

# 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

## THE YEAR IN REVIEW



This was a transitional year! First and foremost, the *Spreading our Wings* Capital Campaign reached the goal of \$3,000,000 in pledges, grants, and in-kind donations. In 2022, we were able to complete our immediate needs of replacing the roof on the Taylor Education Center Building and paving the driveway and parking lot. Trail map kiosks were added to the trails and medical equipment and supplies were purchased to improve the inhouse care we provide our avian patients.

### IN MEMORY OF TOM WITKOWSKI

This year had its hardships as we grieved the loss of longtime board member and friend, **Thomas Witkowski**. Tom was well known for his love of the outdoors, his passion for scouting, and professional leadership skills. He had been involved with the Sanctuary since its inception and served as the President of the Board through the Strategic Planning process that led to the building of our accessible Treehouse Classroom. Every where you look, Tom has left his mark on the Sanctuary. He influenced the building of the songbird aviary, octagon flight cage, and the Treehouse Classroom. He was truly a dear friend to the Sanctuary.



### PROGRAMS

Memorial Day through Labor Day the Sanctuary presented programs on Saturdays in the Treehouse Classroom. Elliott, the Black Vulture, soared in to show off his impressive wing span and one of our owls or falcons would also be spotlighted in these "Feather Friend Encounters." We plan to host these programs again this summer and expand the Treehouse experiences to include public open hours with a naturalist.

Looking forward to 2023, we are excited about our expansion projects that will enhance our visitor's experience, quality of bird care, and management of the nature preserve. More details about our plans for the Capital Campaign Projects are on the following pages.

We look forward to the seeing you at the Sanctuary!  
**Gail Laux, Founder**



# OHIO BIRD SANCTUARY



*Dear Friends,*

*I am pleased to announce that we have hired Julie Schwartz as our new Executive Director. Many years of planning by the Board and myself have gone into this process, and we are excited to finally be at this point.*

*Julie has been involved with the Sanctuary since 2016 as a naturalist and as a past board member. Julie not only has an immense passion for the Sanctuary and its mission, but also has the professional and personal attributes to lead the Sanctuary and impact its growth. She holds Bachelors Degrees in Biology and Education from the University of Toledo and a Masters Degree in Educational Leadership from The Ohio State University. She started her career as a Biology teacher and then Assistant Principal in Ashland City Schools. Following her passion for connecting young people with nature, she joined the staff at the Ohio Bird Sanctuary as a Teaching Naturalist and Youth Programming Coordinator from 2016-2018.*



*Julie & Soran the Barn Owl*

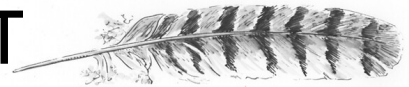
*For the last 5 years, Julie has continued to spread her passion for nature and further develop her skills in nonprofit management as the Head of School at Discovery School.*

*I am looking forward to bringing Julie onboard this summer and working with her and the staff in my new role. The position of the Executive Director has grown larger than what one person can do. Julie will fill the role of a powerful and skilled administrator that the organization needs. I, as the Founder, will oversee the completion of the Capital Campaign projects and continue building the Annual Fund to sustain operations. We are so fortunate to have Julie join our team at OBS, and I look forward to the opportunity to introduce her to all of you!*

*Sincerely,*

*Gail Laux*





The Ohio Bird Sanctuary has the financial goal to create sustainability through three main initiatives: Diversify revenue sources, build and renovate physical infrastructure to serve operation needs, and grow staff to serve current and expanding programming and bird care.

In 2022, we wrapped up the *Spreading Our Wings* Capital Campaign. The funds raised through this three-year campaign will fund the construction of the new Avian Encounter Area, driveway and trail improvements, Visitor Center expansion and renovations, and the establishment of a trust to support the maintenance of the Sanctuary. We also established a new Annual Fund dedicated for support of daily operations.

Please contact Gail Laux, Founder, if you would like more information on how to support the Annual Fund. gaillauxobs@gmail.com or 419-884-4295.

