fast-beating wings.

The Common Goldeneye has been known by some as the "Whistler," because of the above-mentioned whistle of their wings when they fly.

I have searched in vain for special adaptations these Goldeneyes might have for the cold. I haven't even found a hint that such a thing has been considered. Let's consider a couple of ways this might go. First, maybe Goldeneyes have no special adaptations for cold. After all, lots of ducks spend hours a day in cold water. The expression "like water off a duck's back," comes from a fine adaptation of ducks in general, not something special to Goldeneyes. All ducks have waterproofing plumage that they maintain with much care. Even when they are molting, and can't fly, their plumage maintains waterproofing quality. On the one hand, Goldeneyes have a fairly stocky build. That is generally good in terms of resistance to cold. On the other hand, Goldeneyes

are diving ducks, and a lot of diving ducks have a stocky build. I wouldn't call Redheads or Canvasbacks much less stocky than Goldeneyes. Could it be that the Common Goldeneye simply likes it cold? It is easy for us to imagine a human family where one person really likes the cold, and another would much rather avoid the cold.

Let's consider an alternative: Common Goldeneyes do have some special adaptations for cold, but I have simply never found anything written about them. There's a lot written on courtship, for example, how the male throws his head back in a dramatic display. You can read much about the nests and nesting behavior. Goldeneyes nest in tree holes, and they will nest in boxes of appropriate size and location, much like Wood Ducks do. But there's not a peep on special adaptations for cold. Let's compare the Common Goldeneye and the Redhead. Both are diving ducks with similar body size. The Goldeneye has a much shorter bill and shorter legs. Both of these features could be viewed as adaptations for the cold. Here's another feature: dabbling ducks (Mallards, teal, etc.) generally float higher than diving ducks. I had thought that Goldeneyes might be heavier than other diving ducks; bigger bodies resist cold better than smaller bodies. But Goldeneyes don't basically weigh more than Redheads. So, what's going on here? I may be skating on thin ice, so to speak, but I'll make a conjecture. The Goldeneye must have thicker plumage than the Redhead. Duck plumage resists water, fills space, and weighs hardly anything. That must be why the Goldeneye floats higher than the Redhead. Since feathers are such good heat insulators, this may be another Common Goldeneye adaptation for cold. Anyone for a nice goldeneye-down jacket?



## Oxbow's Fall Clean Up .....by Kani Meyer

It was not a promising beginning to the day. As Dave and I left for the Oxbow, I saw a light dusting of snow on our home's roof and we drove through light flurries all the way. It was cold with a good breeze to enhance the misery. But to my great surprise, 10 more good, hardy people showed up and we had a great clean up in the Oxbow. Wayne Wauligman, Dave and I teamed up to cut Callery pear by hand while Bernie Miller with his humongous, intimidating chain saw teamed with Ed Gemperle to do the same. I was really pleased to see Bernie as my other two chain saws had bowed out the day before due to illnesses, along with the two trucks I had expected. We had to bushwhack our way through 12-foot ragweed laced with vines to get to the pears but my estimate is that we cut down and glyphosate treated at least 50 tree/tree clumps anywhere from 2-8 inches in diameter. Once inside it was not hard to see the next tree as they were pretty thick in there. I'll try to check on the more visible ones we cut next spring to check on how effective the glyphosate was. I must say that after we began working, it didn't feel at all cold!

Meanwhile, Jon and Jackie Seymour led another group alongside the railroad track down to the Great Miami. Tom and Carol Wick (Oxbow faithfuls), Ron Jandacek and Mike Miller collected tires, trash and a miscellany of car parts including a truck bed liner. Unfortunately the rest of the truck was missing as we had no truck to pick up what they collected. Calvin Cheng did his part along the Oxbow road and into the fire break pulling out 2 tires and a large bag's worth of trash. At noon we met at the nearby LaRosa's to warm up, have pizza, and share war stories. Now we had trash bags and other stuff along the road and I didn't want to leave them too long as they would get run over and re-scattered. Luckily Ron Gough and Vicki Shepherd came to our rescue and the next Sunday afternoon we gathered about 30 bags of trash, the truckbed liner and other oversized trash as well as 21 tires. The next week Rick Pope, John Klein and Bob Schlegel loaded up the tires and hauled them to the Dearborn County Solid Waste District. So by phases, we got it all done. Many thanks go to our neighbor Best Way for furnishing a dumpster and to the Dearborn Solid Waste Management District for recycling the tires.

