



Journaling: Glen Helen Inspires a New Sense of Wonder



Collecting one's thoughts...

This past September, a butcher, a community member, and several teachers, who drove from more than an hour away, were out exploring the Glen on a cool, cloudy autumn day. You may have seen them tucked into a crevice with a drawing pad or hovering over a wild aster, trying to capture its purple essence through a camera lens. Others, gazing across the ravine, were probably searching for just the right words to express their thoughts and emotions on paper.

What these diverse folks had in com-

mon was their participation in the nature journaling workshop sponsored by the Glen Helen Ecology Institute. This was the second nature journaling workshop at the Glen, after a successful turnout at a workshop held this summer.

The three-hour sessions combine a brief lecture, writing and drawing exercises, creative field time and discussion. At the conclusion of the workshop, group members were free to express their thoughts, their writing, and their artwork or field drawings. This voluntary sharing is often a very illuminating time, as participants hear how others perceive and respond to the natural world around them.

At the fall workshop, one participant said she was hoisted back into time, and wrote about memories of her father teaching her the name of a wildflower she found that day in the Glen. Another shared his discovery that there is a "dialogue" to be found in nature; something he said he had never thought about before. The teachers, many of whom are already developing nature journaling in their classrooms, expressed how nice it was to just sit quietly in the woods and journal for themselves.

The workshops are not about how well you can draw or write, but rather are designed to help you see more in nature and personally respond to it.

Nature journaling can be approached in a myriad of ways and through several mediums. Many of these are explored during the lecture, along with a brief

history of nature journaling. The workshops are not about how well you can draw or write, but rather are designed to help you see more in nature and personally respond to it. This starts through the simple drawing and writing exercises.

You may love to hike through Glen Helen and enjoy the seasonal views. You may enjoy family walks there and visits to the Trailside Museum. But learning how to create a nature journal for yourself or



...and sharing perceptions

your children may inspire a connection with nature on a much deeper level. Watch the Glen Helen calendar for future workshop dates!

These free workshops are taught by Cindy Steffen, a Spring Valley resident, who combined her life-long loves of art, personal journaling and nature into a Natural History degree from Ohio University. Her first degree, received in 1981 from OU, was in Fine Arts. This summer, Ms. Steffen also attended a four-day nature journaling workshop in The Berkshires, which was sponsored by The Orion Institute. Her experiences there, working with professional field artist, Clare Leslie Walker and nature writer, Robert Pyle, inspired her to return home and share the joys of nature journaling with others.

Director's Letter



Bob Whyte

This past February with support from the Glen Helen Association, the Institute hired Beth Krisko as its volunteer coordinator. In a short period of time, the volunteer program has been revitalized, given a new sense of purpose, and seen an infusion of new volunteers and programs. I have been particularly encouraged by the renewed interest and support from Antioch College students in the Glen's activities and programs.

Beth Krisko, in cooperation with Antioch's Community Responsibility Scholarship and Bonner program, has been able to directly engage the Antioch students. On August 30th, 70 first-year Antioch students got dirty in the Glen providing assistance on a number of projects, including invasive plant removal, cleaning of the Yellow Spring, and trail cleaning and litter removal.

Currently, 12 students are actively involved in all facets of the Institute's operations. Some lead hikes, direct environmental education activities and programs for children and adults, assist with property management tasks, or provide basic administrative support. Regardless of the chosen service activity, each is making a significant contribution to the overall wellbeing of the Glen.

Fall Saturday afternoon hikes are led by one CRS student who took time to learn the Glen's trails, history, geology, and vegetation. CRS students have also provided for a more visitor-friendly Glen Helen, particularly on weekends. Trailside Museum is now open regularly, serving as a welcome center seven days a week. The Glen Helen building has also benefited as CRS students

manage the nature shop Saturday afternoons.

Three students working with Glen staff member George Bieri, have taken on some of the more physically challenging tasks in the nature preserve. A wooden causeway was constructed to limit access into the Glen by horse. They have also planted trees, fixed gates, posted signs, closed and rehabilitated trails, and removed invasive plants such as honeysuckle.

The regular presence of these students in the Glen has brought renewed energy to the Glen, its staff, and its many volunteers. Long-time community volunteers have enjoyed working directly with the students and simply seeing their energy and what it has accomplished. They themselves have found renewed motivation and vigor from the students. The students have also brought a new perspective to the Glen, offering diverse thoughts and ideas on how to better involve students and the Glen's overall care. Their perspectives will help to shape student volunteer opportunities in the future. We all look forward to continued student service in the Glen, and hope that it fosters connections with the Glen academically as well as on a personal level.

Many thanks are extended to Cheryl Keen, Director, Center for Community Learning and Bonner Scholars, Lori Warfield, Community Responsibility Scholarship Coordinator, and the students who provide assistance.

— Bob Whyte

Glen Helen 2003 Calendar

Time to think about next year — at least next year's Glen Helen calendar. If you enjoyed this year's edition of the Glen calendar you will enjoy the 2003 edition



Order your 2003 Glen Helen calendar now!

even more. We again present 13 Glen scenes taken by visitors to the nature preserve. You may order your calendar by contacting the GHEI at 937-767-7375 or stop by the Glen Helen Building and pick one up. The cost is \$10 with all proceeds from the sale of the calendar to benefit the Glen's trails and manage the land.

2002 Volunteer Recognition Luncheon

Volunteers, please join us on Saturday, January 18 at 11:30am at the Glen Helen Building to celebrate YOU and other Glen Helen volunteers. Some people volunteer once or twice for a special event, some may work the same event yearly, and some may volunteer at the Glen each week, or even on a daily basis! In appreciation of your dedication and effort, and for the time you have given Glen Helen in the year 2002, we would like to invite you to a Volunteer Recognition Luncheon.

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.