## INCOME

Capital Campaign	\$733,751*
Maintenance Trust	\$309,200*
Programs	\$81,413
General Donations	\$52,964
Annual Fund	\$54,980
Operational Grants	\$45,812
Admission	\$45,087
Membership	\$34,815
Gift Shop Sales	\$31,389
Endowment	\$21,954
Memorial Gifts	\$11,660
Events	\$10,856
Misc. & In-Kind	<u>\$7,977</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,441,858</b>

\* Funds are restricted and not for general operations.



## EXPENCES

Capital Projects	\$388,093
Bird Care	\$138,079
Programming	\$119,756
Capital Campaign	\$95,169
Business/Admin	\$62,355
Programming	\$61,515
Operations	\$58,262
Payroll Taxes	\$29,518
Facilities	\$24,421
Utilities	\$13,795
Gift Shop	\$11,085
Accountant/Audit	\$10,650
Community Collaborations	\$9,270
Investments	\$5,969
Volunteers	\$1,572
Events	<u>\$1,411</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,030,920</b>







# 2022 PROGRAM REPORT

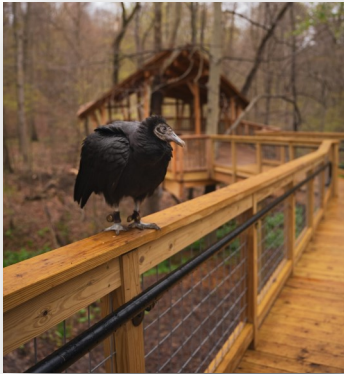
Emily Tackett, Director of Operations

Part of the mission of the Ohio Bird Sanctuary is “to create an environment of learning and interaction with nature that generates within people a desire to be compassionate and good citizens of our natural world.”

We are firm believers that when you see something and learn about it, you will be much more likely to care for it in the future. This is why our programs at the Sanctuary are so important! We want everyone who enjoys a Program from the Ohio Bird Sanctuary (on or off-site), to leave with a greater appreciation for birds and the natural world! Thank you to the many families, groups, organizations, and schools that allowed us to be a part of their year!

## School & Community Outreach

In 2022, 2,481 students experienced outreach programming from OBS in school. This represents over 100 different classes! Over 3,900 people experienced outreach programming in a variety of community settings. The Sanctuary conducted 101 individual outreach programs in settings such as libraries, churches, senior centers, camps, and community events. Bird of Prey Programs were also offered at the Mohican Lodge every Saturday evening from April through November.



## Field Trips & On-Site Programs

Over 2,000 students visited the Ohio Bird Sanctuary for a field trip in 2022! Our Field Trips range from 1.5-3.5 hours and can be individually catered for students preschool through high school. The Sanctuary's Home School Program hosted 25 students each month during the school year, and the Sanctuary's Preschool Program hosted 10 -15 students each month during the school year.

Over 400 individuals visited the Sanctuary for an on-site program such as a Tour or Raptor Up-Close Program. Our new “Easels with Elliott” events were a hit and we are so excited to continue offering these programs in 2023. This year we also added bird of prey presentations in the Treehouse Classroom every Saturday from Memorial Day to Labor Day and a Movie & Game Night for kids in December.

## Nature Camps

Throughout the year, the Ohio Bird Sanctuary offers Nature Camps for children ages 6-12 years old and Preschool Camps for children 4-6 years old. In 2022, this included 3 Winter Camps, 6 Summer Nature Camps, 2 Summer Preschool Camps, and 2 Evening Camps. We also held one week of Nature Camp as a scholarship camp for Richland County students that would benefit from the camp experience. A huge thank you to the Richland County Foundation for providing a Summertime Kids Grant that helped fund this scholarship camp!



## Junior Naturalist Program

The Junior Naturalist Program is made up of students ages 13 to 18 years old who exhibit a strong interest in nature. In 2022, the students were regularly involved at the Sanctuary as volunteers and went on field trips to learn about a variety of environmental topics. During their volunteer shifts, the Junior Naturalists were a huge help in maintaining our gardens and trails! Off-site field trips included a tour of Malabar Farm, volunteering and kayaking at Pleasant Hill Lake, and a camping trip on Kelleys Island.