*Oxbow, Inc. established Memorials in honor of those who have passed on. Each Memorial established in the name of a friend or relative will be enrolled permanently in the records of the Corporation. Each contribution to a Memorial will be acknowledged to the family or to those selected by the donor.*

*Tributes are also enrolled permanently in the records of the Corporation. Some tributes are birthday or anniversary remembrances, holiday greetings or gratitude acknowledgements. If so desired, "Happy Birthday!" or the like can be inscribed in the tribute notice.*

*Contributions should be sent to: Oxbow, Inc., P. O. Box 4172, Lawrenceburg, IN 47025. Be sure to enclose the names and addresses of those who are to receive the acknowledgement.*

### Oxbow, Inc. Honorariums & Memorials

| Donor                         | Memoriam            |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| Bob & Tina Schlegel           | Bob Worpenberg      |
| Greg Mendell & Connie McNamee | Sister Karla Barker |

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

Joan Jeffrey  
 Andrew MacAoidh Jergens  
 Jean A. Kearns  
 Charles Noe  
 Wilson Palmer  
 Bonnie Pence  
 Paul & Jill Staubitz  
 Scott & Molly Thomas

## Hunting Permit Applications Due July 1, 2015

Oxbow, Inc. members who wish to apply for permits to hunt on Oxbow, Inc. land must submit their application by July 1, 2015 to:

Oxbow, Inc.  
c/o Denny Mason  
10210 Scull Rd  
Cincinnati, OH 45252

Your application must include a copy of your valid Indiana hunting license and a completed memorandum of understanding printed on page 11. Cut out the memorandum. Complete the form and mail it with a copy of your license and a self-addressed stamped envelope to Denny. Once accepted you will receive a permission slip to hunt on Oxbow land designated for hunting, east of I-275. Members must have dues paid current to the time of application. Any violation of the memorandum of understanding will result in immediate revocation of hunting privileges.

If you have any questions contact Denny Mason at 513-385-3607.

### MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

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

#### *Application and Memorandum of Understanding*

**I am a member in good standing of Oxbow, Inc.** and request permission to hunt on Oxbow, Inc. property east of I-275 as will be shown on the map affixed to the permission slip that must be carried while hunting on Oxbow property.

I agree: to hunt subject to the following Oxbow, Inc. rules:

- I will practice good hunting ethics at all times.
- Others may rightfully visit the area and my activity has no priority over that of others.
- During my use of Oxbow, Inc. property I will not litter, remove or damage Oxbow, Inc. property, or cause any habitat destruction.
- I will not leave any structures on the property (ie. hunting stands, duck blinds, etc.).
- I will carry a valid permission slip at all times while hunting on Oxbow, Inc. land.
- I will obey all applicable laws

I understand that hunting privilege will be revoked if any of the above regulations are violated. I understand that I enter Oxbow, Inc. property entirely at my own risk and hold Oxbow, Inc. free of liability for any hazards, known or unknown to it. I HAVE INCLUDED A COPY OF MY VALID INDIANA HUNTING PERMIT and A SELF-ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE.

Your Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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

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.)**

**HUNTING PERMISSION REQUESTS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED BY JULY 1, 2015**

## Oxbow, Inc. and Oxbow of Indiana, Inc.

A nonprofit organization formed by conservation groups and concerned citizens of Ohio and Indiana for the purpose of preserving and protecting a wetlands ecosystem know locally as the Oxbow, Hardintown, or Horseshoe Bottoms, from industrial development and to preserve the floodplain at the confluence of the Great Miami and Ohio rivers for use as a staging area for the seasonal migrations of waterfowl. This agricultural area is rich in geological, archaeological, and anthropological history.

Help us save this unique wetland ecosystem. Make your state a richer place in which to live by helping us preserve this precious resource. **Membership in Oxbow, Inc. is encouraged and solicited.**

|   |        |                   |       |
|---|--------|-------------------|-------|
| Prothonotary Warbler                    | \$ 15  | Wood Duck         | \$ 25 |
| Great Blue Heron                        | \$ 50  | Green-winged Teal | \$100 |
| Great Egret                             | \$250  | Osprey            | \$500 |
| Bald Eagle                              | \$1000 |                   |       |
| Charm of Goldfinches (Group Level) \$25 |        |                   |       |

Mail to: Oxbow, Inc.  
P.O. Box 4172  
Lawrenceburg, IN 47025  
513-851-9835

### Corporation Officers

|   |                |
|---|----------------|
| President, Dr. Jon Seymour                  | (513) 851-9835 |
| Vice President, Kani Meyer                  | (513) 948-8630 |
| Recording Secretary,<br>Dwight Poffenberger | (513) 241-2    |
| Corresponding Secretary,<br>Dennis Mason    | (513) 385-3607 |
| Treasurer, Ed Gemperle                      | (812) 539-3666 |
| Ohio Agent, Dwight Poffenberger             | (513) 241-2324 |
| Indiana Agent, Mike Kluesener               | (812) 623-7800 |


### Committee Chairpersons

|  |                |
|--|----------------|
| Conservation, Dr. Jon Seymour                | (513) 851-9835 |
| Easement Inspection,<br>John Getzendanner II | (812) 537-0481 |
| Education, Velda Miller                      | (812) 584-0187 |
| Field Trips, Jay Stenger                     | (513) 522-8147 |
| Land Management, Kani Meyer                  | (513) 948-8630 |
| John Klein                                   | (513) 941-4877 |
| Programs, Kani Meyer                         | (513) 948-8630 |
| Research, Dr. Steve Pelikan                  | (513) 681-2574 |
| Speakers Bureau, Dr. Jon Seymour             | (513) 851-9835 |
| Newsletter Editor, Meg Pohlmann              | (513) 931-4072 |
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Need a Speaker?  
Give Us a Call!

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