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Contributors: Bob Whyte, Beth Krisko, Betty Ross, Sue Feller, Tony Arnet, Cindy Steffen, Mike Rosario

Design: Bob Bingenheimer

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! First, the Volunteer Coordinator, Beth Krisko and the Executive Director, Bob Whyte will have a few words



Volunteers, like Rita in the Nature Shop, are integral to the operation of the Glen.

to say. Then the fun begins as wildlife enthusiast Tim Harrison shares his adventures with non-venomous reptiles. With his reptilian friends, Tim will demonstrate the vulnerabilities of reptiles to a degraded environment, and what we can do to help preserve their populations.

After the program, it is time to eat lunch and socialize with staff members and other volunteers. Please feel free to bring your family or a friend and a dessert to share. RSVP to the *volunteer* who answers the phone at the Glen Helen Building (767-7375) by December 20. We look forward to seeing you!

Walk for the Glen – Walk 100 Miles in the Glen in 2003

How often do you walk in the Glen? Many of us do at least once in a week, and some almost daily! The reasons are diverse:

some of us like the exercise, some of us want to experience nature and others simply cote to enjoy the peace and solitude that the Glen offers. For whatever reason we come to the Glen, one thing is for sure, it is out of love and respect for the natural world, and Glen Helen in particular.

Rather than walk *in* the Glen, why not walk *for* the Glen? The Glen Helen Ecology Institute is sponsoring "Walk 100 miles in the Glen in 2003" to raise money for trail maintenance and other land management-related activities. Participants pay a \$5 registration fee and with an option to provide further support through sponsors that may donate either on a per-mile basis or a fixed amount upon completion of the 100 miles. All participants will be provided a logbook to record the mileage. At the end of 2003, the Glen will host a celebration where all participating walkers will be recognized.

Maintenance & Trail News

Events of the past few months have challenged the Glen staff in ensuring that Glen Helen is properly protected and that the Glen continues to be a safe and enjoyable place for visitors. Recently, the Yellow Springs parking area (located off State Route 343) has been the site of numerous car break-ins. In an effort to minimize this threat several actions have been taken, including clearing of the dense brush (mostly honeysuckle) around the parking area and posting of warning signs to Glen visitors. In addition, the parking area now closes at 4:30pm, Monday-Friday, and remains closed on weekends.

I walked 100 miles in Glen Helen

This seemingly drastic step is hoped to be a short-term measure and is not intended to keep visitors out of the Glen, but only to deter continuing vandalism. Visitors wishing to enter the Glen on weekends from the Yellow Springs parking area may pickup a gate key at the Glen Helen building. Other options will be explored to ensure the parking area remains safe and in the hope that the gate may again be opened on weekends.

Not to far from the parking lot is another problem area. The northwest corner of the Glen, adjacent to the bike path, has been a long-time congregation spot for area teens. The result has been significant littering of the area to include



New posted regulations are aimed at preventing further problems and ensuring an enjoyable visit.

general trash, beer cans and bottles, and cigarettes. Equally significant is the increasing destruction of young trees. Climbing up the tree and then bending it to the ground, the trunk is snapped, killing the tree. As a first step in alleviating these problems, an existing fence bordering the

Continued on next page...

Glen and the bike path has been replaced and extended. The fence closes off the entrance to the Glen behind the bike rental.

At best, we hope that the fence will serve as a deterrent, but we recognize that the fence by itself is not a solution. A long-term solution will require engagement of the community in a dialogue to address the problem. Next steps call for the planting of native plants along the fence this spring. The community will be invited to participate in the planting.



Tree damage along the bike path.



A new information kiosk on Corry St.

Not all of the Institute's recent actions have been in response to threats to the nature preserve. Efforts continue to provide a visitor friendly preserve. A new informational kiosk is being built at the main entrance off Corry Street. The kiosk, when completed, will provide information on Glen Helen activities and a map of the Glen showing the Glen's existing trails and points of interest. The kiosk uses no treated lumber, relying largely on wood from the Glen. Several dead Bald Cypress, a non-native species, originally planted by Hugh Taylor Birch, were harvested to provide long-lasting material for the kiosk.

Volunteerism at the Glen

Volunteer Luncheon Held at the Outdoor Education Center

The Glen Helen Building volunteers are integral to everyday operations of the Glen Helen Ecology Institute. Sitting at the front desk in the Glen Helen Building, answering phones, and helping visitors with questions, they are truly the face of Glen Helen Ecology Institute. To do this job, the volunteers not only need to know the Glen and its trails, but the operations of the entire Institute.

The one part of GHEI that the volunteers do not have much exposure to is the Outdoor Education and Raptor Centers. To give the volunteers a better idea of the Institute's operations on the opposite side of the preserve, we spent an October morning at the OEC. First, Betty Ross, the Raptor Center Director, gave us a behind-the-scenes tour of the Raptor Center and talked about how they use the facility for environmental education. We had a

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 2002-2003 (received between July 1 and October 31, 2002):

Barry and Kay Hollister
Jean Huston
Linda Griffith and Scott Kellogg
Mrs. Edgar Lupfer
Doris and Robert Swabb

Gifts to the Glen

We also gratefully acknowledge the following for their contribution to the Glen Helen Ecology Institute, including special support for the newsletter, received between August 1, 2002 and October 31, 2002:

Benefactor

Joe and Sarah Marcum

Contributor

Warren Brim
Jim and Liz Hall
David and Keiko Hergesheimer
The estate of John Lyle
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(in memory of Charles and Barbara Doyle)
Richard Bradley and Carol Tovar
Maria Varandani

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Glen Helen Association
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Gifts-in-Kind

Ven Adkins
Bob Bingenheimer
Elaine Marcello

chance to see the types of programs the naturalists do with the school children and see and learn more about the raptors living at the center.

