

A Brief History of Quarrying in the Glen

by Bob Parker

Glen Helen in Yellow Springs has been blessed with extensive limestone deposits, which have been commercially exploited from the years of early settlement until the third and fourth decades of the 1900s. Early quarries provided stone for construction and building in the area probably including early hotel and college foundations, and processed lime for both agricultural and construction uses.

The earliest reference to a quarry in the Glen appears in an 1842 hand-drawn map with its location sited on the "Neff Lands." This stone quarry was located in the extreme northwest corner of the Glen below the present Caboose Park, with extension along the cliffs to the south nearly to the Glen Helen Building. Another large and extensive deep quarry owned by W. Sroufe was located across from the college grounds and a number of lime kilns fired by wood were constructed above the quarry to burn the lime to allow for construction and agriculture usage. These kilns were located across the railroad tracks from Antioch in the current Glen Helen parking lot.

The coming of the railroad made possible an even larger utilization of the limestone resources through increased customer sales across a vastly larger area. In 1874 W. Sroufe reported production of 30,000 bushels of lime and 500 perches (measures) of building stone. The lime was sold for \$55.00 a carload and the average price of building stone was \$1.75 a perch. The Antioch power plant is now located in this quarry. A Mr. Ervin, who had large limestone quarries in Cedarville, purchased this quarry and extended it south along Corry St.

A third major quarry was located at the southwest corner of the Glen, at Corry Street and Grinnell Rd., along the current bike path (old railroad). This quarry is labeled a "stone



The lime quarry in the Glen in 1912, looking south from the site of the current Glen Helen Building.

quarry" on early maps, and was another source of building stone for the local area. This quarry also provided processed lime for use in agriculture and construction (an 1855 map shows a lime kiln across Corry Street from the quarry). Today several support structures from the operation of this quarry are still visible in Glen Helen across the bike path from the Women's Park.

Morton Grinnell had a calcium carbonate mine, which was located across from the Grinnell Mill just below John Bryan Road at the rear of the two houses now located on Grinnell Road. According to earlier residents, this material was processed by that mill and probably used in agricultural pursuits. It was at this site that a dynamite blast in 1924 uncovered what were believed to be two Neolithic skeletons – the first evidence of such early inhabitants ever found here.

In the 1940s and the '50s there was a large quarry providing sand and gravel to the college and Glen for their needs in road repair and reconstruction. The location of the

quarry off the fire road beyond the Outdoor Education Center caused problems. Trucks and tractors had to come from the Clifton Road past Outdoor Education Center buildings to arrive there. This traffic was damaging to the roads and trails and interfered with camp programs; additionally the quarrying operation exposed large banks of sand and gravel to the elements, resulting in erosion and pollution.

The author of this article was present in 1957 when Glen Director Ken Hunt indicated his plans to close the quarry and plant crown vetch on the exposed banks to control the erosion and repopulate the slopes. He reassured those who protested at the use of this invasive plant that it would not survive when the new forest canopy placed the vetch in deep shade. Ken knew what he was talking about; the quarry banks were stabilized, the forest recovered, and there is not a trace of crown vetch to be found there some 45 years later!

Director's Letter



Bob Whyte

This past February I was invited back to Miami University to participate in a day-long workshop – The Many Dimensions of the Environmental Professional (three panels highlighting environmental science careers and the professionals who make a difference) – hosted by the Institute for Environmental Sciences (IES). The workshop was unique in that all of the participating guests were graduates of the IES program. As IES alumni we discussed our work in three fields in which environmental professionals make a real difference in protecting and conserving our natural resources: environmental education, watershed management and coordination, and Biological Conservation.

It was a wonderful opportunity to meet with old friends and see where they were at in their professional lives. The workshop was attended by faculty, current IES program students as well as students from throughout the University. As a group we (IES alumni) spanned the past four decades (time of graduation) and presented some unique perspectives, professionally and personally. For me it was a time to reflect upon the effect the IES faculty and program had on shaping my professional life, then and now. For the first time I had a chance to publicly thank some of these extraordinary people.