## Special Events

Our Special Events included: Love Is In the Air (February), Mohican Wildlife Weekend (April), Fall Family Festival (October), and Christmas for the Birds (December). We are grateful for everyone who has continued to support the Sanctuary and make us a part of their seasonal/holiday traditions!







# 2022 Bird Report

Amanda Vanderford, Curator of Birds

2022 was another busy year for our rehabilitation services. Our staff did over 400 intakes of injured, orphaned, and sick birds.



During the year, we were able to acquire additional equipment to better treat and stabilize these patients to improve their chances of survival. A few of these tools included a veterinary laser to treat inflammation and pain, an ocular pen to measure pressure within the eyes, and a blood analyzer to get immediate, in-house results of organ function and hydration status. These tools will help us make more accurate and quicker decisions on treatment improving our humane care and increasing the bird's chances to be returned to the wild.

Although our goal is to get these birds back home to the wild, this can't always happen. That was the case for a few birds this past year. Even though they were not able to be released, they will have a great quality of life in human care, educating people about their species.



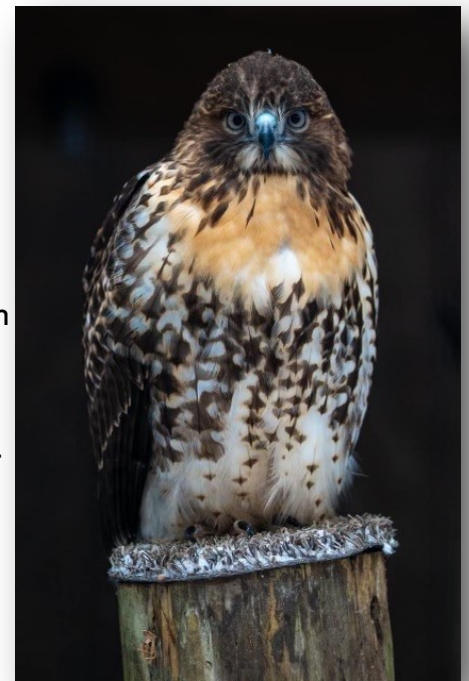
## Meet Maple and Maverick! Two of our newest additions.

Maple is a Barred Owl who was removed from the wild as an owlet and illegally kept as a pet. Although Maple's care takers did have good intentions, she started to recognize humans as her own species and became what we call a "human imprint." When wild animals imprint on a human, they will then turn to them for food and protection. They can also become dangerous once sexually mature as they have no fear of humans. Now that Maple is with us, we have been working very hard with her training. All our birds' training is positively reinforced so Maple can choose to work with us, and then be rewarded when she does!

Maverick is a Red-tailed Hawk who was found on the ground as a nestling. Most of the time, nestling birds just need help getting back into the nest. Fortunately for Maverick, she was brought to the Sanctuary for evaluation where it was determined her wing had been fractured in two places. During Maverick's stay in hospital, she also developed a lung disease called aspergillosis. Many birds are susceptible to this, especially if they are under stress. Maverick spent many days on oxygen in intensive 24/7 care. Although we were able to save her life, she is not releasable because she is a human imprint.

We are honored to have both of these birds join our family to help us on our mission to educate and excite people about birds and their habitats.

Don't forget to check our website's calendar of events for this summer's Treehouse Encounters programs for a chance to meet Maple and Maverick! Our Treehouse Classroom will also have open hours on the weekends this summer for you to enjoy!