After the Raptor Center tour, we ate lunch at the lodge with the entire OEC staff. This gave the volunteers a chance to interact with and learn a little bit about this semester's naturalists.

The morning was a great success! Volunteers enjoyed the presentations and learned quite a bit about the Raptor Center and OEC in the process. Through the Volunteer Program we hope to coordinate more field trips that will enhance other efforts in the near future!

Thank You, Volunteers

Our most sincere thank you to past and current volunteers. The staff at GHEI acknowledges and appreciates your commitment to the Glen and all of the work you have done to keep it thriving and beautiful.

Become a Glen Helen Volunteer!

Glen Helen Ecology Institute and the Glen Helen Association offer a variety of volunteer opportunities from land management work to leading hikes to running the Nature Shop. If you are interested in volunteering at the Glen, please contact Beth Krisko at 767-7375

Welcome, New Volunteers!

Kristin Bigelow, Vanessa Burkhart, Meredith Cobb, Tyler Dill, Michele Ditto, Bill Evans, Michele Frost, Holly Gersbacher, Heather Macijunes, Erin McCarthy, Alex Pierro, Francisca Rivera, Leena Silverman, Kathleen Stevens, Ann Thomas and Emily Thorton-Wourms.

Glen Helen Lecture Series

For 2003, the lecture series will be on the *fourth Wednesday* of each month at 7pm in the Glen Helen Building auditorium.

For more information on the 2003 lecture series, or to offer a speaker or topic suggestion, contact Beth Krisko at 767-7375. Dates remain open for May, June, and August through December.

January 22: Underwater Wonders

with experienced scuba diver and underwater photographer Gary Harpel. Learn about sea life and tropical ocean environmental threats.

February 26: Go Tramping through New Zealand with Ruben Battino.

See his breathtaking slides of New Zealand and learn about its culture and natural history.

April 23: Discover the Spring Wildflowers

of Glen Helen with Robert Henn, author of *Ohio Wildflowers*. Learn about wildflowers and their importance to the forest ecosystems.

July 23: What Is the Health of Our Groundwater, Our Drinking Water?

The US EPA will educate us on environmental issues related to subsurface water, and discuss projects to remediate potential groundwater hazards.

Guided Nature Hikes

Join us for a guided hike through the Glen this winter. You are sure to find a hike that suits you. There are shorter Nature Discovery Hikes appropriate for young children and adults alike, and longer, more intensive theme hikes designed for adults who want to experience nature while getting a little bit of exercise too.

Remember Glen Helen's famous Medallion Hike series? Well, it will be

back in 2003! In case you forgot what it is all about, here is a brief description:

Medallion hikes offer participants the opportunity to really get to know the Glen's 20+ miles of hiking trails and its diverse landscape. Each Medallion hike is its own adventure! Every month offers a different and exciting route. With volunteer hike leaders, you will wind through the Glen's old forest and young woods, traverse open fields and prairies, cross scenic waterways, and learn about the Glen's natural and human history. This program is designed for people in good hiking condition, as each hike covers about 5 miles in 3 hours at a moderate pace. Complete five Medallion Hikes in the year 2003, and you are eligible for a Glen Helen Hiker medallion or patch.

Contact or stop by the Glen Helen Building for a schedule of hikes or a Medallion Hike brochure. For more information on hikes contact Beth Krisko at 767-7375.

Glen Helen Building Exhibits

Glen Helen History in Pictures: November 18-January 13

This will be the third year that the Institute will exhibit a diverse number of pictures, maps, and other artifacts about the Glen's history. This exhibit done in cooperation with Antioch University's Antiochiana and the help of Scott Sanders is always a community favorite.

Sherraid Scott January 15 – February 28

Sherraid is a printmaker who enjoys watercolors and drawing. She works in etching, silk-screen, lithography and wood block printing that each has its own strength and charm. In the past three years Sherraid has won Best of Show in

Tipp City's Conversation Pieces, Honorable Mention in Miniature Art, Fort Royal, Virginia, and Juror's Prize at DVAC's Members' Show in Dayton. For content Sherraid says she "draws from nature around me and the animals and fantasy within my head."

Robert Whitmore Exhibit March 1 – April 15

Robert Whitmore was born in Dayton, Ohio on February 22, 1890. He studied at the Chicago Art Institute and taught at Hull House in Chicago from 1912 to 1917. He studied at the Cincinnati Art Academy in 1919. In the summers of 1920 through 1923 he traveled New England in his Model T camper, painting as he went, working in his Dayton studio and teaching at the Dayton Art Institute during the winters. In 1924 he moved to Yellow Springs. He began teaching at Antioch College in 1925, retiring in 1955. He also showed his work locally and nationally from 1915 through 1955. His creative work continued until his passing in 1979.

Harry Millman April 16 - May 31

You can find examples of Harry's photographs in the Glen's 2002 (February) and 2003 (January) calendars.

All future exhibits are tentative; please call to confirm schedule. For more information on exhibits, please contact Elaine Brown at the GHB.

Academic Corner

Antioch Students, the Yellow Springs Community and the Glen

August 30th was a busy and productive day in Glen Helen! In one day, a truck-load of litter was picked up and hauled out, a few hundred of the invasive eurasian honeysuckle was eradicated; a truck load of the invasive vine euonymus was pulled, nearly four tons of stone was relocated, a

dozen buckets of silt were removed from the Yellow Spring, and Trailside Museum got a good cleaning. This is the kind of work that can get done in the Glen with 70 Antioch students on hand!

The students came to the Glen on August 30th as a community service project during Antioch's orientation week. GHEI staff members Beth Krisko and George Bieri coordinated and supervised the event, while experienced Glen volunteers and community members served as crew leaders on the individual projects.

All of the volunteers – students and community members alike – brought with them an enormous amount of energy and enthusiasm, making it possible to complete a large amount of work while having a lot



First-year Antioch students got an up-close introduction to the Glen.

of fun. Although the work accomplished was a great success, what might be an even more valuable outcome of this event was a positive introduction for first-year students to Glen Helen and the Yellow Springs community.

