



Friends of the Gorman Nature Center Newsletter

Richland County Park District

Winter 2014-15 Vol 33, No 4

2014 at the Richland County Park District

If our 2014 report looks similar to our 2013 report, it's because we still have...lots of new stuff happening...

New - For the first time in 13 years, the Richland County Park District has hired a new volunteer coordinator. **Amanda Kriner** began working part-time at the Center in August, and she will work full-time in January. Amanda will be replacing the indispensable, **Jan Ferrell**, who will be retiring at the end of 2015, after 25 years of service. Next year Amanda will work alongside Jan learning everything there is to know about coordinating volunteers, caring for GNC's educational animals, teaching school groups, giving natural history programs and much more. Amanda is a recent graduate of Ashland University, where she earned her undergraduate degree in Biology and Environmental Science, and also volunteered at GNC. In her short time with us, she has been busy developing a new volunteer database, recruiting new volunteers, creating new park brochures and maps and assisting with land management activities. Please stop in and welcome Amanda to GNC!



More new - In 2014, through the efforts of the **Mansfield Senior High Construction Technology Class**, we saw the completion of new footbridges at GNC. This project began after many GNC bridges were destroyed or damaged during the floods of 2013. To date, teacher **Jack Schumaker** and his class have replaced six bridges and created two completely new bridges for our extensive GNC trail system. This partnership has allowed the RCPD to provide the students an opportunity to gain new on-the-job training and experience, while saving the county thousands of dollars in expenses and labor. Many thanks to **Jack** and his amazing group of students for all of their incredible work in 2013 & 2104: **Dee Boyd, Rondre Brooks, Travis Dennison, Jordan Easter, Tajai Fields, Corey Harrison, CJ Higginbotham, Keeshaun Johnson, Justin Lewis, Ryder Long, Trevonte Macklin, Dustin Marshall, Logan Middleton, Danny Rowe, Shawn Searl, Ryan Sheldon, Antonio Slaughter, Grant Stout, William Swinger.**

The staff of the GNC is grateful to all of you who contributed in some way to this year's operation- members, volunteers, board members and park visitors. This was the **36th year** for the Nature Center and the **20th year** for the Richland B&O Trail. If you haven't seen our web site, visit gormannaturecenter.org to check on our schedule, maps and other information. Thanks to volunteer webmaster, **Cheryl Harner**, for maintaining the site.

Additional thanks go to our many faithful visitor center volunteers- **April Bloom, Connie Capra, Sandy & Lauren Capra, Amy Crutchfield, Larry Doktor, Dean Homerick, Nancy Kennedy, Dave Kracker, Becky Lux, Chris McQuillen, Rinda Sansom, Janet Swartz, Linda Tucker, Savannah Vanderpool, Kim Washington, Jordan Wells, Linda Wilson, Jack & Shirley Wise, and Stephanie Witherspoon** who keep the Visitor Center open while our small staff is at a school or on the trail. We would like to especially recognize **Nancy Kennedy** who is the remaining charter member of our original Volunteer crew from 1986. Thanks for 28 years of service!

Many people helped maintain our trails and remove invasive species: **Cece Brady, Dalton Brady, Constance Capra, Lauren Capra, Gary Cowell, Jr., Morgan Gongwer, Jennifer Livesay-Hearns, Les Jones, Jan Trexler Kennedy, Kelly Kriner, Eric Miller, Stacey Montague, Gavin Prosser, Jacob Reese and Jordan Wells.**

In addition to programs from our own staff, we heard about Eastern Bluebirds from **Julie Zickefoose**, knot tying from **Brad Van Hook**, Monarch butterflies from **Cheryl Harner**, spiders from **Dr. Richard Bradley**, and "Traveling for the Birds" from **Anna Wittmer.**

Our Richland B&O Trail volunteers for 2014 were: **Mike Fisher, Ron Jaques, Charlie Marcum, John Merschdorf, Ray Piar, Steve Reynolds, and Terry White** who spent many hours keeping the bike trail safe and neatly trimmed. How many hours, you ask? These faithful volunteers donated over 375 hours- the equivalent of over nine full-time weeks!

Eagle Scout Projects were completed by **Derek Sautter**, who replaced the entire 40+ box bluebird trail at GNC by removing old boxes and installing new cedar boxes, predator guards and poles; and **Sean Williams**, who replaced the old bat house at the GNC pond with four new boxes and a new educational display. He also installed new bat boxes near the Home Road Marsh along the B&O Bike trail.

For 19 years in a row, the beautiful butterfly gardens and planting around the GNC visitor center, were maintained by **Melanie Seaman** and **Fate Christian**. In 2014, **Amy Beth Crutchfield** and **Glenna Sheaffer** took over this monumental task and will look to expand our gardens to attract a greater diversity of pollinators using native species of plants and naturalized plantings. We would like to thank Melanie and Fate for all of their years of service and we look forward to new ideas and concepts from Amy and Glenna in the future.