# "SPREADING OUR WINGS" PROJECTS

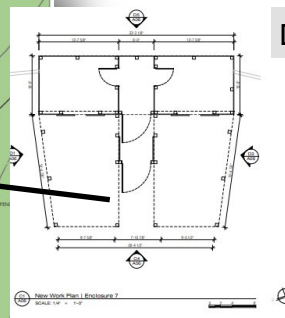
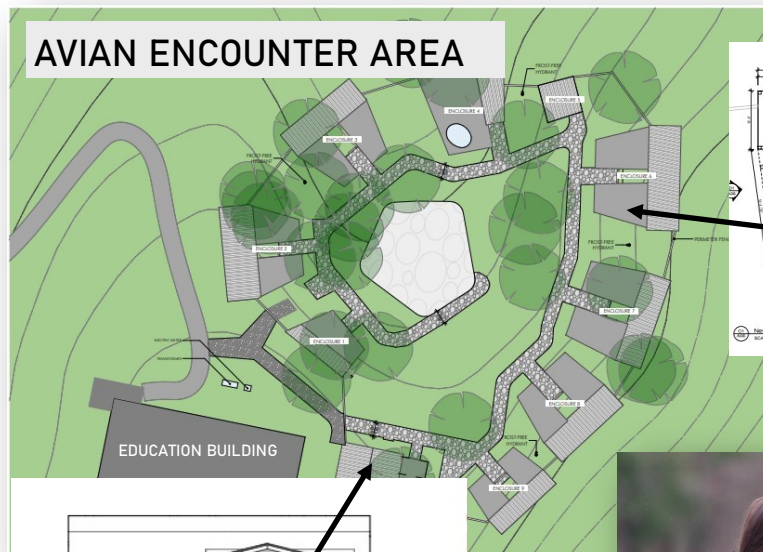
The goal of the Capital Campaign was to raise the funds needed for property improvements, expansions, and to build a trust to support maintenance of the preserve and buildings. We successfully reached the goal, but due to an extreme rise in building costs, we had to adjust our plans. Renovations to the Field Classroom and construction of the marsh boardwalk will be postponed until additional funding is available.

We were able to complete two main projects in 2022. These included the repaving of the drive and parking areas, and replacing the roof on the Taylor Education Center Building. We would like to acknowledge the Leadership Gifts that were received for this phase of the capital improvements from the **Taylor Family Fund of the Ashland County Community Foundation, Alumni Roofing, and Kokosing Foundation.**

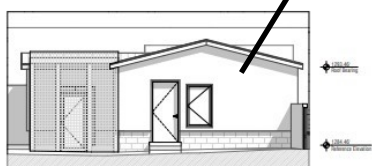
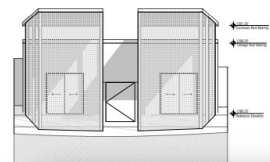


## Plans for 2023

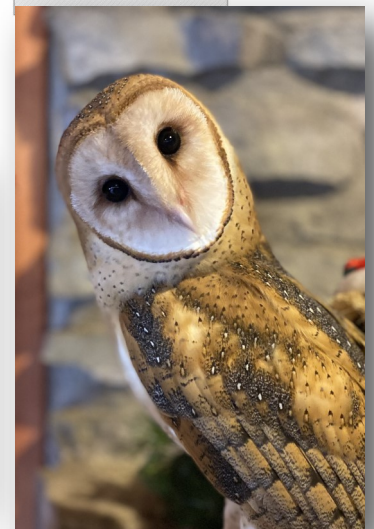
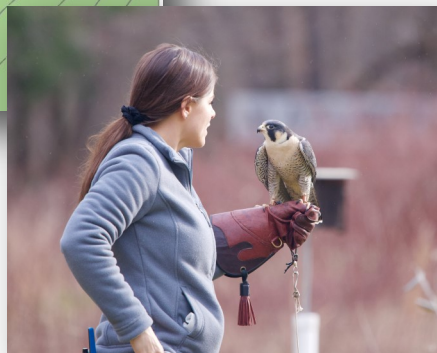
The Capital Campaign Project that will have the greatest impact on the Sanctuary's ability to serve current program needs and expand our visitor experience is the addition of the Avian Encounter Area. This area will house our program birds that reside at the Sanctuary due to a condition that inhibits their release. This new area will be located adjacent to the Taylor Education Center Building and will have a centralized area for programs. Construction on this area will begin this spring. The Leadership Gifts for the Avian Encounter Area were generously provided by: **Leona Miles Fund of the Richland County Foundation, Mary K. Dare, Robert & Esther Black Family Fund of the Richland County Foundation, and Cleveland Cliffs Foundation.**