But perhaps more revealing were the parallels I began to draw from my past IES experiences and the opportunity the Glen Helen Ecology Institute staff and I now have to affect the lives of so many; the more than 3,000 school-children who participate in the Glen environmental education programs annually, the Outdoor Education Center interns who work incredibly hard, Antioch College students, the dedicated volunteers, and the many others who come to enjoy the Glen and whose lives are touched by Glen Helen.

If you go back and review some of the past Glen newsletters you will find a number of articles about how the Glen has shaped the lives of those who have worked here. As I drove home that day from Oxford, I realized what a unique treasure these people were and are still to the Glen. And that it would be wonderful to try and contact them. What are

their stories? What are they doing today and how has their Glen Helen experience contributed to their life?

So I will start here and ask, if you are reading this letter, please contact me; tell me your story or just say hello. I would love to begin a database, perhaps an online source where you may contribute directly. Please let me know your thoughts; we would all love to hear from you. Thank you to all who have contributed to Glen Helen over its many years, and to all who continue to help shape Glen Helen's future.

– Bob Whyte

Walk 100 for the Glen

It is not too late to start walking 100 Miles for Glen Helen in 2005!

Rather than just walk in the Glen, why not walk for the Glen? Glen Helen Ecology Institute

I walked 100 miles for Glen Helen is sponsoring "Walk 100 miles for the Glen in 2005" to raise money for trail maintenance

and other land management-related activities. Participants are encouraged to walk in the Glen, but all other walking counts too!

Participants are required to pay a \$5 registration fee, with an option to provide further support through sponsors that may donate on a per-mile basis or a fixed amount upon completion of the 100 miles. Glen Helen Ecology Institute will provide participants with a log book to record their mileage and will send monthly updates about guided hikes in the Glen. A great way to help the Glen and get healthy too!

Guided Nature Hikes

Thursday Wildflower ID Walks: Learn your wildflowers!

Each walk will provide a new opportunity to see and learn the variety of wildflowers that grow in Glen Helen. Meet at the Trailside Museum at 10am. April 7, 14, 21, 28, May 5, 12.

Saturday Wildflower Hikes: See the Glen come to life!

You will see the awakening of Glen Helen, and learn your wildflowers too, on this series of morning wildflower walks. Meet at the Trailside Museum at 10am. April 9, 23, May 7, 21.

Medallion Hikes: Hike for the health of it!

Medallion Hikes are designed for people who want to experience the beauty of Glen Helen while

getting some exercise too.

These 3.5-hour or 5-mile hikes will wind you around the Glen's trails, through the forests, across fields, and over the scenic waterways. You will learn the trails and get to know many of the beautiful features of the Glen.

Vernal Equinox Hike: March 19 (Sat) 1pm, meet at Trailside Museum

Signs of Spring Hike: Apr. 17 (Sat) 9am, meet at Trailside Museum

Spring Birding Hike: May 15 (Sun) 1pm, meet at Trailside Museum

Summer Solstice Hike: June 26 (Sun) 10am, meet at Trailside Museum

Volunteer Opportunities

The Glen Helen Nature Shop is always in need of friendly people that want to help the Glen. Nature Shop volunteers greet visitors, ring up sales, direct phone calls, and interact with staff and other volunteers. Call Beth at 937-769-1907 if you are interested in learning more about this volunteer opportunity.

Now that the weather is getting warmer, we should soon hear the trilling of toads – a sure sign that spring is here, and the time to start the frog and toad survey. Glen Helen is proud to be a part of the Ohio Frog Call Survey for the Yellow Springs area. The survey will be conducted on the third Wednesday of each month, April-June, when evening temperatures stay above 50 degrees. You will learn how to identify the different calls of frogs and toads in our area. I am looking for two-five volunteers that will help with this survey. If you are interested in participating, please call Beth Krisko at 937-769-1907.

