This fall, as the holiday season approaches, please consider giving a gift membership in the Ohio Ornithological Society to a friend or family member. Through the end of 2009, you can join or renew at the $40 level and give away a gift membership to OOS at no additional cost.

Another option is to treat yourself: join or renew at the $100 level, and we’ll send you a $25 voucher for OOS activities or merchandise. Details are on the back page of the newsletter in the membership application section. Both options are “green” gifts (i.e. low-impact to the planet) with “Cerulean” benefits — membership in Ohio’s only state-wide organization for birds and birders.

In the spirit of good cheer, you can embody the spirit of Dickens with a “Christmas Present” to the OOS Conservation Fund: see page 12. Donations are funneled to worthy causes, such as the land-trust Black Swamp Conservancy, which has helped protect nearly 8,100 acres in northwest Ohio. See pages four and five for details on OOS funds recently allocated to several groups.

Ann Oliver – Cincinnati

“I will honor Christmas with all my heart, and try to keep it all the year. I will live in the Past, Present, and the Future. The Spirit of all three will strive within me.”

~ Charles Dickens’ A Christmas Carol

Pull out your fleece and get Wild! OOS and the Wilds will host the annual mid-winter foray to Muskingum County’s birding mecca on January 16, 2010.

Raptors converge at the Wilds to take advantage of abundant Meadow Voles inhabiting 10,000 acres of reclaimed grassland. Northern Harriers, Rough-legged and Red-tailed Hawks, Short-eared Owls, along with a number of other species of meat-eating predatory birds are expected. Several Golden Eagles have over-wintered at the Wilds for at least nine years. This is the locale where a Prairie Falcon spent two winters. Northern Shrike is also possible.

Arctic-like temperatures and icy blasts of air don’t deter the birds or birders. Last year, about 130 people showed up and a good time was had by all – in spite of 12 below zero temps at the day’s start!

As a bonus, there will be a special behind the scenes tour of the Rhino house. Seeing these massive multi-ton horned beasts up close — near enough to touch!— is an incredible experience, And, if we’re lucky, there might be a special surprise in the Rhino department!

This trip is a free, open-to-all “give back” to the Ohio birding community, but we need a head count to know who is attending. Please send an email to wilds@ohiobirds.org to reserve your space for the Winter Raptor Extravaganza. Full details, maps, and group assignment will be emailed back to you for proper preparation.

Jim McCormac – Columbus
DUCK, DUCK, GOOSE: 
OOS WATERFOWL SYMPOSIUM
FEBRUARY 26-28, 2010

Save the date for an amazing weekend! OOS, with partner Columbus Audubon, will host a Waterfowl Symposium February 26-28, 2010. Our venue is the green-designed Grange Insurance Audubon Center along the Scioto River on the Whittier Peninsula, in downtown Columbus.

Friday evening, The Swinging Orangutangs (better known as Julie Zickefoose, Bill Thompson III, and musical friends) kick-off the weekend with a musical fundraiser. Question: will a birder-friendly version of “Disco Duck” be performed?

Saturday, travel near and far with guest speakers. “The Secret Life of Ducks: A Year in the Life” will be presented by Jessie Barry, from the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. Learn about Lake Erie aerial surveys and future installation of wind turbines with Keith Lott, Ohio Division of Wildlife. Saturday evening, our keynote speaker is Dr. Alwash Azzam, CEO of Nature Iraq. Azzam will talk about restoration of the Mesopotamian wetlands, a Ramsar wetland site of international importance. There will be other great speakers and programs, too!

Sunday, join us for several field trip options to Central Ohio reservoirs, rivers, and ponds. Registration starts this December, 2009 on our OOS website (www.ohiobirds.org/) and in the winter issue of The Cerulean.

OOS MEMBER SURVEY: YOUR OPINION COUNTS!
Ohio’s only statewide birding organization wants to serve you better! That’s why we’ve developed an online, member survey. To participate, be one of the first 100 to respond by December 31, 2009. Go to: http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=GoO5wx_2fc34xnsMU0lzn19Q_3d_3d.

Or, look for a link on our OOS website. We’ll tabulate the results in the winter issue of this newsletter.

BRUMFIELD’S ARTWORK TO GRACE BIRDING MAGAZINE: JANUARY 2010

If you are a springtime regular at Ohio’s famed Magee Marsh boardwalk, the January cover of Birding magazine will look familiar. The artwork of Ohio naturalist Jen Brumfield will depict spring warblers and binocular-clad birders in the background. Jen, a Cleveland Metroparks Naturalist and tour leader for Tropical Birds, is beginning to faintly sketch the boardwalk behind and below the birds. For a larger image of this work-in-progress or to learn more about this artist-naturalist-field trip leader: http://birding.posterous.com/

The American Birding Association cover promotes the inaugural “Biggest Week in American Birding”, May 6-16, 2010 in Northwest Ohio. Soon, all ABA members will know about our spectacular birding along Lake Erie’s south shore (so make your lodging reservations early!). To get your own copy of Birding: http://www.aba.org/

SYMPOSIUM RECAP: PHOTO & AUDIO ARCHIVES

If you attended the 2009 Midwest Birding Symposium, but missed a lecture or two, you can listen to audio archives courtesy of Bird Watcher’s Digest: https://www.birdwatchersdigest.com/mwb/clips.php. You can also link to blogs featuring the event. The BWD website, and page three of this newsletter, has photos for your enjoyment. MBS returns to Lakeside, September 15-18, 2011!