## DESIGN OF BIRD ENCLOSURES



**BIRD CARE BUILDING**  
Training area, food prep, and storage.

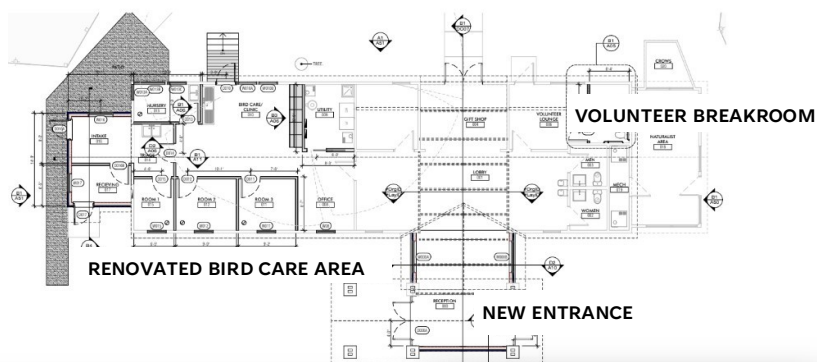
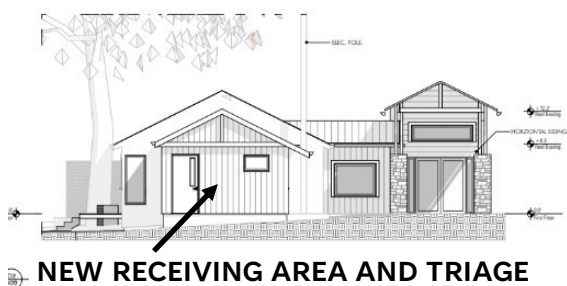




# VISITOR CENTER RENOVATIONS



The projected start date for expansion and renovation of the Visitor Center is November 2023. The entrance to the lobby and bird display area will be enlarged to improve accessibility. The lobby area will also be renovated to expand the gift shop, add a natural display area to house our Screech-Owl, and create a new area dedicated to acknowledging donors. The south end of the building will be expanded to include a new receiving and triage area for our avian rehabilitation services. The existing rehabilitation space will be transformed into a new songbird nursery, treatment area, diagnostics lab, and intensive care unit. The Leadership Gifts for this project were received from: **James & Katherine Fanello, Philip & Dawn Wisdom, Kenneth A. Scott Charitable Trust, and House Bill No. 687 Parks and Recreation Improvement Fund.**



The final phase of the Capital Campaign is the establishment of a trust to provide financial support for annual maintenance of the infrastructure of the Sanctuary. The Leadership Gift for the "Wings Maintenance Fund" was received from: **The Cecil Fund of the Santa Cruz Community Foundation.** This fund will continue to grow through gifts, grants, and planned giving to help sustain the Sanctuary's future.

We will be holding two events to recognize the donors of the *Spreading our Wings* Capital Campaign. The first event will be the ribbon cutting for the new Avian Encounter Area planned for fall of 2023. The second will be at the completion of the Visitor Center and will include a reveal of the new donor recognition area.





# 2022 "Spreading Our Wings" Campaign Gifts

Thank you to the individuals, corporations, and foundations that made gifts to the *Spreading our Wings* Capital Campaign in 2022. Many of the gifts are

## \$300,000 - \$600,000

Cecil Fund of the Community Foundation of Santa Cruz County  
Leona Miles Fund of the Richland County Foundation  
House Bill No. 687—Parks and Recreation Improvement Fund

## \$50,000 - \$100,000

Mary K. Dare  
Robert & Esther Black Family Fund at the Richland County Foundation  
Kristine & Todd Lindeman—Alumni Roofing  
James C. Gorman Fund at the Richland County Foundation