Glen Helen Ecology Institute Receives Award to Study Wetlands on Lake Erie

Glen Helen staff will survey and sample the flora of Old Woman Creek, a Lake Erie coastal wetland, in 2002-2003. Located in Huron, Ohio, Old Woman Creek is a National Estuarine Research Reserve and



a State Nature Preserve. It is the only freshwater system in the Federal Reserve program. OWC is unique as one of the few remaining undeveloped coastal wetlands along Lake Erie and as such is an important study site providing clues to protecting and managing Lake Erie's remaining wetlands.

Overall, work will include a review of the present status of the flora, documentation of changes to the flora over time, and production of a map of the existing flora.

Ken Hunt Memorial Lecture

Deputy Chief of U.S. Forest Service Speaks at Glen Helen

In recognition of the outstanding service of Ken Hunt, Glen Helen's first Director (1946-1973), the Ken Hunt Memorial Lecture was again held this year. Dr. Hunt was a biologist and geologist from Massachusetts. It was through his leadership that the Glen built the Trailside Museum, created the Outdoor Education Center, initiated the School Forest program with the Yellow Springs High School, and created many more aspects that Glen Helen is now known for.

In resuming the Ken Hunt Lecture, the Institute was extremely pleased and honored to have Dick Paterson, former director of the Glen Helen Ecology Institute's Outdoor Education Center and now a top ranking U.S. Forest Service official

as its guest and speaker on October 11. Dr. Paterson is Deputy Director of Recreation, Heritage and Wildlife Resources for the Forest Service at its headquarters in Washington, D.C. He leads Forest Service operations and policy for 35 million acres of wilderness, 133,000 miles of hiking trails and 4,300 campgrounds.

The lecture, "Taking the King's Forests," outlined forest management from initial European settlement of North America to current U.S. Forest Policy. Dr. Paterson emphasized the need for "balancing stewardship with public use of private areas" such as Glen Helen.



Dick Paterson delivered the Ken Hunt Lecture on October 11.

Throughout the 1970s, Paterson was a teacher-naturalist at the Outdoor Education Center. He served briefly as its Director in 1979. The Center is a major educational component of the Glen Helen Ecology Institute, a unit of Antioch College that owns the 1,000-acre Glen. During his years at Glen Helen, Dr. Patterson earned a Ph.D. in Environmental Education and Communications. He left Yellow Springs in 1979 to work for the Tennessee Valley Authority, and then joined the Forest Service in Colorado in 1994. He was

named Deputy Director in 1998.

During Dr. Patterson's visit he took time to have lunch and speak with many of Glen Helen's supporters, and discuss management of the Glen with staff and members of the Institute's Board and the Glen Helen Association's Board of Trustees. He also met with Antioch students, faculty and administrators, under the auspices of Antioch's Science Interest Group. The Science Interest Group meets regularly on Friday afternoons at Antioch College's Kettering Science Building.

Glen Helen Association Activities

The mission of the Glen Helen Association is to preserve Glen Helen as a nature area and to support activities which enhance the public's use, enjoyment and knowledge of nature. The GHA, in keeping with its mission, provides support for the operation of the Antioch University property known as Glen Helen, managed by the Glen Helen Ecology Institute, a unit of Antioch College.

The annual Nature Arts and Crafts Show will be held Saturday and Sunday, November 23 and 24th at the Glen Helen Building. Saturday hours are

9am to 5pm and Sunday hours are 11am to 5pm.

This year's Pancake Breakfast was phenomenally successful. Special mention goes to GHA Trustees Rick Donahoe and Scott Geisel for pulling the whole event together. Thanks to every one who attended, and to all the local merchants who donated goods.

The fall Street Fair booth was well-attended. GHA member and Glen volunteer Jan Foiles had an excellent display about invasive vegetation found in the Glen.

The bird seed sale went off without a hitch on October 19th, thanks to all the volunteers and organizers, GHA Trustees Phyllis Williams and Richard Heil.

The Glen Helen Association has set a number of goals for 2002-03. GHA will continue to support volunteerism, in particular the revitalized hiking programs and other programming. The stewardship committee will continue to work on an average of a project a month in the Glen. All of the Association's events will be even better next year, with added emphasis on being more inclusive and fun!

For more information on any of these events, please call 937-767-7375.

Glen Helen Association Board, 2002-2003

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Glen Helen Association Board Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month at 7pm in the Glen Helen Building. GHA members are welcome to attend.

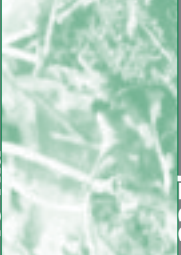
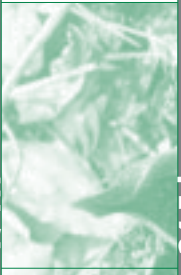
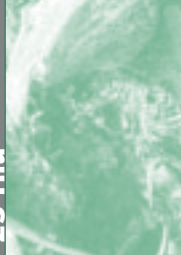

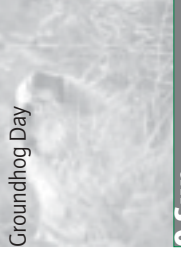


Glen Helen Ecology Institute
ANTIOCH'S LIVING LABORATORY

December 2002 – February 2003

Activity Locations Key
GHB Glen Helen Building, 405 Corry Street
JRCA Jacoby Road Canoe Access, Jacoby Road off Clifton Road
HM Horace Mann Statue Meadow, Bryan Park Road
OEC Outdoor Education Center Dining Lodge, enter off SR343
RC Raptor Center
TMVC Trailside Museum & Visitors Center, 505 Corry Street
YSPL Yellow Spring Parking Lot, off State Route 343