2005 Volunteer Recognition Banquet

Volunteers, please join us on Saturday, April 30 at 11:15am at the Glen Helen Building to celebrate YOU and other Glen Helen volun-

In the Glen

is published quarterly for donors, environmental educators, Glen Helen Association members, and other friends of the Glen Helen Ecology Institute. Send comments and suggestions to *In The Glen*, 405 Corry Street, Yellow Springs, OH 45387.

Editor: Bob Whyte

Contributors: Bob Whyte, Beth Krisko, Ann Shaw, Susan Kamins, Betty Ross

Design: Bob Bingenheimer



teers. In appreciation of your dedication and effort, and of the time you have donated to Glen Helen, we would like to invite you to a Volunteer Recognition Banquet.

The Glen Helen staff realizes the importance of volunteers and the integral role they play in preserving and maintaining Glen Helen. This is an opportunity to show our thanks. Join staff and other volunteers for an exciting afternoon! The fun begins with a program by educators at the Columbus Zoo, featuring several of Jack Hanna's animal friends. You will be introduced to the animals' life histories, and conservation efforts.

After the program, it is time to eat lunch and socialize with staff members and other volunteers. We will also recap volunteer efforts of the past two years. Please feel free to bring your family, friends, and prospective Glen volunteers.

RSVP to the volunteer who answers the phone at the Glen Helen Building (769-1902) by April 1. We look forward to seeing you!

GHEI Lecture Series

When? Fourth Wednesday of the month at 7pm. Where? The Glen Helen Building Auditorium (no parking charge)

March 23 A Visit to the Italian Alps (Flavio Sutti)

Italian native and Glen Helen Raptor Center Assistant will share the beauty and wonders of his home. Discover the natural history of the Valtellina Valley in the central Italian Alps. You will learn about animals, plants, geology, and the human culture as well.

April 27 Tramping and Touring in New Zealand – 2004 (Rubin Battino)

Journey to breathtaking New Zealand! Through photographs that span six tramping trips you will experience its beauty and grandeur, learn about its local culture, and discover its unique ecology. THIS TALK BEGINS AT 8PM.

May 25 Container Gardening (Nikol Marsh)

Gardening in containers offers flexibility for people with limited garden space or little time for gardening. Containers provide splashes of color throughout the yard, and can be planted with flowers, herbs, or veggies! Learn techniques that will allow you to become a successful container gardener!

June 22 Woody Plants of Glen Helen (Beth Krisko)

Learn about the woody plants of Glen Helen and how they are distributed across the landscape. You will visit the Glen from North to South, and come away with a new understanding about Glen Helen's diverse habitats and plant communities.

Call Beth Krisko at 769-1907 for information on lectures.

Outdoor Education Center

Greetings from the OEC

Spring is on its way! We had an entire week sans precipitation with plenty of sunshine on the trail – a very welcome development. Naturalists and students alike are enjoying the turn of the season as wildflowers begin to bloom, birds wake us up with song and the painted turtles emerge from their winter's sleep.

We want to thank everyone who participated/will participate in Winter/Spring Term training: Dr. Jane Brown, Miami Township Fire & Rescue, Antioch Admissions, Scott Sanders, Prof. Emeritus Bob Parker, Jessica Bilecki, Lisa Freeman, Springfield Heritage Museum, Prof. Peter Townsend, Boonshoft Museum of Discovery, Sunwatch, Jim O'Neil, Prof. Colette Palamar, Becky O'Brien, Aullwood Audubon Nature Center, Brukner Nature Center, Peggy Harris, Sarah Hippensteel, and anyone else we recruit this spring – many thanks to you all!

This is a great time to be in the Glen. We have a wonderful staff this term, who are by now well versed in their material and enjoying their students immensely. Some of the Naturalists you may encounter on the trails as we move into the busiest time of year here at SchoolCamp are profiled below.

Top row, left to right: Matthew Geheran, Erica Field, Andrea Meadows, Amanda Gladics, Alek Duntun, Elizabeth Stewart, Emily Martin, Jay Bartling, Ryan Cook, Adam Wersan. Bottom row, left to right: Catriona Souter, Larissa Lasselle, Flavio Sutti, Susanna Paterson



Naturalist Interns

Andrea Meadows grew up in Colorado and later went to college in Oregon at Willamette University, majoring in Environmental Science. She enjoys botany, emergency medicine, backpacking, skiing, and art. In the summers she works as a whitewater rafting guide.

