

NEWS HAWK

SUMMER 2016

SUMMER AT THE SANCTUARY!



Summer bird care intern feeding nestling house

School is out for the summer and the Sanctuary is a hum of activity. Daily, families tour the Sanctuary and enjoy the live bird encounters and scenic trail system. Week-days the education center hosts day camps in which youth explore the trails and streams, meet animals up close and create nature crafts. This summer the Sanctuary is projected to serve over 15,000 visitors.

Hourly, compassionate individuals who have found injured or displaced birds, arrive with cardboard boxes in hand seeking assistance. The staff on many cases are able to provide information on how to return young birds to where they were found to be reunited with parents. Others are admitted and fed and cared for by the bird care staff and summer interns. This summer we have received a number of nestling raptors needing care. These are very carefully raised without seeing humans to avoid socialization and have been successfully fostered by our educational birds.



Rip the Red-tail hawk fostering injured fledgling

SUMMER INTERNS

Each summer the Sanctuary is fortunate to be able to offer two 11 week internships to college students through funding from the **Warren and Fran Rupp Fund at the Richland County Foundation**. This summer our Bird Care intern is Whitney Gibbons, a sophomore studying wildlife biology and pre-veterinary medicine at Purdue University. Whitney assists in providing daily care of the educational collection and birds brought in for care and presents bird encounter programs in Saturdays. The Education intern is Emily Smith, a junior studying Environmental Science at Mt Vernon Nazarene. Emily assist programming staff with field trips, day camps and presenting programs weekly at Mohican State Park Resort. Both of these students are receiving invaluable hands on experience in wildlife management and environmental education. In return the Sanctuary reaps the benefits of two highly motivated intelligent individuals that assist with busy summer operations.



Summer interns Whitney Gibbons & Emily Smith

The Sanctuary's internship program has proven to be the spring board for finding successful careers. We have had previous interns go on to be veterinarians, lead eagle restoration project in California, pursue careers with Division of Wildlife, Forestry, Columbus Zoo, Cincinnati Zoo, and even return for full time employment at the Sanctuary.

SAVE THE DATE!

Saturday, October 15th OBS Annual Fall Family Festi-

Note from Director



It is hard to believe it was twenty eight years ago that the Ohio Bird Sanctuary was “hatched” as the Richland County Raptor Center on our small farm in Bellville. It is a pleasure every day to drive down the driveway to the Sanctuary and see the natural beauty of the 90 acre preserve and incredible facility the community has built. It has been an honor and gift to be a part of this amazing place. I now feel the strong obligation to assure this place is here for future generations. The board has in place easements that protect the Sanctuary as a nature preserve. Now it is time to strengthen the Sanctuary’s future. We have been actively working a 10 year plan for financial sustainability to preserve the valuable programs, services and facilities. The three main objects of this plan and alternative way to support the Sanctuary are outline on the following pages. I would like to speak here to the gifts I see daily that the Sanctuary provides to those that visit and/or bring birds in for care.



Visitors often comment on how peaceful the Sanctuary is and that it is their ‘happy place’. Because of the facility’s accessibility and opportunity for direct interaction with the birds it has become a favorite place for assisted living centers and individuals with family members with disabilities. We also have regular visitors many who visit daily or enjoy bringing out of town guests and grand children. The Sanctuary does not charge admission to assure that the individuals that need places like the Sanctuary is easily accessible and available to them.

The Sanctuary provides care for injured and displaced birds. Our bird care facilities are state of art because of gifts from estates, donations and grants. One such gifts was from a treasured volunteer, Mary Kowalchik, who bequeathed funds to the Sanctuary in her will. Mary’s gift abled the Sanctuary to build a large octagon flight compound for raptors. This facility is utilized by other rehab centers around the state that need additional conditioning of eagles and peregrine before release. This enclosure has made the Sanctuary a cornerstone to raptor rehabilitation in the state.



I feel it is now time to start looking at the next generation that will carry this program into the future and build sustainability that will preserve it for future generations. This is not a statement that I am resigning, this is a 10 year plan of action we hope to put in place to guarantee the Sanctuary a permanent asset for this area and assure it continues and thrives. The goal is to create financial resources that will annually support basic operations and the staff required to provide quality education and rehabilitation services.

Let Our Future Have Wings!

Gail Laux



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President: William Smith
 Vice Pres.: Richard Thompson
 Treasurer: Thomas Witkowski
 Secretary: Jay Allred
 Robin Barrett
 Jennifer Foster
 Sheila Hummel
 Nicole Lewis
 Edward Kulka

STAFF

Executive Director: Gail Laux
 Operations Assistant: Abby Bramlage
 Education Coordinator: Sondra Hupp
 Curator of Birds: Mary Meixner

Naturalist

Jan Ferrell
 Susan Kalkbrenner
 Julie Schwartz

Bird Care

Stephanie Lewis
 Dawne Snyder
 Maggie Borland
 Tracie Stadelman



SUS`TAIN`ABL`ITY [suh-stey-nuh-bil-i-tee]

the ability to be sustained, supported, upheld, or confirmed.

