

# wetland matters



## OXBOW, INC. NEWSLETTER

P.O. BOX 43391  
CINCINNATI, OHIO 45243

Number 42, July-August 1993

### Gifts to Oxbow

The students of Talawanda Middle School of Oxford, Ohio continued their support of Oxbow, Inc. by raising money and sending a donation of \$150.00.

M. A. Scott, plant manager for the Chemical Group of Monsanto sent Oxbow a generous \$500.00 check from the Monsanto fund to renew Monsanto's Oxbow membership.

The Cincinnati Chapter of the ELFUN Society (a volunteer organization of General Electric leaders) pledged \$10.00 per bird species found on the Oxbow Birdathon. Steve Bobonick, ELFUN Society treasurer and Birdathon participant, presented a \$1890.00 check to Oxbow's President Norma L. Flannery at the Birdathon tally dinner.

Representatives from FERMCO (Fernald Environmental **Restoration Management Corporation**) attended the June Oxbow meeting in Lawrenceburg and presented Oxbow with checks totalling \$1264.60. Jim King, Rachel Clark and John Homer explained the source of the funds. As part of Earth Day observances, Fermco employee's pick up trees to plant. The trees were free — supplied by the Department of Energy — but the employees voluntarily contributed money for each tree, and decided to donate the money to a local conservation organization. Fermco supplemented the employees donations to make the remainder of this generous contribution. It was nice to make Jim, Rachel, and John's acquaintance at the meeting and we look forward to seeing them at future meetings.

Oxbow thanks all these donors for their generous contributions. And, as Norma L. Flannery said to Jim King at the Lawrenceburg meeting, "This money will be put to very good use".

### At the last Board Meeting

1) Attorney Tim Mara reported to the Board on his findings concerning the zoning laws in Dearborn County, the legal definition of an "ultra-light" aircraft, and ways Oxbow can ask the State of Indiana to enforce its regulations.

2) A committee was formed to decide what data needs to be collected to determine if activities at the airpark might cause pollution, impairment, or destruction of the environment in the Oxbow area. Of particular concern is the effect of noise on wildlife in the area.

3) Oxbow, Inc. is considering producing window decals for its members. This would help advertise Oxbow's activities and also make it possible to determine if cars parked in the parking area on Oxbow's land belong to members or not.

4) A progress report on the Goose Pond Restoration Project was given. Hamilton County Park District has filed papers with the Corps of Engineers for permission to work in the floodplain.

### MOVING?

please send your old address label and  
new address:

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to: **Oxbow, Inc.**  
**P.O. Box 43391**  
**Cincinnati, Ohio**  
**45243**

## Birds of the Oxbow

*Birds of the Oxbow*, by David Styer, will be available for purchase at Oxbow meeting starting in July. The book, about 250 pages long, is illustrated with drawings by William Zimmerman.

The book is based on data collected over many years of field observation. This data is summarized in concise species accounts. The typical seasonal distribution, earliest and latest records, and largest numbers sighted are given for each species. For many birds, information on breeding and population trends is included.

A section on historical records describes the history of bird observation in the Oxbow area well back into the 1800's.

This book, with information about factors determining bird distribution and abundance, will give you something extra to think about and look for every time you head into the Oxbow area.

### Here's what the critics are saying about *Birds of the Oxbow*:

"After my guide, this is THE BOOK all Tri-State birders need."

— R.T. Petersen

"I'm proud to have contributed a little data to this fine work..."

— Al (the warbler) Wilson

"If I'd had this book as a guide, I would certainly have stopped at the Oxbow on my trip from Cincinnati to Louisville. I'd probably have added several species to my lifelist."

— J. J. Audobon

"Someone should make a video with that title."  
(anonymous)

## Report Card

"What's all this money for?" asked an Oxbow member at the end of a recent meeting at which fundraising had been discussed. It's always good to keep your eye on long-term goals, and this question provides an ideal opportunity to reflect on goals and assess progress. Oxbow's goal is to preserve and protect the wetlands at the confluence of the Great Miami and Ohio Rivers. The Hamilton County Park District, which has also long realized the importance of this area, produces "progress reports" periodically. The accompanying map shows land that HCPD believes to be safe from the threat of development. It doesn't look too bad, does it? But there's still lots to be done.