Assisting with programs and trail maintenance were our RCPD junior volunteers for 2014 were: - **Gavin Altman, Samantha Altman, Cece Brady, Dalton Brady, Devin Ensminger, Grayson Foster, Katelyn Grove, Natalie Grove, Sammi Grove, Simon Manning, Georgia Payne, Gavin Prosser, Dalton Rennick, Maddie Sanford and Katie Troyer.**

Green Newsletter

If you would prefer an email version of the newsletter to save paper and postage, please email us at gormannaturecenter@gmail.com. Thanks.

Thanks to the following
**FRIENDS OF THE
NATURE CENTER** for
their recent support.
They helped make 2014
a successful year!

Volunteers

in 2014

APRIL BLOOM @
CONNIE CAPRA @
SANDY & LAUREN CAPRA@
AMY BETH CRUTCHFIELD@
LARRY DOKTOR @
MIKE FISHER *
CHERYL HARNER *
DEAN HOMERICK **
RON JAQUES **
NANCY KENNEDY *****
DAVE KRACKER **
BECKY LUX
CHARLIE MARCUM
CHRIS MCQUILLEN **
JOHN MERSCHDORF *
RAY PIAR
STEVE REYNOLDS
RINDA SANSOM ***
ROSS STANCATO *
JANET SWARTZ
LINDA TUCKER *****
SAVANNAH VANDERPOOL@
KIM WASHINGTON ****
JORDAN WELLS @
TERRY WHITE *
LINDA WILSON ***
JACK & SHIRLEY WISE @
STEPHANIE WITHERSPOON@

***** over 25 years
**** over 20 years
*** over 15 years
** over 10 years
* over 5 years
@ - new for 2014

EAGLE (SUSTAINING)

DICK & JOYCE ADAIR
CONSTANCE AU
DAVE BELLIS
MICHAEL, LINDA &
ALLISON BROGAN
DR & MRS CLEMENTS
PAUL CORBITT
TIM CULLER
JAMES & CYNDDE
DEWEESE
KATHERINE FERNYAK
PAM & DAVE FLEMING

DON & SHARON GRANTER
JENNIFER HURST & JOHN
MUMAW
RON & JUDY JAQUES
MRS ROBERT W JONES
TOM & DEB JONES
DAVE & DIANE KRACKER
GAIL & CHRIS LAUX
KAY & BEN LOCKE
ANNETTE MCCORMICK
JEANNINE MCKEE
STEVE & DEB MCKEE
OLIVE MILLER
DON & DIANA PLANT
RICHARD POFFENBAUGH
CHRIS REINING
ANNE & DAVID SEISS
NELSON & STANA
SHOGREN
JAMES SHREWSBERRY
DA STEWART
DICK & CATHY STOFFER
JUDY & PAUL THEISEN
ANDREW WALTER
JIM WALTER
JANET WISNER

Hawk (sponsoring)

KAREN ADAMS
LOWELL & MARY AMICK
JO & VIN BLACK
RYAN, APRIL, MIKLO
BLOOM
ROBERT & CANDACE
BRENNER
SI & JANE CARMEAN
M & CHENGELIS
MARY DAMRON
IRENE DARROW
DENNIS & POLLY DAVIS
DALTON & RUTHIE DERR
CYNTHIA DORSEY
ANDREW & LYNN FAHMY
WILLIAM E FORT
CHRIS & CHARIL FUHRER
CHRIS HOFF
KINGWOOD ORCHID
SOCIETY
SARAH LICHTENSTEIN
ED & BECKY LUX
LORRAINE MOORE
CAROL O'MARA
LAWRENCE & MARY
RHODES
TIM & JAN RHODES
DENISE RICHARDSON
PETER & SUSAN ROBERTS
MELISSA SAPRANO
SCHRAEDLY ACCOUNTING

JOAN SMITH
JANET SWARTZ
MARILYN WEILER
ANNE & CLIFF WILLIAMS
PAT WISENBARGER

Owl (supporting)