Elizabeth Stewart grew up in the Ozarks of Northwest Arkansas. She went to the University of California in Berkeley, spent a year on study abroad in New Zealand, and graduated with a B.S. in Conservation and Resource studies in May 2002. Since then she has done two years of Americorps service – the first with the Student Conservation Association in the Adirondacks of New York, doing environmental education and community service in the winter and conservation work on the trails in the spring and summer, and the second with the Marin Conservation Corps in Marin County, California, doing a range of community outreach, service, and environmental education. She loves art, the outdoors, traveling and, of course, working with kids.

Emily Martin only visited Yellow Springs for the first time this winter although she grew up in nearby Cincinnati. The woods here at the Glen are very similar to those that she explored and appreciated as a child. Now she is taking a leave of absence from Boston University where she continues to study nature in an Environmental Science degree program. With twelve years of background in Montessori grade schools, working as an experiential outdoor educator is a natural and exciting union of her past and present learning experiences.

Jay Bartling is a twenty-nine-year-old intern from Springfield, Ohio. He is a senior at Eastern Kentucky University majoring in Outdoor Recreation and Resource Management. He will receive a Bachelor of Science degree in May of 2005 and will pursue his Masters Degree later in the fall. He really enjoys being outdoors and working with children of all ages. He hopes to one day work at the state level in Recreation Administration. He enjoys playing guitar, hiking, fishing, and camping in his spare time.

Larissa Lasselle is at present finishing up a B.S. in Environmental Science at Antioch College. Antioch has enabled her to participate in a variety of research projects. Larissa has not been able to work with children as much as she would like, but plans to pursue a M.A. in education. Aside from school, Larissa enjoys swimming, running, hiking, camping, writing, reading and spending time with friends.

Alek Dunton is currently in his last term at Antioch College as an Environmental Science major. He has worked for the Forest Service in the Pacific Northwest and worked and studied for two terms in Brazil. This term Alek hopes to include students in his senior project, an assessment of the water quality in Glen Helen.

Ryan Cook is from Akron Ohio. He received his B.S. in Biology from the University of Dayton in 2004. He is really excited about this upcoming term; he hopes to teach his kids many new things and he hopes he can learn from them as well!

Catriona Souter is from the U.K. and has resided in Scotland, Aberdeen. She attended Aberdeen University and studied Animal Ecology. After graduating in 2003, she went to New Zealand for ten months, and her favorite animal is an Orca whale. She is thinking about becoming involved in outdoor education as a career when she returns to Britain!

Amanda Gladics grew up in Portland, Oregon, spending most of her time exploring the forests and streams of the area or curling up in one of the neighborhood coffee shops. After high school she traveled to the mountains of southern California to work as a team building and ropes course facilitator and outdoor education instructor in Julian, California. She returned to Portland to study at Reed College and, after two semesters, embarked upon a study abroad program that delved into global ecology in England, Tanzania, India, New Zealand and Mexico, studying environmental policy issues and exploring the effects of globalization on indigenous peoples around the world. She recently spent time working on a homestead. Amanda really enjoys working

with young people, growing, eating and preserving good food, reading essays and spending time outside.

Administrative Interns

Matthew Geheran comes to Ohio from St. Petersburg, Florida, where he worked most recently at a children's shelter. He is interested in helping to facilitate experiences for young people that allow them to express their individual talents while promoting their sense of self-efficacy and value to their community. He believes it a great privilege to have the opportunity to work in the beautiful setting of the Glen Helen OEC. He looks forward to exploring, sharing and learning from this incredible resource and the people it draws forth. He is here this term as the Lead Naturalist and is happy to be back out on the trails.