### Land in the Oxbow Area

<u>Who</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Hamilton Co. Park District (parkland and easements)	1,226.84	39.6
Oxbow, Inc. (owned and easements)	482.118	15.6
Indiana Dept. Natural Resources	14.83	0.5
Indiana Dept. Transportation	233.0	7.5
C.G. & E and B. & O.	225.27	7.3
Great Miami at low flow		
Ohio	94.38	3.0
Indiana	57.0	1.8
<b>Total protected</b>	<b>2333.438</b>	<b>75.5</b>
Privately owned - under negotiation or unsolicited	758.053	24.5

So that's what all the money is for: there's nearly 1/4 of the flood plain that has yet to be protected. Oxbow, Inc. is always interested in acquiring property or conservation easements on property which will further its goal of protecting the area from industrial development and enhancing the value of the wetlands for wildlife.

## Field Notes

Morris Mercer

As I write this, the longest day of the year approaches and spring gives way to summer, so it's time to look back and think of the beauty of the season. I can't remember a prettier spring. Everything was full of blossoms. I remember the Redbud, the Paw-paw, and the Dogwood. There were nights when the air was filled with the fragrance of the locust. Now we have the fragrance of honeysuckle. And we had a blackberry winter — when the blackberry briars were snow white with flowers.

Most of all, I remember this spring as having one of the most spectacular waterfowl migrations in recent years. The Oxbow area was flooded at the right time, and water stayed up in the fields to attract a huge number and variety of ducks. And a good number of birders as well.

I remember hearing the cry of an Osprey, and watching as the bird dove into a watery spot in a field. After a real struggle the bird came out of the water carrying a nice sized carp. A laboured flight carried the bird and its fish higher and higher over the corn fields. I remarked to my companions that the Osprey might be explaining to the fish "If you don't stop wiggling, I'll drop you into that field down there."

I remember a trip several of us made one afternoon into Wood Duck Slough to check on a possible sight for a low level dam. The dam would hold the water level a little higher in the Oxbow lake for spring migrations, which could be important on years a little drier than this one has been.

We arrived at the site to find that beaver had already constructed a nice low level dam. (As far as I know, the beaver didn't ask the Corps of Engineers for a permit. But Oxbow won't have to worry about maintaining the dam, at least.) Here at the beaver dam a Prothonotary Warbler busies himself in the trees above us. The Slough is shaded and still, its surface covered with blossoms from the Cottonwood trees. We are all pleased to see a couple of hen Wood Duck leading their broods of very small woodies on a cruise across the calm water

On yet another trip to the Oxbow we drove in along the railroad. As we arrived at Oxbow property, we met a Common Water Snake stretched across the track. A volunteer got out of the car to chase the snake, but it didn't seem at all anxious to give up the territory. It coiled up and was ready to battle. With the snake coiled, there was room for the car to pass. We drove on, leaving the snake "King of the Road".

Using the telescope to look towards the Beaver Pond, we saw a Great Egret and several Great Blue Herons. One of the herons put on quite a display. With wings open and raised it hopped around in a wild dance. There was much head bowing before the Great Blue picked up a long stick — a stick it seemed to want another Heron to accept.

I wonder if there could be some nest building going on? I've never seen a Great Blue Heron nest near the Oxbow, but I've heard "there's always something happenin' on the river." Keep your eyes and ears open as summer comes to the Oxbow. You never know what you might find.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Morris Mercer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large loop at the top.

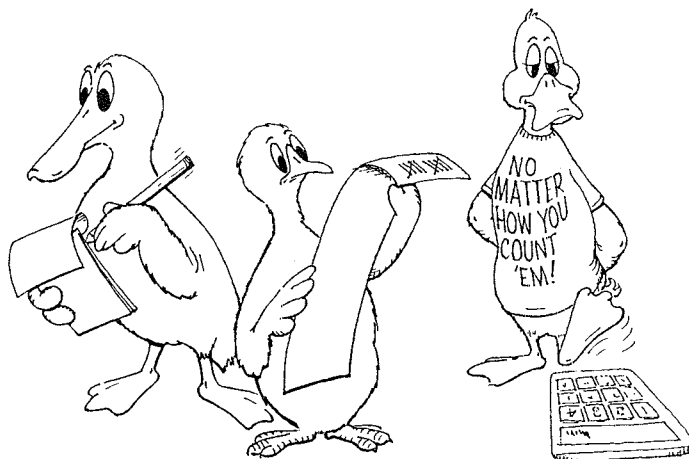
## Birdathon Teams

Here is a list of the teams participating in Birdathon '93. The checklist opposite gives the total number of teams that found each species unless fewer than 4 teams found the bird. In that case the teams that found the bird are indicated, using the code numbers in the list below.