Dec 1 Sun	2 Mon	3 Tue	4 Wed	5 Thu	6 Fri	7 Sat
	Exhibit: History in Pictures (through January 13)	7pm Sierra Club meeting, GHB				10am Winter Wonderland Hike, TMVC
<h1>December</h1>						
8 Sun 9:30am Discovery Hike, TMVC	9 Mon	10 Tue	11 Wed	12 Thu 7pm Lecture Series: Bob Parker, "A Walk through Time in Glen Helen," GHB	13 Fri	14 Sat
15 Sun	16 Mon	17 Tue	18 Wed 7pm Glen Helen Association Board meeting, GHB	19 Thu 2pm Annual owl walk, RC	20 Fri	21 Sat
22 Sun	23 Mon	24 Tue	25 Wed Season's Greetings from the Glen Helen Ecology Institute	26 Thu	27 Fri	28 Sat
29 Sun	30 Mon	31 Tue	Jan 1 Tue New Year's Day	2 Wed OEC winter/spring term begins	3 Thu	4 Fri
<h1>January</h1>						
5 Sun	6 Mon	7 Tue	8 Wed Antioch spring semester begins	9 Thu	10 Fri	11 Sat 1pm Winter Wonderland Hike, TMVC

12 Sun	13 Mon	14 Tue	15 Wed	16 Thu	17 Fri	18 Sat
			7pm Glen Helen Association Board meeting, GHB Exhibit: Sherraid Scott (through February 28)			11:30am Volunteer appreciation lunch and program, GHB
19 Sun	20 Mon	21 Tue	22 Wed	23 Thu	24 Fri	25 Sat
2pm Owl walk and program, OEC	Martin Luther King Day		7pm Lecture Series: Gary Harpel, "Underwater Wonders," GHB			
26 Sun	27 Mon	28 Tue	29 Wed	30 Thu	31 Fri	1 Sat
Cardinals begin mating songs						Feb
2 Sun	3 Mon	4 Tue	5 Wed	6 Thu	7 Fri	8 Sat
Groundhog Day 						Rodents come out of hibernation
9 Sun	10 Mon	11 Tue	12 Wed	13 Thu	14 Fri	15 Sat
1pm Skunk cabbage walk, JCL					Valentines Day 	
16 Sun	17 Mon	18 Tue	19 Wed	20 Thu	21 Fri	22 Sat
	Presidents Day		7pm Glen Helen Association Board meeting, GHB			
23 Sun	24 Mon	25 Tue	26 Wed	27 Thu	28 Fri	
			7pm Lecture Series: Rubin Battino, "Tramping New Zealand," GHB			



Farewell, Interns

It's always difficult to say good-bye to a group of interns. They are here for such an intense, but short time. While here, they put so much of themselves into the program through their time, energy and passion.

Our current group of nine naturalist interns and two administrative interns will leave us December 15th. That gives us a few weeks to wrap up the fall term before we begin training a brand new staff. We're still looking for interns for our winter/spring term which runs from January 2nd through early June. If you know anyone who may be interested, please have them contact Brad Whaley, Assistant Director, at the OEC. Applicants must have at least two years of college, any discipline, and a strong love for children and nature. Benefits include 10 graduate or 12 undergraduate credits through

Antioch, room and board, \$250/month stipend, and the opportunity to work with birds of prey at the Institute's Raptor Center.

Interns not only work with visiting school groups teaching our environmental education curriculum, but also have opportunities throughout the term for more learning through our Monday training and development sessions. These may include special classes, workshops and field trips. So far this term we've had sessions on beekeeping, plant and tree identification, basic survival skills, zero population growth, 18th century Native American interpretation, and migratory patterns of birds. We've also taken trips to Carriage Hill Metropark, Aullwood Nature Center, the Museum at Fort Ancient, and Camp Kern. Interns also participated in a roadside litter pick-up on Route 68 for Adopt-a-Highway.

Typically, sixth graders visit the OEC; however, interns do get the chance to work with a variety of ages, from first through seventh graders.

The following schools have participated in our program this year since September: Lutheran School of the Miami Valley, Northwood Elementary, Kiser, ED Smith and Miami Valley from Dayton; Wellington, Columbus Academy and St. Matthias from Columbus; McGuffey School from Oxford, Indian Valley from

Enon, West Liberty/Salem School from West Liberty, St. Mary City School from Greenville, Mills Lawn from Yellow Springs, Incomplete Conception from Celina, St. Brigid from Xenia, Miami Montessori from Troy, Englewood Elementary from Englewood, and Graham Middle School from St. Paris.

If you are affiliated with or know of a school that may be interested in the programs we offer, information can be provided and/or a visit can be arranged by calling the Outdoor Education Center office at 767-7648. Our program is typically four days and three nights; however, shorter visits can also be accommodated.

Glen Helen Mourns Loss of Former OEC Intern Chris Miller

One of the most magical things that happens during a term at the Outdoor Education Center is the bond that forms between the interns. Some of those bonds last throughout the term; some are destined to last a lifetime. Approximately twenty interns come through the program each year, and each one leaves a permanent mark on a place that has been in existence since 1956. Chris Miller was one of them.

Chris married Erin Tremlin, also a former intern, on September 29th. On October 2nd he was tragically killed in an automobile accident while they were on their honeymoon. It is difficult to describe the loss that those of us who knew him feel.