## \$25,000

Annie & Juanita Carter  
Carl & Anna Marie Fernyak  
Kenneth A. Scott Charitable Trust  
Kokosing Foundation

## \$1,000 - \$3,000

Miller Advised Fund at the Richland County Foundation  
Sandi Arnold  
Aubrey Bates  
Judy & Loyal Bemiller  
Zak & Abby Bramlage  
Cheryl Callis  
Mike & Linda Chambers  
Brenda Doner  
Eberts Heating & Cooling  
The Milton R. and Beulah M. Young Foundation  
William Hurdle  
Antonie & Karen Marallo  
Jeanne and Gunter Meisse  
Grace Meister  
Dick & Salli Rohm

## \$5,000 - \$10,000

Margaret Black  
Preston & Amberly Boyd  
John & Katherine Fernyak  
Nick & Sally Gesouras  
Chriss & John Harris  
Hessenauer Charitable Trust  
Edith & Joseph\* Humphrey  
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers  
Alex & Amanda Kulka  
Roby Family  
Jane H. Wingerd

\* DECEASED

## \$10 - \$500

Richard Adair  
Charles Adair  
Linda Albert  
Frank Ardis  
Bette Backus  
Bruce Barrett  
Ken Berger  
Neil & Renate Bernstein  
Robert & Brenda Brandenburg  
Linda Brogan  
Robert Buskey  
Phil Chatman  
Nick Childs  
Donnie Clark  
Irene Cooperrider  
Jenny Crose  
Blessed to Give Fund  
Richland County Foundation

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Erich Diener  
Darryl and Cynthia Drotleff  
Mark Ellis  
Janet & Bill Ellsworth  
Wendy Ensor  
Marsha Farrell  
Linda Gooden  
Mike & Cheryl Gurski  
Frederick Harings  
Pam Hartley  
James Henson  
Will and Mary\* Hockersmith  
Ed Holmes  
Emma Horan  
Beth Sellers Johnson  
Harold & Norma Kahl  
John Kastelic

Jackie Koch  
Betty Korol  
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Richard Markley  
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Patricia McGinty  
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Martin Moritz  
Martha Mortland  
Mike & Stephanie Mulherin

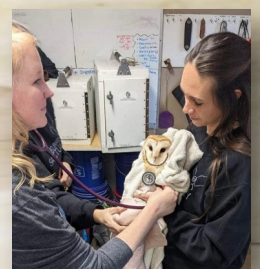
Richard Otto  
Bette Overmier  
Dalton & Julie Paul  
Sheila Pifer  
Peter Pollack  
Jeff Price  
Tim Puet  
Pamela Ransom  
Garrick Reece  
Jane Reeves  
Peter Roberts  
Dan Robertson  
Ted & Heidi Sazdanoff  
Julie & Brad Schwartz  
Carol Sheldon  
Jotika Shetty  
David E. Siebold

Tobie Smith  
Pam Steinbach  
Richard Stoffer  
Carolyn Stoner  
Gary Stroup  
Charles Wagner  
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Travis Weber  
Marilyn Weiler  
Sue Weirick  
Thomas Wells  
John Welsh  
Sherry White  
Kathy Wilkinson  
George Williams  
Lynn Wilson  
Kristen Wiltanger  
Nancy Witkowski



# 2022 GENERAL DONATIONS

Thank you to all the individuals and corporations who supported the Sanctuary's mission through a donation of a monetary gift, Wish List items, workplace giving, and by providing professional in-kind services. Your gifts provided the necessary resources to care for our 90 acre preserve and supported the care of our Avian Ambassadors who are the foundation of our educational programming.