<u>No.</u> <u>NAME</u>	<u>Species Found</u>
1. "Birds-R-U's", Gilmore Ponds Conservancy	147
2. "Fire and Brimstone Birder's Guild", Oxbow, Inc.	141
2A. "The No-See-Ums", Oxbow, Inc	141
3. "The Dawn to Duck Patrol", Cincinnati Nature Center	127
4. "Hell's Birders"	118
5. "Laborious Birding Fellows", Cincinnati Nature Center"	117
6. "Bluegrass Buteos", Northern Kentucky Birding Club	112
6A. "The Wood Warblers", Gilmore Ponds Conservancy	112
7. Tri-State Wildlife Center	111
8. "The Gray Hawks", Raptor, Inc.	110
8A. "2 Legits"	110
9. "The Bush Thrashers", Tri-State Wildlife Center	105
9A. "Team W"	105
10. "Finneytown's Fabulous Flying Fortune Seekers"	102
11. "Geriatric Gents and a Junior", Oxbow, Inc	97
12. "Close-N-Counters", Cincinnati Nature Center	96
13. Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden Junior Zoologists	95
14. John and Sarah Leon	92
14A Raptor Inc. #1	92
15. Jim Black	89
16. Thomas More College / Museum Herpetologists	86
17. "The Cuckoos", Gilmore Ponds Conservancy	82
18. Raptor #3	77
19. Birdwatchers I & II	66
19A. Wheat Team — Division of Herpetology	66
20. "The Backyard Birder"	22

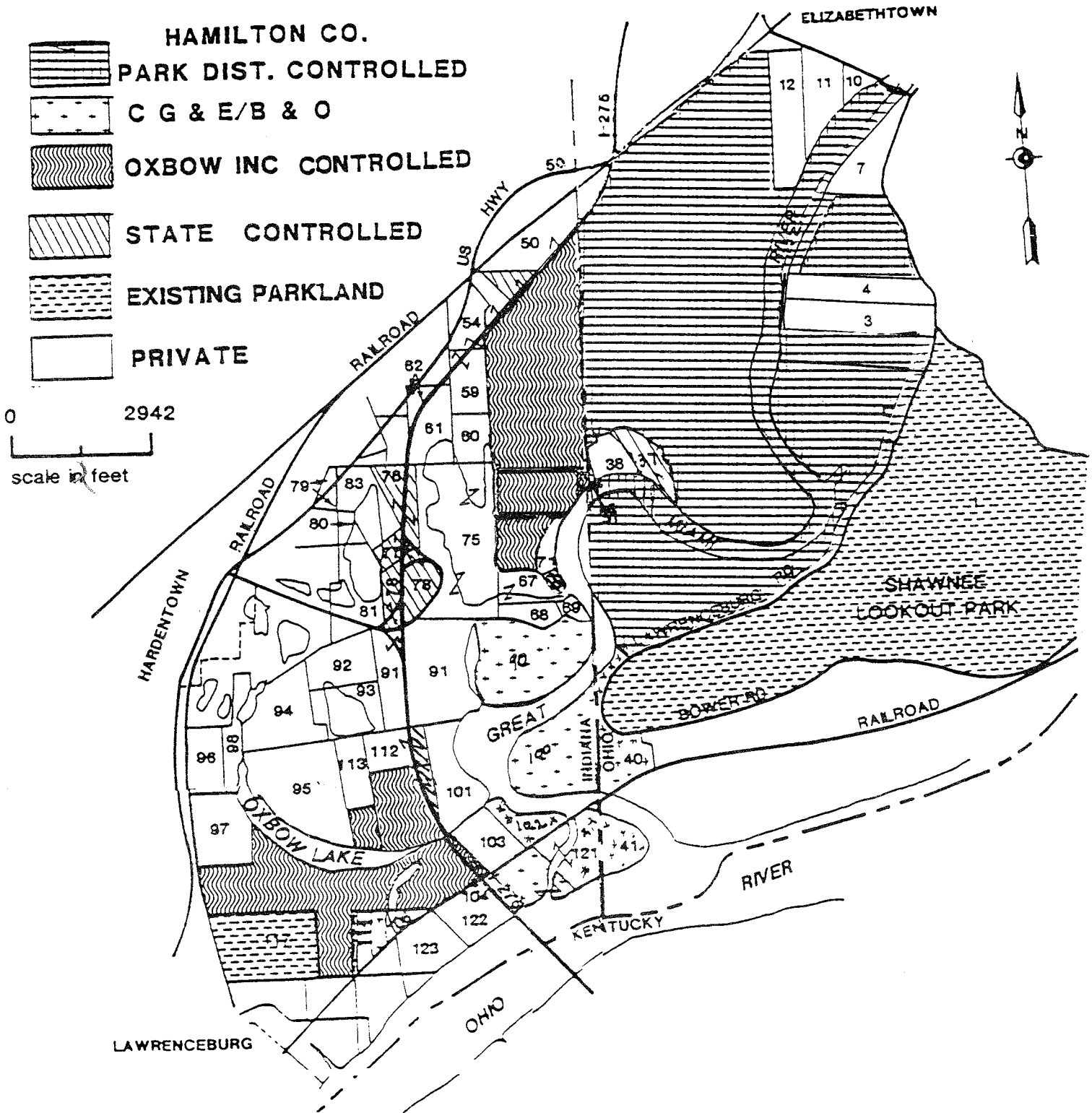
For those Oxbow members who don't yet have Birdathon '93 T-shirts, a few are available at \$10.00 each. The logo shown here is printed in black ink on melon colored shirts. The logo was designed for the Oxbow Birdathon '93 by Fritz Haas. Thank you, Fritz!