The Sanctuary has grown leaps and bounds from its small beginning in 1988. Originally established and operated on the private 5 acre farm of the Director it is now a public facility on a 90 acre preserve. The Sanctuary is a rare in that it is a private non-profit (not funded by tax dollars or governmental funding), open to the public year round, has wonderful facilities to serve programing and avian rehabilitation services and is debt free. This has all been possible because of generous support, volunteers and a dedicated board and staff. The Sanctuary is now poised to enter a very important stage in its existence. It needs to achieve sustainability.

Sustainability of current and future operations has three main components: Endowment, Personnel and Revenue.

EN`DOW`MENT [en-dou-muh nt]

(An endowment is a financial asset, in the form of a donation made to a non-profit group consisting of investment funds or other property. The sole intention of the endowment is to invest it, so that the total asset value will yield dividends that are utilized for expenditures.)

GOAL: Build endowment that's interest generated by endowment principle would support basic operations and key personnel.

FACTS: The Sanctuary has an Endowment Fund at the Richland County Foundation. Income currently generated from the dividends from this fund support 20% of operations. To cover 100% of basic operations the Sanctuary has set the long term a goal of raising an additional \$1,500,000 for endowment.



PERSONNEL [pur-suh-nel]

(A body of persons employed in an organization or place of work.)

GOAL: Develop professional staff and board that will have skills and talents to take OBS successfully forward into the future.

FACTS: Individuals and board members who founded and developed the organization will phase out in next 10 to 15 years. The Sanctuary will need to be able to compensate the next generation of staff at a comparable rate reflective of their education and expertise.

REV`E`NUE [reva-n(y)-oo]

(The monetary payment received for goods or services, or from other sources, as rents or investments)

GOAL: Income and donations sufficient to support environment education programs, rehabilitation services and management of the preserve.

FACTS: Currently generated income from fund-raisers, events and programming provides 20% of funds needed for operations. Donations are relied upon to support the difference. Due to fluctuations in charitable giving the Sanctuary needs to increase generated income to become more financial stable. New revenue sources include rental fees for use of Sanctuary for special events, increase and diversify programing plus secure additional Donations for operations through planned giving.





Planned Giving = Sustainable Sanctuary

Basic concept : The gifts we give to our favorite charities are often based off of our cash assets. Only 5% of the nation's wealth is in cash. The majority of our assets are in investments, retirement funds, and property. The benefit of considering these other assets as potential charitable gifts is that the gift will not impact your cash flow and can provide substantial income and estate tax benefits.

You may be thinking that Planned Giving is not for you and it feels a bit overwhelming. There are some simple ways that anyone can consider supporting the Sanctuary through non-cash assets. I am going to present some of the simplest straight forth options. Please feel free to contact me, Gail Laux, with any questions.

Gifts from Will or Trust : Designate the Ohio Bird Sanctuary as a beneficiary in your will. This can be done as a specific amount or a percentage of estate. This does not effect cash flow during your lifetime and can be easily revoked if your situation changes. Through a will you can also state OBS as beneficiary of IRA or retirement plan. *Benefit: This will defer income tax or estate tax that would incur if left to spouse, children or other loved one.*

Gifts of Stocks or Appreciated Securities : Gifts of stocks or securities can be more beneficial to the donor than the gift of cash.

Benefit: Donated stocks that have been held for a year or longer are eligible for a federal income tax chartable deduction. The donor will not be required to pay capital gains (as long as stock is given directly to organization and not cashed in first).

Beneficiary of Life Insurance : (Can provide either immediate or future support of the Sanctuary)
Donor can donate a paid up policy or make the Sanctuary the beneficiary of their policy.

Benefit: If donate value of policy the donor can take deduction and deduct future premium payments. If OBS designated beneficiary it will remove the policy value from the taxable estate.

Lifetime Gifts Retirement Plan/ IRA : (Can provide either immediate or future support of the Sanctuary)

Your IRA can be taxed up to 70% if passed on to heirs. If you are 70 or order you can transfer up to \$100,00 each year from your IRA to charity and it is not recognized as income. This donation would also counts towards minimum requirement from IRA for the year.

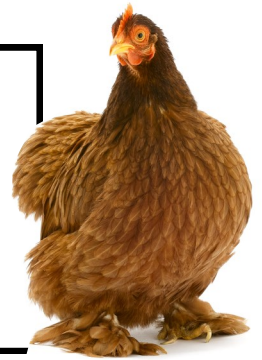
Benefit: Retirement funds paid to family can be subject to heavy income and estate taxes, but are tax-free to charity.