Erica Field grew up in Northern Michigan where her love for the outdoors began. She attended college at Graceland University in Lomani, Iowa, and graduated in May, 2003 with a bachelors degree in international studies. She then spent a year working for Counterpart International in the Bosnia field office. As the NGO Development Advisor, she assisted with various reforestation, agricultural and environmental projects. She is here this term as the Raptor Center Assistant.

Susanna Paterson graduated in May from the University of Virginia with a degree in English literature. She has always loved creative writing, being in the outdoors, and being around children. She has been to the Glen many times over the years, as her parents met here as naturalists years ago. Susanna has worked as a summer preschool teacher and still believes crafts for four-year-olds can't be beat. She most recently finished a position as a counselor at a creative writing camp for high schoolers. Her plan is to begin graduate school next fall and go into Library Science or perhaps Book Arts and bookbinding (if she is impractical!) She enjoys rare books, poetry, antiquing, writing, doing art projects, and catching the sun between trees. She is here this term as the Program Coordinator.

Adam Wersan grew up in Harlem, NYC and has had experience with many various cultures within the city. He has had a wide range of work experiences, from working for doctors and lawyers and managing farmers markets to working at the Columbia University Law School Library. He is currently working towards a degree in nursing (RN) and will be testing for the New York Police Department in February. He has worked at the Glen for a year now and this is his second semester as

an Extension Naturalist. He loves working with kids and looks forward to meeting you and your students.

We'll see you in the Glen!

Sign Up Now for EcoCamps 2005



2004 EcoCampers putting on a skit for parents at the end of their week.

Imagine a summer camp where kids can have fun while learning about the natural world! EcoCamps were created with this in mind. EcoCamp is a quality outdoor experience that features small group sizes, enthusiastic and knowledgeable naturalists that care about child safety, and hands on programs.

By the time EcoCamp begins, naturalists have already completed a rigorous academic environmental education internship while leading SchoolCamp programs. College age or older, our naturalists are selected for their knowledge in the camp's educational focus and their sensitivity, creativity and enthusiasm for working with children.

Campers stay with their naturalist for the duration of camp, and are grouped by age and interests. Campers spend most of their time in theme related activities, but while at camp, kids have the option to take part in large group activities and special events like the Old Fashioned July 4th celebration.

This year, the Glen Helen Outdoor Education Center is having an old fashioned July 4th celebration! Sign your camper up for week 3 EcoCamps and bring the family to the OEC at 3pm on Monday, July 4th for family fun, games and food. Please note: This event is exclusively for families of week 3 campers. Call (937)767-7648 for details.

For a complete listing of camps, schedules, age groups, price guide, and registration forms you can call the Outdoor Education Center at (937)767-7648 and request a free brochure to be sent to your mailing address. Another option is to visit: www.glenhelen.org/e_camps/e_camps.htm

OEC Wish List

The GHEI-OEC would gratefully accept any of the following needed items or services. Please call 937-767-7648, Monday-Friday, 8:30am-4:30pm.

- Compasses
- Nature related books
- Foreign language dictionaries
- Wheelbarrows
- Pioneer and native clothing
- Bicycles for interns
- Craft supplies: beads, yarn, wax/used candles, scissors, staplers, pencils, leather/material scraps, craft feathers, etc.

In Appreciation

Arthur and Lucy Morgan Society

The Glen Helen Ecology Institute greatly appreciates the contributions from the Arthur and Lucy Morgan Society members during fiscal year 2004-2005 (received between July 1, 2004 and June 30, 2005):

Jane Baker
 Roger Cranos
 David and Theresa Gasper
 David and Joan Goodwin
 Jewell and Paul Graham
 Linda Griffith and Scott Kellogg
 Priscilla Janney-Pace
 Ann Lennartz "B"
 Yolande and Berger Mayne
 Lee and Vicki Morgan
 Virginia Paget
 Philip and Esther Rothman
 Tracy Stewart and Steve Holtzman *via the Stewart-Holtzman Fund at the Boston Foundation*
 Cy and Ilse Tebbetts
 Beverly Viemeister