Shirt sizes are limited (mostly L and XL). You can buy shirts at any of the upcoming Oxbow meetings, or call (513) 681-2574.



# AN OXBOW AREA STATUS REPORT

# OXBOW AREA PROPERTY OWNERS



## Oxbow, Inc. Memorials

### In memory of

Jane Brinkmeyer  
Julie Godsey - **Remember**  
Julie Godsey  
Edna Maslowski  
James A. McCoy  
Hester Stephenson

### Donor

Roy and Jane Bernzott  
Norma L. Flannery  
CMSGT James and Billie Godsey  
Norma L. Flannery  
**Rosemary Hasler Farrell FAARELL.**  
Helen Dornette

Note: Oxbow has been learning a lot about zoning recently. This letter, part of which appeared in an Indiana newspaper, gives one woman's thoughts on the importance of zoning and the public's involvement with it.

On Tuesday, May 4, the Dearborn County Board of Zoning Appeals refused to reconsider their decision regarding the Airpark next to I-275. Their reason was that the opposition failed to make an appeal in the provided thirty-day limit. In other words, the law makes certain provisions for action, and those opposing the airpark failed to follow those ordinances. Of course, no one informed them of that provision.

That same law provides ordinances to protect the public from improper development in specified areas such as flood plains and wetlands. Gary Satchwill of the Zoning Board admitted that they had not followed several procedures before issuing the approval for the airpark. In fact, he was quoted in the paper as saying "The book isn't always followed to the letter. Maybe it should be. But in my opinion he (opposition spokesman) is talking about something that is done in the big city." Well now, are we faced with a situation where the public must follow the rules and the elected "officials" don't? Do laws only apply in the "big city"? Doesn't that make some interesting possibilities!

Have we forgotten the hue and cry of the very recent election? I mean the part that went how tired we are of politics as usual ... how elected officials work for the public, not the other way around.

The fact that the public wasn't given the chance to speak up at the Planning Commission meeting in which the airpark was proposed in the first place has been dismissed totally. The vote was taken without the public being asked for a response. Those little meetings in the other room just prior to the scheduled public ones are definitely illegal, but here again, the law only applies when it's convenient.

Mr. Satchwill indicated that some provisions in the ordinance are being changed. It would be in the public's interest, whether or not you care about the airpark, floodplains, or wetlands, to watch for the public announcement, if they bother with that legality, and to oppose those changes. Zoning laws and procedures are designed to protect you and your investment. Weakening or eliminating them gives too much power to these elected people who are above the law!