The Ohio Bird Sanctuary is a private not for profit organization. It is a living museum providing professional care to songbirds and raptors. It is a place for individuals to learn, explore and enjoy their natural world.

The Sanctuary is not supported by governmental agencies or tax dollars. The operations and sustainability of the organization depends on the generosity of individual and corporate donations, memberships, bequests, in-kind services and grants.



Financial Report January 1- December 31, 2015

INCOME

| | |
|--|-------------------------|
| Grants | 63,885 |
| (\$41,000 Restricted for capital improvements) | |
| Donations | 60,901 |
| (\$10,000 Restricted for capital improvements) | |
| Programming | 22,776 |
| Endowment | 18,039 |
| In Kind Services | 12,029 |
| Events | 10,501 |
| In-kind Avian Care | 10,306 |
| Membership | 8,951 |
| Earth Share of Ohio | 8,782 |
| Gift Shop | 5,449 |
| Rental | 1,350 |
| Investments | 603 |
| | <u>\$223,572</u> |

OPERATIONAL EXPENSES

| | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Bird Care | 75,599 |
| Educational Programs | 66,216 |
| Administration | 28,138 |
| Utilities & Operations | 22,423 |
| Payroll Liabilities | 21,033 |
| Events | 11,185 |
| Gift Shop | 3,149 |
| | <u>\$227,743</u> |

Capital Improvements

| | |
|---|------------------|
| Education Center | \$195,037 |
| Bird Care Area | \$ 23,400 |
| (\$108,770 designated income from 2014, grants received in 2015 and reserve funds were used for these capital expenses) | |



In 2015 the Sanctuary suffered a loss of programming income in the amount of \$15,600 due to a 6 month ban of the movement of bird collections by the Ohio Department of Agriculture. This reduced our income generated by programming and reduce our outreach to new members and supporters during this 6 month period. This was the main causes of the Sanctuary operating at a deficit in 2015. The Sanctuary was able to utilize funds from a reserve account to cover operational cost.



The Board and Staff of the Sanctuary appreciate the continued generosity that sustains the organization. The combination of individual donations, in kind donation of services, and donation of various forms of avian diet supplies provides 40% of our operational budget. The dedication of volunteers reduces the staffing cost by 25%. The following individuals regularly devote numerous hours to: mow the trails (Dan Samples & Paul Gosser), repair and maintain the power equipment and do building repairs (Dan, Paul, Angus Barton and Steve Murphy & David Seibold), process mailings (Mitch Boyd), and landscaping (Friends and Flowers Garden Club and New Hope Industries).



NEWSLETTER OF THE OHIO BIRD SANCTUARY

NEWS HAWK

Non-profit
U.S. Postage
PAID
Mansfield,
Ohio
Permit # 114

Or Current Resident

Ohio Bird Sanctuary

3774 Orweiler Road
Mansfield, OH 44903
(419) 884-4295

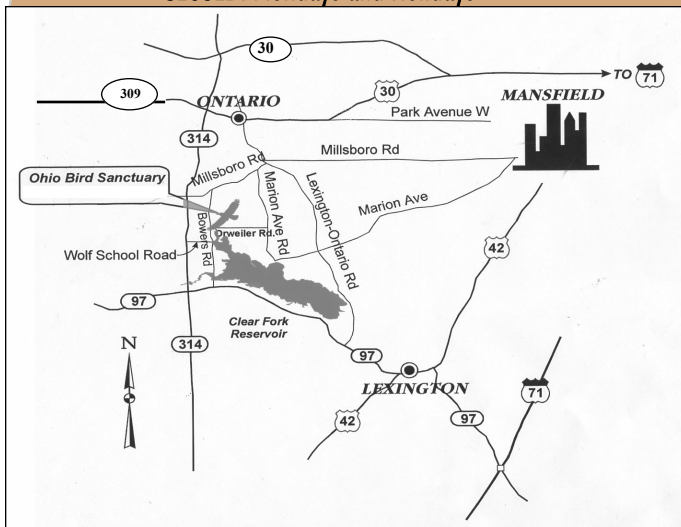
www.OhioBirdSanctuary.com

We are thinning out the mailing list to save postage and trees. If you are not a member or have not made a contribution in the last three years contact the Sanctuary if you wish to continue to receive the newsletter.

OPEN

Tuesday - Saturday 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Sunday (new!) 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM

CLOSED: Mondays and Holidays



For more directions, Please see our Website.

Membership

Your membership supports our programs and the care of the education birds.



Owl \$25

Receive Newsletter and invitations to special events

Hawk \$50

Owl benefits & Mug

Eagle \$100

Owl benefits & T-Shirt

Osprey \$500

Eagle benefits & live-bird presentation



To become a member, please fill out the informational box below and enclose a check to: *Ohio Bird Sanctuary*

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Member of



Earth Share
OF OHIO