Courtney Aguiar  
Lyndsey Anderson  
Julie Arter  
Steve Arvai  
Pat Backus  
Dawn Baker  
Robin Barrett  
Joshua Bates  
Alice Baughman  
Barbara Bechtler  
Jeffrey Bennington  
Mary Bing  
Sherry Bjerke  
Jason Black  
Tina Black  
Candy Bores  
Raphael Bostic  
Jean Bowden  
Trey Boyd  
Mitch Boyd  
Tom Boyd  
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Tracy Bright  
Elizabeth Brooks  
Helen Brown  
Lynn Burkhardt  
Cheryl Callis  
Sarah Cleland  
Kathy & Kip Cole  
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Anastiya Costello  
Leslie Cowen  
Kevin Craig  
Jennifer Crawl  
Judith Daso  
Maureen David  
Marcia Davis  
Rean Davis  
Glynis Denney  
Chantal DeYoe  
Fred DiDonato

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Kerry Dlugosz  
Debra Dombrowski  
Karen Dragish  
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Emily Egan  
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Lorrie Hylkema  
Kristin Ibos  
Andrew Inscore  
Luke Jabara  
Carla Treece Jackson  
Jennifer Jacobs  
Alexander Jensen  
Edith Jensen  
Beth Sellers Johnson  
Kelly Johnson  
Harold & Norma Kahl  
Thomas Kanasz  
Jarod Kapoetry  
Katie Karas  
Athene Karis  
Mary Klenkar  
Sharon Knecht  
Shane Kniceley  
Glenn Knorr  
Cathy Knox  
Sankalp Kota  
Melissa Kuhn  
Denise Laible

JoEllen Landman  
Carrie Lardinais  
Kirk Larson  
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Carrie Levering-Smith  
Christopher Ley  
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Natalie Malone  
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Dixie Mehock  
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Tim Ockuly  
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Juliana Runyon  
Colony Rush  
Jill Ryan  
Carol Salo  
Nancy Saxon  
Ted & Heidi Sazdanoff

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Jeremy Smith  
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Jessica Steele  
Karen Steele  
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Lisa Taunt  
Mike Thomas

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Carolyn Toth  
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Kathy Wallace  
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Tom Wappner  
Kristine Warne  
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Gisela Watkinson  
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Weberling Family  
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Cory & Tiffany Wells  
Sharon Wells  
Parker West  
Sabrina Wetzel  
Anthony Wheaton  
Dennis & Robin White  
Sherry White  
Sarah Wiggins  
Kathy Wilkinson  
Erica Willer  
George Williams  
Joe Williamson  
Carl Winstead  
Amanda Wolfe  
Woody Woodrow  
Jamie Woodward  
Aleta & Dan Yates  
Janet Yockey  
Leah Yoder  
Beth Zamora  
Jenni Zepnick  
Joe Zemancik  
Dale Ziemianski

Fredericktown Veterinary Hospital  
Lilac Hill Veterinary Hospital  
Elks Education & Civic Fund  
Russell & Mary Gimbel Foundation

Natures Nursery  
Nationwide Associates  
Bellville Lions Club  
Destination Mansfield





# ANNUAL APPEAL

Donations to the Annual Appeal provide camp scholarships, supports our Junior Naturalist program, purchases bird care supplies, and supports general operations.



Joyce Adair  
Dorothy and Tom Adamecu  
Nanci Alexander  
Sharon R. Ault  
Ernie Bandy  
David Barnes  
Barbara Bechtler  
Mark Kroger & Belinda Bogner  
Glenn Bennet

Tom & Sarah Fruendlich  
Cindy Fry  
Tammy Gabrelchik  
Nick Gesouras  
Bill Gilbert  
Michele Gingerich  
Rick Gunder  
Marianne Hamilton  
Dolly Harding

Lilac Hill Veterinary  
Ruth Ann Lindsey  
Cathy Massengill  
Ramona and Jim Matthes  
Brandon McCall  
Barb McCammon  
Jammi McCleard  
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Chris Mcquillen  
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Jim Pabst  
Karen Palmer  
Jason Parker  
Becky Payne  
Cynthia Phelps  
Sue Phallen  
Carolyn Pierson  
Sheila Pifer  
Michael Pikosz  
Laszlo Pirooska  
Doug Pretorius  
Tim Puet  
Sharon Rebmann  
Aaron Reinhart  
Christine Rigerman  
Theresa Rousculp  
Krista Schmidt  
John Scott  
Bipin Shah