(signed) Jill Rhodes

- 2. Solitary Vireo** (Most birds, entire area, individual)  
 Jim Black 89 sp. ★
- 3. Keep it in the Ground Award** (Non-use of fossil fuels)  
 "The Cuckoos" 82 sp. ★  
 Lee Abell Ted Ellis  
 John Drum Mike Feldhaus
- 4. County of Your Choice Award** (Birding in only 1 county)  
 "The Bush Thrashers" (Hamilton County) 105 sp. ★  
 John Hughes Carol Mundy  
 Peggy Hughes Jim Mundy  
 "Finneytown's Fabulous Flying Fortune Seekers" (Hamilton) 104 sp.  
 Erich Baumgarder Jerry Lippert  
 "Birdwatchers I & II" (Switzerland County) 66 sp.  
 Eric Schwartz Connie Wakeman
- 5. Fearsome Fledgling Award** (18 years and younger)  
 "Cincinnati Zoo Junior Zoologists" 95 sp. ★  
 Holly Daltauit Mitch Painter  
 Greg Hodapp Stan Ruhlman  
 Laura Kidwell  
 "Wheat Team — Division of Herpetology" 66 sp.  
 Dave Wheat Chris Wheat
- 6. Highest Pledge-Total** (Solicitor for most money per species)  
 ★★★ Jon Seymour (\$6.05 per species plus \$50 in other pledges)★★★
- 7. Non-Competing Teams**  
 "The Backyard Birder"  
 Mary Agnes Hogue  
 John and Sarah Leon  
 Raptor Team #2  
 Barb Eckles Dave Moring  
 John Eckles  
 "Team W2"  
 Bill Bocklage Wayne Wauligman

**Species reported in '93, but missing in '92**

Horned Grebe  
 Black Duck  
 Green-winged Teal  
 Redhead  
 Peregrine Falcon *(EGGS IN NEST)*  
 Willet  
 Short-billed Dowitcher  
 Yellow-bellied Flycatcher  
 Olive-sided Flycatcher  
 Brown Creeper  
 Wilson's Warbler  
 Dickcissel  
 Fox Sparrow  
 Lincoln's Sparrow  
 Western Meadowlark

**Species from '92 not reported in '93**

American Bittern  
 Cattle Egret  
 Yellow-crowned Night-Heron  
 Greater Scaup  
 Ruddy Duck  
 Hooded Merganser  
 Harrier  
 Merlin  
 Common Snipe  
 Dunlin  
 Bonaparte's Gull  
 Forster's Tern  
 Barn Owl  
 American Pipit  
 Loggerhead Shrike  
 Mourning Warbler  
 Pine Siskin  
 Tree Sparrow

# Calendar Meetings

**13 July (Tuesday) at 7:30. Oxbow meeting at the Cincinnati Zoo Education Building.** (Enter through the exit gate on Erkenbrecher Avenue.)

If you've ever been curious about the lives of bats (or ever had a bat in your attic), this program is for you. From the Tri-State Wildlife Center, Anita Buck and lovely Denise the Wonder Bat will present a program about the biology and conservation of bats. You will also learn how to deal with local bats if they happen to cross your path or end up in your basement

**10 August (Tuesday) at 7:30. Oxbow meeting at the Lawrenceburg Public Library.** (From Cincinnati, turn left off U.S. 50 onto Walnut Street. Turn right on High Street. The Library is on the right side of High Street.)

Our program will be "Saving the National Forests in Indiana, Ohio, and Kentucky". The speaker will be Andy Mahler, regional coordinator of Heartwood, an organization dedicated to protecting our forests. With all the concern about tropical forests and the forests of the Pacific Northwest, maybe we should learn about what's happening closer to home — the Hoosier and Wayne National Forests of Indiana and Ohio.

# Field Trips

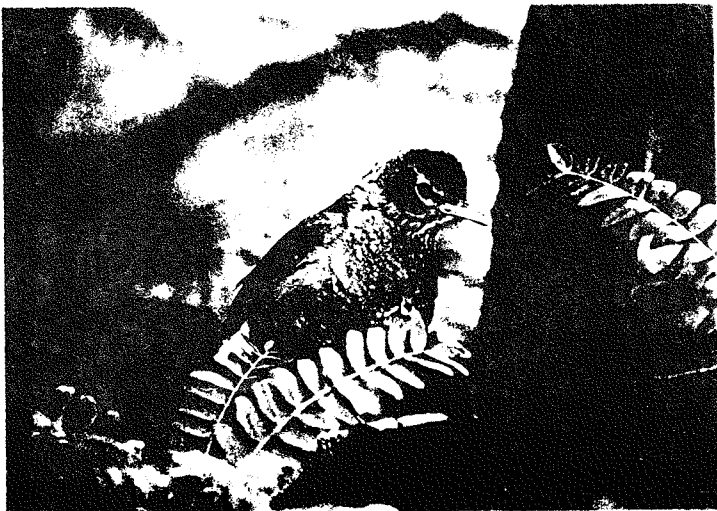
**17 July (Saturday) at 10:00 A.M. Field trip.**

This trip will be led by Eric Eaton, a local educator, naturalist, writer, and insect enthusiast. With his help we'll concentrate on looking for interesting insects around the Oxbow Lake. Eric will fill us in on the ecology and life histories of whatever we find. We'll meet at 50's Root Beer. Call Steve Pelikan at (513)-681-2574 if you have questions.