C&B ADDLESBERGER-
FOWLER
LUCY AMSBAUGH
LINDA BOWMAN
CHRIS BOX & FAMILY
NATALIE BOYDSTON
ELVIN BURNELL
MICHAEL & CAROL
CHAMBERS
JOHN CLARY
LAURANN CLEVER
JOAN COLLARD FAMILY
GARY COWELL
BRUCE & GENEVA
CUMMINS
JOYCE CURRY
SUZANNE DAVIS
JULIA DILLE
JOHN & NORMA DOMER
NORMA DORSEY
LARRY EICHER
TOM & BEV FASIG
MARY & DON FISHER
LOUISE FLEMING-DUFALA
RON & NANCY FOLTZ
JOANN FRANTZ
CAROL FRY
GRATTON & LINDA
HAMILTON
PAUL HAMRICK
TOMMI JOHNSON
MARGARET JOYCE
JAN & GARY KENNEDY
SCOTT KING
MICHAEL & JAYNE KLEIN
DEBORAH LECHEN
EILEEN LEVISON
ELAINE L LYBARGER
CHARLOTTE MABEE
ROBERT & DIANA MALONE
JOHN & BARB MCCAMMON
DAVID MILLS
ROBERTA MOORE
DIANE MORETZ
ERVIN & CAROL ANNE
MYERS
DAVE NICKEY
BOB & SANDY NYE
LADONNA O'NEAL
M&M CHARLES OTCASEK
BETTY POLLOCK
BILL & EUDORA PONTIOUS
ELIZABETH PRITCHARD
JOAN RADER

DEB & RON REED
JIM & JANICE REED
JULIA SCHILLING
DR & MRS RJ SHRILLA
KEN & JANET STEELE
ROGER TROUTMAN
MICHAEL UDOLPH
NANCY & TOM
WEIDEMEYER
HARRY & JOAN WIRSTROM
J WRASSE & T GROTJOHN
DON & PEGGY WYATT
JON & KRISTIN YOUNG

Cardinal, Flock & Fledgling (individual, family & student)

ELIZABETH AU
BRIAN & MEGHAN BACIN
DONALD BACIN
DEBORAH CLINE
GREG & LESLIE CORNETT
BAILEY ERICKSON
LUCAS ERICKSON
BILL FISHER
RICK GARDNER
JOETTA GOODMAN
INGRID & TOM GRIFFITHS
NANCY & SID HALL
MICHAEL HERMAN
LOGAN HUFFMAN
DAVID KEINATH
CHESTER & ELAINE
LARSON
PAT LEACH
GEORGE LOESCH
BRYAN MCCLELLAND
MAHLON & DONNA MCKEE
ARIEL MORNINGSTARR
SHIRLEY PURCELL
CONNIE & ART RISHER
DAVE & DEBBIE ROBERTS
AMY & JEREMY SECRIST
GLENNA SHEAFFER
JIM & CAROL SKEEN
DAVID & TAMMY SMITH
LARRY & ELAINE SMITH
BILL & CINDY SMYTHE
ROGER & ANN STILLION
CHRISTINE SUTTER
ELLEN TIETJEN
RITA WALSH
WILLIAM YAHNEY

Gorman Nature Center

Calendar of Events - Winter 2014-2015

Sat	Dec 6	10:00 am	What's Up Duck? Annual Waterfowl Watch at nearby reservoirs. Meet at GNC! (SM & JL)
Sat	Dec 13	8:30 am	Breakfast with the Birds! Call 419-884-3764 for details. (JL)
Wed	Dec 17	9 & 10	Moms & Kids (AK/JL)
Sat	Dec 20	All Day	Mansfield Christmas Bird Count - call 419-884-3764 for details.
Sat	Dec 27	2:00 pm	Winter Nature Hike - Animal Signs! - explore the GNC trails for winter animal life, signs and tracks. See page 4 for details or call 419-884-3764. (JL)
Sat	Dec 27	7:00 pm	The Night Sky - a monthly telescope program at GNC- only if the sky is clear. (JL/SM)
Sat	Jan 3	All Day	Mohican Christmas Bird Count - call 419-884-3764 for details.
Sat	Jan 10	8:30 am	Breakfast w/ the Birds - meet at GNC. See page 4 for details or call 419-884-3764. (JL)
Sat	Jan 17	9-11 am	A Bird in the Hand - spend Saturday morning with the birds for this hands-on, "bird's-eye" view of winter birds and bird banding. (SM)
Wed	Jan 21	9 & 10	Moms & Kids (AK/JL)
Thu	Jan 22	7:30 pm	Ashland University Environmental Lecture Series. See website for details: www.ashland.edu/cas/environmental-science-program/lecture-series
Fri	Jan 23	7:00 pm	The Night Sky - a monthly telescope program at GNC - only if the sky is clear. (JL/SM)
Sat	Jan 24	7:00 am	Castalia Pond/Medusa Marsh Birdwatching Trip. Call 419-884-3764 for details. (JL)
Sat	Jan 31	7:00 pm	Owl Prowl - come join us for an informative program about Ohio owls followed by a hike to find them! See page 4 for details or call 419-884-3764. (JL)
Sat	Feb 7	10:00 am	OSU Museum of Biodiversity Openhouse - for details see: mbd.osu.edu/open-house
Sat	Feb 14	8:30 am	Great Backyard Bird Count/Breakfast w/ the Birds - meet at GNC. See page 4 for details or call 419-884-3764. (JL)
Wed	Feb 18	9 & 10	Moms & Kids (AK/JL)
Thu	Feb 19	1:30 pm	Winter Nature Walk for Seniors - meet at GNC. (AK, JF, JL or SM)
Sat	Feb 21	7:00 am	Killdeer Plains Wildlife Area Birdwatching Trip. Call 419-884-3764 for details. (JL)
Sat	Feb 21	8:00 pm	The Night Sky - a monthly telescope program at GNC - only if the sky is clear. (JL/SM)
Sun	Feb 22	2:00 pm	Mohican Native Plant Society annual potluck dinner & program, call 419-884-3764 for details - all welcome - program: Larry Smith speaking on "Beckoning Paths: The plant communities & other natural treasures on Mohican's new hiking trail!"
Sat	Feb 28	All Day	Ohio Natural History Conference - for details see: www.ohiobiologicalsurvey.com
Sat	Mar 7	10:00 am	Preparing for Spring Wildflowers - a workshop for all wild plant enthusiasts on how to identify spring wildflowers using <i>Newcomb's Wildflower Guide</i> . (SM)
Sat	Mar 14	8:30 am	Breakfast w/ the Birds - meet at GNC. See page 4 for details or call 419-884-3764. (JL)
Wed	Mar 18	9 & 10	Moms & Kids (AK/JL)
Sat	Mar 21	All Day	Shreve Migration Sensation - for details see www.happypages.com/migration
Mon	Mar 23	8:00 pm	The Night Sky - a monthly telescope program at GNC - only if the sky is clear. (JL/SM)