Chris was from Canal Winchester, Ohio. He graduated from Wittenberg University with a BA in Biology in 2000. He became a naturalist intern in the winter/spring 2001 term. He then stayed for part of that summer as the Raptor Center Assistant and also co-led a whitewater rafting trip for our ecocamps with Erin. In the fall of 2001 Chris shared the positions of Raptor

OEC Wish List

If you would like an opportunity to give to the OEC, please consider helping with the following items:

- Craft supplies: beads, feathers, sinew, yarn, wax, paraffin, paints, scissors, (all kinds), leather scraps
- Wheelbarrows
- Snow shovels
- Pencils
- Bird seed

- Foreign language dictionaries: German and Spanish
- Split firewood
- Bicycles
- Jump ropes
- Balls
- Pioneer and native clothing
- Binoculars
- Compasses
- Children's nature related books
- First aid supplies
- Poster board

Center Assistant and Program Coordinator with Jane Ford. He then went on to work in the Education Department at the Columbus Zoo.

Chris was one of those people who was perpetually positive and upbeat. He had an uncanny way of bringing a group together, teaching kids in a fun and positive way, building a team with his co-workers, and always looking on the bright side of things. When he was asked how he was, his answer was always "Wonderful!" with a genuine smile that let you know he meant it. For Chris, life really was wonderful, and he let it show all the time.

During the winter of 2001, Chris was a naturalist when a bus full of excited inner city kids from Dayton arrived in front of the lodge. After trail groups were assigned, an administrator approached his group and told the twelve students that if they asked Chris how he was doing, "Wonderful" would surely be his answer. Curious, the kids all called out to him "Hey Chris, how ya doin'?" "Wonderful!" was the reply.

The kids were delighted with his response. Three days later as they were boarding the bus to go home, the same administrator called out to his group: "Hey Chris' group, how was your week?" A



Chris Miller at the Raptor Center

resounding "WONDERFUL!!!" came from all twelve. Chris beamed. He had that kind of effect on people. On kids, on staff, and surely on everyone else who was fortunate to come into contact with him.

Our hearts go out to the Miller family at this time. We understand their loss. We appreciate their kind request that donations be directed to the Outdoor Education Center in Chris' memory. Those of us at the OEC who had the privilege of working with him will always hold him deep within our hearts as a wonderful young man who

had a very positive effect on many lives.

We'd like to thank the following people for their generous donations in the memory of Chris Miller. These gifts will go directly to the OEC Intern Program of which Chris was such a vital part, impacting our current and future interns in a positive way and contributing to their future success as environmental citizens:

Bloom Carroll Middle School PTO, Fairfield County Engineer's Office, Roberta and Terry Rutherford, The Columbus Zoo staff, William & Dolores Johnson and their Greencastle neighbors, Brenda Hayens Hargus, Robert and Lois Bottarini, Ed, Sandy & Matt Wikoff, Terry and Kathy Gill, Marion Sherwood, Patrick & Marilyn Hock, Bloom Elementary PTO, Carroll Women's Softball League, James & Joellen Anderson, Jack Hanna Productions, Inc., Rodney and Linda Gustine & Family, Lowe's #527, John, Carolyn, Cari & Bethany Dean, James & Judy Armbruster, the Argobright Family, Kimberly Copeland, Diana & Arnold Gabriel, Wendell & Katherine Miller, Frank & Christine Provenzano, Luther & Patricia Ruff, John & Nadine Umstead, Brianne Veit, and Jim, Patti, Tara, Beth, Adam, and Ian Rodriguez.

Thank You

The OEC would like to thank the following for their time, energy and donations to our program:

Mark Melecki, for bird videos

Luke Chard, for community service hours

Abby Cobb, for First Aid and CPR training for our interns

Joan Horn, Hanna Uhlich, Doug Christen, and Eric Weikart for help with our training sessions

Tim Snyder, for a sewing machine

Velma Duvall, for donation of a full set of dishes for interns

Rachel Bolton, for office supplies

Brian Stern, for beekeeping session for interns

Sarah Hippensteel for doing a stream study with interns

Maureen McCormick, for firewood, field guides and signs for dorms

Bob Henn, for wildflower field guide

Young's Jersey Dairy, for donation of pumpkins

Carriage Hill Metropark, for tour of their facility

Brigetta at Fort Ancient for entry and tour of their museum

The staff at Camp Kern, for a tour and information on their program

Jim O'Neil, for a slide show on 18th Century Native American Interpretation for our interns

The Stewardship Committee, for a new roof for our bird blind

Alison Verey at Aullwood Nature Center, for a tour of their facility

The Whyte family, for a clothes dryer



Raptor Center

Moving Forward A Message from the Raptor Center Director

As you will read in this issue, the late summer and fall were very difficult for us at the Raptor Center, and indeed at centers throughout the state, because of West Nile Virus. It was scary checking the cages each morning, wondering who might be sick, and hoping against all odds that one of the sick ones might recover, while knowing deep down that it probably wouldn't.

We may never have a great horned owl who charms people the way Hibou did, or fathers a youngster as Jess did, or lives as long as Karma. All the birds we lost will be greatly missed, but we feel fortunate we didn't lose more; some did recover and most seemed totally unaffected. Raptor Center staff worked non-stop with help and understanding from everyone at the OEC, and much support and encouragement from the community.

Nothing with our birds can compare to the loss we feel at the death of Chris Miller, however. An article about Chris is in the OEC section, but as he had so recently been a part of the Raptor Center as well, we want to let Chris' whole family know how much we thought of him. He was

one of the most delightful young men one could ever hope to know: considerate, caring, cheerful, reliable, hard-working, and just plain fun to be around. It was a privilege for us to have known him and worked with him. He enriched our lives and will not be forgotten.

— Betty Ross

Arrivals & Departures

A record number of birds were admitted since the last newsletter, one hundred-four in a three-month period, with 70 percent of them suspected of having West Nile Virus. Only one of the arrivals was a healthy youngster, a late kestrel fledgling, while the rest had problems or suffered injuries, many severe. A great horned owl, screech-owl, barred owl, and four Cooper's hawks were released, and several others are still recuperating.