**23 August (Monday) at 6:30 P.M. Field trip.**

Meet at 50's Root Beer for this evening trip led by Jay Stenger. There should be lots of shorebirds around (mud willing), and Jay's the fellow to point them out and help identify them. **513-552-4245**

Please remember that although Oxbow field trips often meet at the 50's Root Beer lot, it is not neighborly to leave cars parked there without paying the reasonable parking fee. Also, parking is permitted and free in the road directly behind 50's. Wherever you park, you will almost certainly want to stop in at 50's for refreshment after being out in the field in the heat of summer. (Try the root beer.)



Four broods of Robins were seen at one time along the road into the Oxbow past the Cement Plant

Breeding of a number of species of birds was observed in the Oxbow area this spring. Great-crested Flycatcher, Willow Flycatcher, Wood Duck, Yellow Warbler, Prothonotary Warbler, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Indigo Bunting, Song Sparrow, Killdeer, and American Robins were all seen tending nests or newly fledged young.



Common Loon	7
Grebe, Pied-billed	12
Horned	#2A
Double-crested Cormorant	13
Bittern, American	
Least	
Great Blue Heron	22
Egret, Great	7
Little Blue Heron	
Cattle Egret	
Green-backed Heron	21
Night-Heron, Black-crowned	5
Yellow-crowned	
Swan, Tundra	
Mute	
Goose, Gtr White-fronted	
Snow	#19A
Canada	23
Wood Duck	23
Green-winged Teal	#14
American Black Duck	#19A
Mallard	ALL
Northern Pintail	
Blue-winged Teal	16
Northern Shoveller	
Gadwall	#1,2A,3
American Widgeon	#3
Canvasback	
Redhead	7
Ring-necked Duck	9
Scaup, Greater	
Lesser	#1,2A,3
Oldsquaw	
Scoter, Black	
Surf	
White-winged	
Common Goldeneye	
Bufflehead	4
Merganser, Hooded	
Common	
Red-breasted	5
Ruddy Duck	
Vulture, Black	#6,7,11
Turkey	ALL
Osprey	7
Bald Eagle	
Northern Harrier	
Hawk, Sharp-shinned	#8A
Cooper's	6
Red-shouldered	11
Hawk, Broad-winged	5
Red-tailed	ALL
Rough-legged	
American Kestrel	22
Peregrine Falcon	#2,8,14A
Ring-necked Pheasant	#1,4
Ruffed Grouse	#11
Wild Turkey	5
Northern Bobwhite	20
Virginia Rail	6
Sora	5
Common Moorhen	#1,2,8
American Coot	15
Sandhill Crane	#2A,3,7
Plover, Black-bellied	
Lesser Golden	
Semipalmated	8
Killdeer	ALL
American Avocet	

Yellowlegs, Greater	9
Lesser	16
Solitary Sandpiper	13
Willet	#1,2,19A
Sandpiper, Spotted	19
Upland	#1,6A
Ruddy Turnstone	
Sanderling	
Sandpiper, Semipalmated	#4
Western	
Least	9
White-rumped	
Baird's	
Pectoral	#9,16
Dunlin	
Sandpiper, Stilt	
Buff-breasted	
Dowitcher, Short-billed	4
Long-billed	
Common Snipe	
American Woodcock	7
Phalarope, Wilson's	
Gull, Bonaparte's	
Ring-billed	10
Herring	#1,16
Tern, Caspian	4
Common	#11,12
Forster's	
Black	4
Dove, Rock	23
Mourning	ALL
Cuckoo, Black-billed	4
Yellow-billed	9
Owl, Barn	
Eastern Screech	12
Great Horned	9
Barred	14
Long-eared	
Short-eared	
Northern Saw-whet	
Common Nighthawk	14
Chuck-will's-widow	#2,11
Whip-poor-will	8
Chimney Swift	ALL
Ruby-thrt'd Hummingbird	20
Belted Kingfisher	22
Woodpecker, Red-headed	19
Red-bellied	ALL
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	#19
Woodpecker, Downy	ALL
Hairy	13
Northern Flicker	ALL
Pileated Woodpecker	22
Olive-sided Flycatcher	#4
Eastern Wood-pewee	23
Flycatcher, Yellow-bellied	#8,9A
Acadian	15
Alder	
Willow	13
Least	7
Eastern Phoebe	17
Great-crested Flycatcher	21
Eastern Kingbird	23
Horned Lark	12
Purple Martin	18
Swallow, Tree	23
Northern Rough-winged	ALL
Bank	13
Cliff	6