Gifts to the Glen

We also gratefully acknowledge the following for their contribution to the Glen Helen Ecology Institute received between Nov 16, 2004 and March 15, 2005:

Capital Campaign and Endowment

Melvin Fine
 Jewell and Paul Graham
 Margaret Harris

James Swaney *In Memory of Edna Swaney*
 Stephen Wasby

Benefactor

Ken and Peg Champney
 Stanford Friedman

Sponsor

Adler/Zsambok Philanthropic Fund of the JFGD
 Hale and Helen McCown
 Alice McKinney
 Alan Raney and Susan Stiles
 David Sommer

Contributor

James and Mary Agna
 Robert F. Baldwin
 Douglas Barker & Linda Clemens
 Richard Bradley and C. Amy Tovar
 Bruce Bradtmiller and Carol Cottom
 David and Nancy Bull
 Julia Cady
 Ben and Sandra Carlson
 Gertrude Chasens and Oscar Peters
 Suzanne Clauser
 Susan Finster
 Karl Hendrickson and Lori Kuhn
 Mark Meister and Carla Steiger
 Deborah and William Phillips
 William and Barbara Preis Fund
 Jean and Ralph E. Ramey
 Julia H. Summers
 Hardy Trolander
 Ernest Wiedemann

Friend

Jeannette Albee
 Steven and Carol Artley
 James and Patricia Aumann
 Jean Campbell
 Mary Cargan
 Harry and Helen Carter
 Gordon and Mary Chapman
 Heidi and Roy Eastman
 Frederick and Rebecca Hoffs
 George and Anne H. John
 Mr. and Mrs. John Jones
 Marilyn L. Kreider
 Marilyn Logue
 Eric and Pat Lowry
 Eleanor Manire-Gatti
 Robert Clair Miller
 Nina Myatt
 Luther and Mildred Peterson
 Philippe PrevotEAU
 Constance and Robert Rae
 Angus and Anne Randolph
 Beryl and Stephen Schicker
 Donald Story
 Robert and Janet Wakefield

Tributes

Shirley Ark *In Memory of Clyde Wethington*
 Amy and Gregory Bartley *In Honor of David Goodwin*
 Mary Alice Wethington *In Memory of Clyde Wethington*

Community, Corporate and Foundation Partners

Glen Helen Association
 Lexis Nexis
 Suburban Veterinary Clinic, Dr. Paul Stull
 Tom's Market
 U.S. Bancorp Foundation
 WYSO
 Yellow Springs Community Foundation
 Yellow Springs High School, School Forest
 Young's Jersey Dairy
 YSI Foundation Inc.

Gifts-in-Kind

Bob Bingenheimer

Special Thanks from the Raptor Center

Many thanks to Jim Swaney for his very generous donation in memory of Edna Swaney; to Dr. Michael Brown and the staff of Suburban Veterinary Clinic for their assistance; Ron Austing for adoption photos and mats; Raptor Center Assistants Erica Field and Flavio Sutti; our very important food donors; and to the following for their donations:

George and Toshiko Asakawa
 E. G. Brown-Edwards
 Mary Cargan
 Holly DiFlora
 Diane Dubose
 Tom and Betty Finke
 Phil and Maureen Fry
 Bill and Joann Grimpe
 Wayne Gulden and Bette Kelley
 Jim and Cindy Halye
 Pam Harris
 John Hart Jr.
 Wayne Heinfeld
 Kevin Hils
 Howard and Jane Klein
 Stephen Kress
 Eric and Patricia Lowry
 Jean Puzar
 Chuck and Karen Pellerin
 Jerry and Mary Ann Petr *in memory of Edna Swaney*
 William and Deborah Phillips
 Joyce and Louis Przybylowicz
 Don Story

Thank You from the Outdoor Education Center

Miri Nasoff
For Bunk Beds
 Dan and Kathy Beverly
 Joan Wagner Brucker
 Gordon Cowperthwaite
 Joann Hausser
 Eric and Pat Lowry
 Judy McGregor
 Ruth Ricket
 Tom Vernier
 Phyllis Williams
 Carol Yegerlehner

Trailside Museum & Visitor Center

"Can you name three adaptations a black rat snake has that help it survive winter?"