A surprising arrival was a juvenile black vulture found near Miamisburg. Turkey vultures are common here, but black vultures are usually seen further south. This year, however, they have been spotted regularly in Spring Valley, and now other parts of the Miami Valley. Unfortunately this youngster died of starvation; it was separated from its parents too soon.

Special Thanks

Many thanks to the Division of Wildlife crews from Spring Valley and Indian Creek Wildlife Areas for their work on the flight cage; Dr. Michael Brown and the staff of Bigger Road Veterinary Clinic for all their assistance; Jean McCulloch for raptor books; Kay Hollister for a Carl Freeman owl print; Doug Christen for new perches; Hanna Uhlich and Sue Feller for their help with bird care; Ron Austing for adoption photos and mats; Raptor Center Assistant Jane Ford for her full-time

efforts and support; our food donors; and to the following for their donations:

Edmund Brown-Edwards
Larry and Sally Cisler
Gordon Cowperthwaite
Fred and Becky Hoffs
Jim and Rena Leatherman
John and Mildred McConville
Stan and Karen Mickel
Joyce and Louis Przybylowicz
Cecil and Carolyn Pugh



Three different birds, three broken wings: (from left) peregrine falcon, sharp-shinned hawk and red-tailed hawk.

Two other unusual arrivals were an osprey and peregrine falcon. The osprey, from the Spring Valley hacking project, flew strongly when the box was opened, circled the area several times, then crash-landed in a field, fracturing its wing and damaging its back. A first-year peregrine falcon, a migrant from the Arctic, also suffered major injuries, fracturing a wing and damaging a foot.

In March we received a young red-tail with the bones of one wing broken into several pieces. The bones were in good alignment, fortunately, and the wing healed well. The bird was released at the Raptor Center in early June. Not quite five months later, he was found on the roadside just south of Yellow Springs with the same wing fractured. He was a good weight, so had been doing well, until his latest accident. This time his luck didn't hold. He'd had a second chance, but a third was not to be. At least he had an extra summer in the wild.



Photo by Ron Austing

An Unprecedented Raptor Die-Off

West Nile Virus. It didn't mean much to us at the beginning of the summer. We knew it had started in Africa and appeared in New York in 1999. We knew it affected birds, primarily crows and bluejays, and humans, but that people who died from it already had major medical problems. Horses were quite susceptible, but there

was an equine vaccine available for them. The only means of transmittal was thought to be through mosquitoes. We weren't really worried; it hadn't affected us directly and we didn't think it would.

Then it hit us, and hit hard. In mid-July several great horned owls came in, unable to fly, but with no apparent injuries. We assumed earlier trauma or old age, but when more and more birds came in, we knew there was a bigger problem. We

then learned this was happening state-wide and that tests were positive for the virus. It hadn't been confirmed that the virus was causing the deaths, but it seemed very likely.

It was primarily great horned owls and red-tailed hawks affected. Symptoms varied, but could include head tremors, head wobble, being very unsteady, unable to stand, closed eyes, uneven pupils, head tilt, lethargic, emaciated, unable to flap a wing, erratic flight, general disorientation, and seizures. People described birds falling from tree limbs, spiraling from the sky, wandering on the ground in a daze, and not even reacting to being approached and picked up.

Never had so many birds come in that needed so much care. Sometimes two, three, four, or five per day: fifty-two in August and thirty-seven in September. Three-fourths of them may have had the virus. Tending to their basic needs was a daunting task. There is no treatment, just supportive care: warmth, quiet, fluids, good nutrition, vitamins, and anti-inflammatory drugs. Most of the birds wouldn't eat, especially at first, and needed fluids. They were tube-fed the fluids 3-4 times per day, progressing to a critical-care diet, also tube-fed, then chopped food from tongs, and finally to whole food. Carriers and carpets needed to be cleaned and disinfected. With ten to fifteen birds in the clinic at a time, it was very time-consuming, and there were still permanent residents and birds in flight cages needing care.

The emotional toll was even greater. In spite of our efforts, many birds died or had to be euthanized. Then our own birds began to get sick, some had to be brought in for treatment, and some died. Our merlin died first, then three of our great horned owls became sick. None responded to our treatment attempts. Karma, our twenty-eight year-old, and Jess and Hibou,

Upcoming Events

Annual Owl Walk – Sunday, January 19, 2pm at the Outdoor Education Center Lodge
This will be the twelfth year for our afternoon walk to look for roosting owls. Meet at the OEC Lodge near the Raptor Center. Dress warmly. Remember, chances of seeing an owl, especially with such a large group, are slim, but it's a pleasant winter walk with congenial folks. After the hike we will gather by the fireplace in the lodge for hot drinks and introductions

to some of the Center's resident owls. If you do not wish to hike, you are still welcome to join us inside around 3pm.

Earth Day Program and Release – Sunday, April 27, 2pm at the Raptor Center
Tour the Center, meet our staff and education birds up-close, and watch a rehabilitated red-tailed hawk fly off for a second chance at life in the wild.

both thirteen, died. It might have been expected to lose Karma, since her age made her vulnerable, but the other two were in their prime, and Hibou was a popular education bird beloved by many. A short-eared owl and rehabilitating screech-owl also died. When Solo, our bald eagle, and our three red-tails showed symptoms, they were brought in for care. Unlike the owls, they seem to have recovered.

We stayed in touch with colleagues around the state, getting information and support. All of us felt certain we were dealing with West Nile Virus, and although it wouldn't matter to the treatment, we were anxious to have the diagnosis and cause of death confirmed. The Division of Wildlife set up a formal testing protocol and samples were sent to the National Wildlife Health Laboratory in Wisconsin. The lab has confirmed that the virus is presumed to be the cause of death.