Nelson Shogren  
Theresa & David Siebold  
Irv Simon  
Sally Simpson  
Tom Skinner  
Becki Smith  
Tobie Smith  
Penny Smith  
Patricia Snook  
Rob Snyder  
Pam Steinbach  
Robert Steinman



Ken Berger  
Renate Bernstein  
Rhonda & Dennis Berry  
Nancy Bletner  
Robert & Brenda Brandenburg  
Tracy Bright  
Mark Burson  
Robert Buskey  
Beth Butts  
Barbara Cinadr  
Peggy Clarke  
Fredericktown Vet Clinic  
Mary Cochran  
Sam Costello  
Jenny Crose  
Koke and Cheryl Cummins  
Nancie Cummins  
Alana Czerwien  
Dalton Derr  
Erich Diener  
Janet & Bill Ellsworth  
Charles Evans  
Marilyn Evenson  
Marsha Farrell  
Debbie Fisher  
Gorman Family Foundation  
Kurt Freeman  
Hazel Freeman

Smith Hardware  
Pam Hartley  
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Randy Hinkle  
Will and Mary\* Hockersmith  
Sandra Homer  
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Kathy Jones  
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# GIVING TUESDAY



In November 2022, the Sanctuary joined its peer non-profit organizations to encourage individuals to support our missions through Giving Tuesday. The Richland County Foundation supported this initiative by providing all organizations an online giving platform and by providing prize money for reaching fund-raising goals. Thank you to the following donors that participated in Richland Gives and helped us win \$4,250 in prize money!

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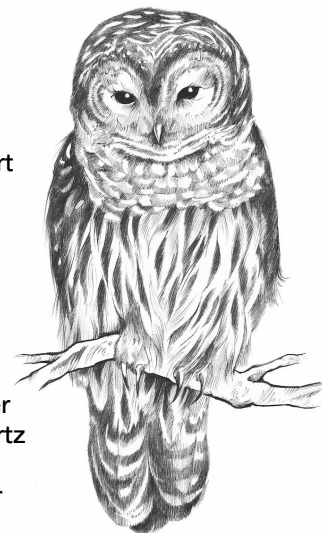


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Alysha Applegate  
Venessa Arnett  
Trudy Baker  
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Kelly Battistone  
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3774 Orweiler Road  
Mansfield, OH 44903

# NEWS HAWK



**Non-profit  
U.S. Postage**

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**Mansfield, OH  
Permit # 114**

Or current resident

## Visitor Center and Trail Hours

Tuesday-Saturday 10 am - 4 pm Sunday 12 - 4 pm  
Closed Monday and Holidays

### Admission

\$5/Adult \$3/Child (3-15 years old) & Military/Veteran  
Members are Free

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# KEEP US FLYING!

*There are so many ways you can be a part of our mission!*

*Become a Member... Become a Volunteer...*

*Make a Donation to support bird care or the Wings Maintenance Fund.*

## MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

### Owl - \$25 (Individual)

Free admission for one individual.

### Hawk - \$50 (Family)

Free admission for one household.

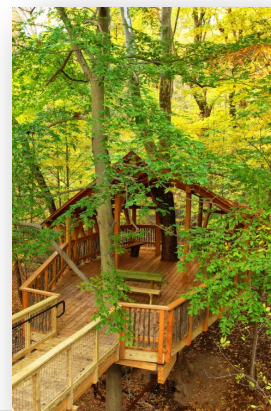
### Falcon - \$100 (Family & Friends)

Hawk level benefits plus free admission for 4 guests and a \$10 Gift card.

### Eagle - \$500 (Supporter)

Hawk level benefits plus free admission for 8 guests, a \$25 Gift card, and a tour.

*All members receive discounts and early notification on special events.*



**A gift to the *Wings Maintenance Fund* supports the management and care of the preserve and grounds.**

**A gift to the General Fund supports daily operations and the care of the birds.**

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