All programs free to the public. (AK = Amanda Kriner, JF=Jan Ferrell, JL=Jason Larson, SM=Steve McKee)



I am eager to help support natural history education in Richland County and to receive your quarterly newsletter. Please enroll me in "Friends of the Nature Center" at the following level for one year:

Please clip and send to:

Friends of the Gorman Nature Center
2295 Lexington Ave.
Mansfield OH 44907-3027

Name _____
Address _____ _____ _____
Phone (optional) _____

<input type="checkbox"/> \$2.00 Fledgling (student)
<input type="checkbox"/> 5.00 Cardinal (individual)
<input type="checkbox"/> 10.00 Flock (family)
<input type="checkbox"/> 25.00 Owl (supporting)
<input type="checkbox"/> 50.00 Hawk (sponsoring)
<input type="checkbox"/> 100.00 Eagle (sustaining)

Enclosed is my membership donation for \$ _____
 (please make checks payable to "Friends of the Nature Center")

A Bird in the Hand

Saturday, January 17 at 9-11 am

Watching a bird at your feeder or in a tree is great, but seeing one up close is very special. Spend Saturday morning with the birds for this hands-on, "bird's-eye" view of winter birds and bird banding. Steve McKee will catch wild birds at the GNC feeders and apply numbered metal bands to their legs. Fun for all ages.



Winter Nature Hike - Animal Signs!

Saturday, December 27 at 2:00 pm

To the woods we go, seeking woodpecker holes, squirrel dreys, frozen scat and the tracks that tell the tales of many winter animals. While exploring the Nature Center's trails, participants will attempt to catch a glimpse of the wildlife that remain active in the winter months. Join us for this winter hike. Meet at the GNC visitor center dressed for the weather.

Breakfast with the Birds

Saturday, December 13, January 10, February 14 and March 14 at 8:30 am

Too cold for a bird walk in the out-of-doors? Join us inside for Breakfast with the Birds! Participants will enjoy a variety of hot and cold beverages, fruit and apple cider doughnuts while watching and learning all about the common winter birds that visit our feeders. These programs are free, but if you partake of the breakfast bounty, donations are requested to cover the cost of the food and beverages. Participants will meet in the animal display room at the GNC visitor center. A bird hike will follow for those interested.

Owl Prowl

Saturday, January 31 at 7:00 pm

Ever wonder what happens at Gorman Nature Center after dark? Well here is your chance to find out! Join Jan Ferrell and Jason Larson for a winter evening owl prow! Participants will learn all about local owls, get to see an Eastern Screech Owl up-close and then take a hike out into the GNC woods to "hoot and holler" for our resident owl species! Meet at the GNC visitor center and remember to dress for the weather.

A red X in the box at the right means that it is time to renew your "Friends of the Nature Center" membership. Thanks for you support!



Published quarterly by
Friends of the
Gorman Nature Center
Park Commissioners
Eric S. Miller
Cynde DeWeese
Marion Zaug
Nature Center Staff
(full or part-time)
Jason Larson
Steve McKee
Jan Ferrell
Anthony Arata
Amanda Kriner

Address Service Requested

gormannaturecenter.org
419-884-3764
Mansfield OH 44907-3027
2295 Lexington Ave



Non-profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Mansfield OH
Permit No. 121