Most birds infected with the virus don't die, but mount an immune defense. Certain birds are highly susceptible to the virus, however, especially to the strain now present in the United States. Since 1999 the virus had spread from New York, but in what was considered a relatively predictable pace and manner. Then this high



Photo by Ron Austing

One of the many great horned owls affected by West Nile virus.

raptor mortality, along with the speed at which it swept across the country, surprised not only wildlife rehabilitators, but wildlife researchers and health officials as well. As a recent ODNR press release reported: "Ohio appeared to be at the center of this unprecedented raptor die-off that swept through the Midwest in late summer." According to ODNR estimates, several thousand raptors in Ohio alone were affected.

Besides affected resident birds, seventy-seven birds came in that may have had

the virus: fifty great horned owls, twenty red-tails, three Cooper's hawks, two kestrels, and one sharp-shinned hawk. Forty of them died and twenty were euthanized. Only eight have been released so far. Another eight are still recovering; some will be released, but others seem to have permanent neurological damage.

The virus has affected many more species of birds than originally thought, over a hundred. It has also affected more mammals besides humans and horses, including squirrels, dogs, cats, chipmunks, and others. From the human cases that have been reported, we now know not just mosquitoes, but organ transplants, blood transfusions, and breastmilk can transmit it. For birds it may also be transmitted by ectoparasites, from infected prey which is eaten, and through oral or fecal transmission.

Although things are calm now, we wonder what happens next. Has the initial onslaught been the worst, as is usually the case with an epidemic disease? Will there be fewer cases as natural resistance is built, or will we face another epidemic next summer? Research is underway, a collaborative effort of several veterinary schools, to develop a quick test for the virus and an avian vaccine. There is also a partnership of organizations funding trials of an oral vaccine for use on wild populations.

Although the species most affected here, great horned owls and red-tailed hawks, are from stable populations, biologists worry about what would happen if threatened or endangered species are hit this hard, when even small numbers lost are significant. There are still more questions than answers. Much is yet to be learned, and no one knows what will happen next.

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.

Thank you for these renewals:

Celina Intermediate School
Alex Chappars
Jake Chappars

Mark and Barb Christel
Jeff, Julie, Claire, and Nicole Christian
In Memory of Raymond Haas
The Halye Family
Phyllis Holsapple
Northwood Sixth Graders
Shawn Rourke
Rushmore Kindergarten Classes
Urbana South Elementary School

Welcome to our adoption family:

Cub Scout Pack 173
Christian Diederich
Hamilton County Park District
Greg and Lorena Helentjaris
Hanna Uhlich

What Does Trailside Have to Offer?

- Interactive educational displays about nature and the environment for children and adults
- Information about the Glen (maps, rules, natural history, human history, etc.)
- A board that describes upcoming events at the Glen (hikes, lectures, workshops, etc.)... many of which are free!
- A friendly person (The Trailside Manager) with whom you can discuss your Glen Helen experiences
- Educational programs for kids
- Guided hikes for children and adult groups
- A fun and educational place to have your child's Birthday party! (call Ann Shaw at 767-7375 for details)

In addition to the above list, Trailside Museum also serves as a welcome center and point of entry into the Glen. We ask that groups of 10 or more register with the Trailside Museum by calling 767-7798, and on the day of their visit stop by for a map, a list of rules. For groups of 10 or more taking an unguided hike in the Glen, we request a donation of \$1 per person. For a Trailside program or for a guided hike in the Glen by the Trailside Manager, we ask for a \$2 per person donation.

Call to confirm Trailside Museum hours, although it's generally open seven days a week.



Mikie Rosario – Trailside Student Manager

(September – December 2002)

When I first began working at the Trailside Museum, I did not imagine I'd gain as much experience from it as I have. Managing the museum is a very open-ended assortment of possibilities, incorporating ideas from almost any field or interest you could imagine. It keeps you grounded with the responsibility of maintaining the museum on a daily basis, yet gives you the opportunity to wander, create and expand, whether through new exhibits, renovations of existing ones, new programs or hikes – whatever you can dream up! I myself had the opportunity to create an indoor garden based on the

ideas of sustainable agriculture and create new animal habitats while learning about plant identification and ecology.

Therein, I feel, lies the most impressive aspect of Trailside Museum: It's really what you make of it. Trailside Museum challenges you to challenge yourself, to dream of what the museum can be, of what it can do and then dare to make those dreams real. Working at the museum has given me the opportunity to develop so many different skills and interests that I would almost call it a "*renaissance*" job. It's the most versatile workplace I have ever been involved with, one that is flexible to your interests and skills; yet it still challenges you with daily responsibilities. I haven't once regretted applying for the position.

GHEI Mission Statement

The mission of the Glen Helen Ecology Institute is to provide leadership in preserving Glen Helen and in developing new models for pursuing the interdependent goals of environmental and human well-being. The Institute's programs are designed to address the ecological, economic, political, social and spiritual challenges to human culture as it strives to build a sustainable society.

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Glen Helen Ecology Institute Administrative Offices

- Located in the Glen Helen Building
- 405 Corry Street, Yellow Springs, OH
- Mon-Fri, 9:00-4:30

Trailside Museum & Visitor Center

- 505 Corry Street, Yellow Springs, OH
- For information on hours, walks & programs call 937-767-7375 or 937-767-7798.

Glen Helen Nature Preserve

- Trails are open daily, sunrise to sunset. All wildlife, vegetation, and natural features are protected.

Outdoor Education Center

- Residential environmental education center for school groups and summer EcoCamps.
- 1075 State Route 343, Yellow Springs, OH
- 937-767-7648

Raptor Center

- Raptor education and rehabilitation center
- Visitors are welcome to visit the center and see the resident birds.
- 1075 State Route 343, Yellow Springs, OH
- 937-767-7648

Glen Helen Nature Shop

- Located in the Glen Helen Building
- 405 Corry Street, Yellow Springs, OH
- Mon, 1-4pm; Tue-Fri, 9:30-4:30; additional Saturday hours 10-4; 937-767-7375



Glen Helen Ecology Institute
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