Barn Swallow	ALL
Blue Jay	ALL
American Crow	ALL
Carolina Chickadee	ALL
Tufted Titmouse	ALL
Nuthatch, Red-breasted	#2,2A
White-breasted	ALL
Brown Creeper	#13
Wren, Carolina	ALL
House	23
Winter	
Marsh	5
Kinglet, Golden-crowned	#8
Ruby-crowned	A10
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	23
Eastern Bluebird	23
Veery	11
Thrush, Gray-cheeked	#3,9,14A
Swainson's	19
Hermit	#8A
Wood Thrush	23
American Robin	ALL
Gray Catbird	ALL
Mockingbird	ALL
Brown Thrasher	22
American Pipit	
Cedar Waxwing	#1,4,18
Loggerhead Shrike	
European Starling	ALL
Vireo, White-eyed	19
Bell's	
Solitary	4
Yellow-throated	15
Warbling	22
Philadelphia	4
Red-eyed	22
Warbler, Blue-winged	15
Golden-winged	#7
Tennessee	17
Orange-crowned	
Nashville	11
Northern Parula	15
Warbler, Yellow	ALL
Chestnut-sided	15
Magnolia	14
Cape May	10
Black-throated Blue	9
Yellow-rumped	21
Black-throated Green	17
Blackburnian	13
Yellow-throated	15
Pine	10
Prairie	14
Palm	5
Bay-breasted	12
Blackpoll	14
Cerulean	16
Black-and-white	10
American Redstart	17
Warbler, Prothonotary	18
Worm-eating	#1,2A,12
Ovenbird	15
Waterthrush, Northern	#1,2,8
Louisiana	11
Warbler, Kentucky	13
Connecticut	
Mourning	
Common Yellowthroat	23
Hooded Warbler	11

Warbler, Wilson's	#18
Canada	#9,10,10
Yellow-breasted Chat	16
Tanager, Summer	19
Scarlet	22
Northern Cardinal	ALL
Grosbeak, Rose-breasted	20
Blue	#6
Indigo Bunting	ALL
Dickcissel	#2
Rufous-sided Towhee	ALL
Sparrow, American Tree	
Chipping	21
Field	20
Vesper	#1,3,6A
Lark	
Savannah	10
Sparrow, Grasshopper	8
Henslow's	#2
Fox	#9A
Song	23
Sparrow, Lincoln's	#4,16
Swamp	5
White-throated	17
White-crowned	19
Dark-eyed Junco	#11
Longspur, Lapland	
Snow Bunting	
Bobolink	8
Red-winged Blackbird	23
Meadowlark, Eastern	23
Blackbird, Rusty	2
Common Grackle	ALL
Brown-headed Cowbird	ALL
Oriole, Orchard	20
Northern	ALL
Finch, Purple	#18,19
House	21
Pine Siskin	
American Goldfinch	ALL
Evening Grosbeak	
House Sparrow	ALL

sedge wren 4  
W. meadowlark #11  
Empidonax sp. #14A

Total species 194

## ENTRANTS IN COMPETING CATEGORIES

(and how they did)