A group of fourth graders listens intently during a review session as Jillian finishes up another snake talk at the Trailside Museum. Their eyes are fixed on Pepper, the resident snake at Trailside, as it calmly moves around Jillian's hands during the talk.

This is only one of many programs at the Trailside Museum. Often, programs are presented by the Trailside Museum Manager, a co-op student from Antioch College. This term, Jillian Andrew has accepted the position as Trailside Manager. She has a good deal of experience working with kids, and enjoys the opportunity to interact with them at the Museum. There are several kid-oriented programs offered to the public at Trailside this term, including reptile feedings on select Saturday mornings at 10, a nature story hour for preschoolers at 1 in the afternoon on Wednesdays, and scheduled hikes almost every week.



Dorenda Watson's triptych at Trailside

New exhibits are getting a lot of attention at the Museum. Dorenda Watson is a renowned artist, known for her sensitive portrayals of nature. She has found inspiration at the Glen for a recent mural. This large triptych has been graciously donated to Glen Helen, and is on display at the Trailside

Museum. Mammals are the theme of a recently installed exhibit. Complete with an interactive computer quiz, kids are encouraged to test their knowledge and have fun as they explore the building blocks of being a mammal. There is also a new library at Trailside with a fantastic view of the Glen; it is a cozy place to watch birds and read about nature.

From January to April, Trailside Museum will be open to the public Monday through Saturday 10 to 4 and Sunday 9 to 3. Come in and explore! Ask about our educational programs and guided hikes. For reservations, please call (937) 767-7798.

Public Trailside Programs

Reptile Feedings

Come to Trailside Museum to learn about snakes and turtles, as we feed our resident reptiles. Great for kids of all ages! Select Saturdays this spring: March 26, April 16, and April 30.

Nature Story Hour for Preschoolers (3-6yrs)

Learn about nature through stories about the natural world. Picture books, puppets, and fun! Parents should plan on staying and enjoying the stories with their child. A short hike may follow on nice weather days. Every Wednesday from 1-2pm at Trailside Museum.

Trailside Hours

Call 937-767-7798 or 937-769-1904.

The Raptor Center



Spring Wildlife Advice

Please be wildlife-wise this spring, and encourage your students, your children and your neighbors to be, also. Leave young animals in the wild so their parents can care for them unless you know for certain that they are orphaned or injured.

Since birds have a poor sense of smell, they will not reject a baby that has been picked up and returned to its nest. If you cannot find or reach the nest, attach a makeshift one to the tree, place the warmed nestling in it, then observe from a distance to see if the parents return. Young mammals that become separated from parents can be replaced where found so the parents can retrieve them.

Some animals, such as rabbits, may leave the nest for long periods, only returning at night to feed the young. Fawns, too, may be left for long periods, but this does not mean they have been abandoned. Remember, also, that most young birds and mammals leave their nests before they are able to care for themselves. Parents remain nearby to feed and protect them. It is important to keep dogs, cats, and people away from them to give the parents a chance!

When you do need help, or hear of others that do, call for advice. We have room for all birds of prey and can help you find assistance for other animals. We will do our best to reunite the young with wild parents. You can help by letting us know the location of active raptor nests and young in case we need foster nest sites.

You can also help by making your yard "wildlife-friendly" if you landscape and plant with wildlife in mind. Check before you mow, trim limbs, or cut down trees, so homes are not destroyed. Save time and energy by reducing the size of your lawn. Let part "go wild" with grasses, brush piles, logs, and snags. Contact the National Wildlife Federation or Division of Wildlife for tips and to get your backyard or schoolyard certified as a wildlife habitat.

Year-End Review 2004

The main focus of the Raptor Center continues to be education. Our birds played a part in more than 500 programs this past year reaching over 12,000 people. Raptor Center Staff presented 55 programs and tours at the Center and another 65 programs through outreach efforts. Outdoor Education Center naturalist interns and extension naturalists presented over 400 programs involving raptors. In addition an estimated 20,000 people visited the Raptor Center on their own to learn about Ohio's birds of prey from the interpretive signs and the Center's permanent residents.