### 1. The Golden Starling Award (Most birds, entire area, teams only)

"Birds-R-Us"		147 sp.★
Ned Keller	Jay Stenger	
Mick Seymour	Alan Walls	
"Fire and Brimstone Birder's Guild"		141 sp.
Joe Bens	Paul Wharton	
"The No-See-Ums"		141 sp.
Joanne Ollman(driver)	Charlie Saunders	
Steve Pelikan	Dave Styer	
"Dawn to Duck Patrol"		127 sp.
Steve Bobonick	Jon Seymour	
David Brinkman		
"Hell's Birders"		118 sp.
David Hedeem	Brandon Kramer	
"Laborious Birding Fellows"		117 sp.
Dave Helm	Ed Larson	
"The Bluegrass Buteos"		112 sp.
Joe Caminiti	Lee McNeely	
Kathy Caminiti	Tommy Stephens	
"The Wood Warblers"		112 sp.
Dave Dister	Mark Ray	
Tri-State Wildlife Center		111 sp.
Dan Collins	Matt Miller	
Ryan Flack	Gary Orendorff	
"The Gray Hawks"		110 sp.
David Axt	Susan Wilkinson	
Fritz Haas		
"2 Legits"		110 sp.
Sr. Marty Dermody	Teddy Mechley	
"Geriatric Gents and a Junior"		97 sp.
Sandy Cooper	Karl Maslowski	
George Laycock	Jerry Meyer	
"Close-N-Counters"		96 sp.
Doug Kinslow	Ann Recktin	
Susan Miller	David Tennant	
Raptor #1		92 sp.
Jeff Hayes	Brian Steege	
Kathy Parker		
Thomas More/Museum Herpetologists		86 sp.
Jeff Davis	Paul Krusling	
Elena Dickerson	Dean McCoy	
John Ferner		

## Endangered Species Coalition

Oxbow, Inc. has joined with about 50 other Ohio organizations in the Ohio Endangered Species Coalition. The Cincinnati Zoo and the Tri-State Wildlife Center are other tri-state members of the coalition. The purpose of the coalition is to work to ensure the passage of federal legislation that reauthorizes and strengthens the Endangered Species Act.

The E.S.A. has been called by some the single most effective piece of conservation legislation ever passed.

On May 6th an Endangered Species Act reauthorization bill, H.R. 2043, was introduced. The same day a similar bill, S. 921, was introduced in the Senate. Both these bills include important language which should strengthen and improve implementation of the E.S.A. Both bills would:

- Set deadlines for completion of recovery plans and give priority to multi-species plans.
- Require federal agencies to inventory their lands for candidate species and formulate measures to protect them.
- Authorize development of habitat conservation plans for candidate species and establish a revolving fund for grants and interest-free advances to states, counties, or municipal governments to assist in the development of such plans.
- Provide financial incentives and technical assistance to private landowners who implement recovery actions for listed species.
- Require a report on various federal programs that encourage or discourage the conservation of species.
- Increase funding ceilings for the Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service to implement federal endangered species programs.

Please write to your senators and representative urging them to cosponsor S.921 and H.R.2043. Of the original 66 cosponsors of this legislation only 1 (Congressperson Stokes of Ohio) was from Ohio, Indiana, or Kentucky. So Oxbow's members live in a part of the country where their letters could do much good.

## Birdathon Thanks

Thank you to the Birdathon Committee (Anita Buck, Cathy Cole, Greg Mendell, Connie McNamee, Betty Myers, and Steve Pelikan) who organized Birdathon '93. They mailed and processed registration packets, ordered, picked up, and distributed T-shirts, arranged for the dinner we enjoyed at the tally, and mailed reminders to people who pledged for Oxbow's Birdathon teams.

Thank you to Ken Fulmer for his behind the scenes work with food, drink, and cleanup at the tally dinner.

Thank you to Paul X. Hellmann for serving as M.C. at the tally.

Thank you to Fritz Haas for designing the Birdathon '93 T-shirt.

Thank you to the Hamilton County Park District, for the use of Winton Center for the tally dinner.

Thank you to LaRosa's Pizza for help with our meal.

Thank you to all the participants who raised pledges and birded long and hard for Oxbow, Inc.

## Speaker's Bureau

Morris Mercer, who is in charge of Oxbow's Speaker's Bureau, reports that he gave a good number of talks in May. His audiences included the St. Bernard Police, Hamilton County Park Volunteers, The Lloyd Mann School, and Hartzell United Methodist Church of Blue Ash.

Morris also found time to guide several groups of visitors around the Oxbow itself. Just in May, Morris audiences exceeded 150 people. Thanks, Morris, That's getting the word out!

## 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 area known locally as the Oxbow, Hardintown, or Horseshoe Bottoms, from future industrial development and to preserve the existing agricultural floodplain at the confluence of the Great Miami and Ohio rivers for use as a staging area for the seasonal migrations of waterfowl. This is an agricultural area rich in geological, archaeological, and anthropological history.

Help us save this unique wetland. You can 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.

Individual	\$10	Family	\$15
Contributing	\$25	Supporting	\$50
Patron	\$100	Cornerstone	\$250
Sponsor	\$500	Benefactor	\$1000
Organization/club	\$25		

Mail to: **Oxbow, Inc.**  
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**513-471-8001**

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## Need a Speaker? Give Us a Call!



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