Wildlife rehabilitation, specifically of birds of prey, is another important role of the Raptor Center. Two hundred and four raptors of fourteen species were admitted for rehabilitation: 44 eastern screech-owls, 44 American kestrels, 43 red-tailed hawks, 19 great horned owls, 17 Cooper's hawks, 13 barred owls, 6 barn owls, 6 turkey vultures, 4 red-shouldered hawks, 3 peregrine falcons, 2 saw-whet owls, 1 osprey, 1 sharp-shinned hawk, and 1 long-eared owl.

Although there were a number of species admitted this year, kestrels, screech-owls, red-tails, great horned owls, and Cooper's hawks accounted for 80 percent of the arrivals. Anything different from the common five was an oddity. Half the arrivals were first-year birds, nestlings or fledglings in unsafe circumstances, or those that got into trouble shortly after getting on their own. A third of them were injured in some kind of collision, usually with vehicles or windows. Almost 60 percent of



Foster nest sites may be needed in the spring for great horned owls like these.

them were released back to the wild.

Our rehabilitation efforts provided a significant service to the public as well as to wildlife. In addition, Raptor Center Staff once again participated in the peregrine patrol in Dayton, and continued to play a major role in statewide wildlife education and rehabilitation efforts through OWRA, the Ohio Wildlife Rehabilitators Association.

Our Adoption Program

The adoption fee is \$75 per year; a photo and certificate will be sent, and a sign will be placed at the bird's cage. You may also request a visit with your bird to a school, scout pack, club, office, or home. The money helps to support not only the adopted bird, but all the birds that come into the Raptor Center needing help. An adoption is a wonderful way for a group to help the Raptor Center, or makes a unique anniversary, birthday, holiday, or memorial gift for someone special.



All kids visiting the OEC are treated to a bird talk.

Thank you for these renewals:

- Joan Barton
- John and Carol Belhorn, Dick and Cathie Pruden
- Brecha/Seidl Family
- Jake Chappars
- Debbie Cushman and Bob Kozmar
- Rick and Mary Donahoe
- Dewey Grandchildren
- Greg and Lorena Helentjaris
- Erik and Heather Jensen, Connor and Megan Betts
- Laura Kearns
- Miami Valley Bird Club (2 birds)
- Miami Valley Outdoor Club (2 birds)
- Katherine Pardue
- In memory of Mr. and Mrs. J. Stanley Pease
- Amanda Perryman
- Clarice Perryman
- Shirley Perryman
- Prass Elementary Fourth Graders
- Katherine Ryllien
- Soehner Family
- Watts Middle School

Welcome to our adoption family:

- Shawn and Sherry Mohler
- Heather Saunier
- Soren Swanholm
- Cy Tebbetts
- Warder Park Wayne School

Upcoming Events

Earth Day Program and Release: Sunday, April 24, 2pm at the Raptor Center

Tour the Center and meet our staff and education birds, and watch a red-tailed hawk released for a second chance at life in the wild.

Raptor Camp: June 20-24 at the OEC

This is a summer EcoCamp offering for kids 11-13 years old who are especially interested in wildlife. Although the special focus is on birds of prey, campers will search for all kinds of animals in the Glen. Campers will also help care for the Raptor Center's permanent residents and learn about wildlife rehabilitation. Trips will be made to see Dayton's peregrines and other local birding sites.

Falcon Program and Release: Thursday, June 23, 1:30pm at the OEC Meadow

Young American kestrels will be released for EcoCampers. You are invited to join us and to visit the Raptor Center afterwards with Raptor Campers as your tour guides.

Owl Program and Release: Thursday, July 14, 8pm at the Horace Mann Meadow off Bryan Park Road near John Bryan State Park

This program will feature owls of the area and conclude with the release of young screech-owls. Bring a blanket or lawn chair. Parking is available in the meadow.