Sisters Judy and Micki Hendrick with friend Ernie Cornelius (wearing commemorative MBS tee-shirt) in front of Hoover Auditorium in Lakeside, Ohio. Judy, wearing a blue OOS long-sleeve tee-shirt, was one of the happiest folks at the symposium for two reasons. Judy signed up at MBS to join OOS on our trip to Guatemala this spring! And, Judy made a big upgrade in optics at MBS to take to the tropics: new, top of the line Zeiss binoculars. Photo courtesy Ann Oliver.
Ohio’s Birding Network

Sunrise over the Marblehead Lighthouse. Photo courtesy Emie Cornelius.

MBS logo bird: Caspian Tern. Photo courtesy Kelly Riccetti.

Politeness, Ohio-style. Photo courtesy Ric McArthur (Rondeau Ric).

Tom Kashmer and Tom Bartlett banding at Ottawa NWR. Photo courtesy Cheryl Harner.

Midwest Birding Symposium Troika. Left to right: Ann Kerényi of Bird Watcher’s Digest, Bill Thompson III from OOS and BWD, and Jen Sauter, OOS Executive Secretary. Photo courtesy Ann Oliver.

Wilson’s Snipe banded at Ottawa NWR. Photo courtesy Cheryl Hamer.

Mona Rutger, Director of Back to the Wild, a wildlife rehabilitation and nature center in Castalia, with a Bald Eagle. Photo courtesy Dave Lewis.

Landmark dock at Lakeside. Photo courtesy Kelly Riccetti.

Fall birding at MBS. Photo courtesy Ethan Kistler.

Cheryl Harmer, OOS board member and President of Greater Mohican Audubon Society, on the “Goodtime I” during the Lake Erie Island Sunset Boat Cruise. Photo courtesy Dave Lewis.

The undisputed STAR of MBS: Kirtland’s Warbler at East Harbor State Park. Dozens of people added Kirtland’s to their life list including Wayne Petersen of Massachusetts Audubon, Jessie Barry of Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology, Mike Bergin of 10,000 Birds Blog, and festival sponsor RRI Energy’s Bill Baker who is a member of the 5-time consecutive winning team in The Great Texas Coastal Classic. Photo courtesy Laura Kammermeier, former OOS board member, who also added Kirtland’s Warbler to her life list (Laura’s Blog: http://bit.ly/71NtN).

“Letters From Eden” with Julie Zickefoose and back-up guitar by Bill Thompson III. Photo courtesy Emie Cornelius.

Volunteers Sue Evanoff (President of The Wilderness Center, in Wilmont) and June Beyman. Photo courtesy Ann Oliver.

Lakeside Volunteer Mary Bishop with a MBS totebag made of recycled materials. Photo courtesy Ann Oliver.

Saturday evening keynote speaker Al Batt displays the orange, reusable metal water bottle given to all MBS attendees. Photo courtesy Jim McCormac.

“Goodtime I” heads to Lakeside for evening cruise. Photo courtesy Emie Cornelius.

Gulls behind “Goodtime I”. Photo courtesy Ethan Kistler.

The MBS logo bird: Caspian Tern. Photo courtesy Kelly Riccetti.

“Veery” nice license plate. Photo courtesy Ann Oliver.

Signs at MBS. Photo courtesy Emie Cornelius.

Author David Sibley photographing Ohio trees. Photo courtesy Ric McArthur (Rondeau Ric).

“Bird”ers food. Photo courtesy Dave Lewis.

Vendor Hall: Travel to Guatemala. Photo courtesy Emie Cornelius.

MBS logo bird: Caspian Tern. Photo courtesy Kelly Riccetti.

Lakeside Volunteer Mary Bishop with a MBS totebag made of recycled materials. Photo courtesy Ann Oliver.

“Veery” nice license plate. Photo courtesy Ann Oliver.

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Volunteers Sue Evanoff (President of The Wilderness Center, in Wilmont) and June Beyman. Photo courtesy Ann Oliver.
How do you raise $10,000 dollars for conservation? OOS Board Member Marc Nolls says a few dollars at a time! Thanks to Marc for his dedication to the Adopt-A-Bird booth at the Midwest Birding Symposium. Marc, along with other volunteers such as Su Snyder, Mike Edgington, Susan Evanoff, Cheryl Harner, and Jason Larson, raised $5,000 dollars in donations and raffle ticket sales. The money was matched by a $5000 donation from the OOS Conservation Fund. That brought the total to $10,000. Five worthy groups were chosen as recipients of the funding: see page five for a list. Raffle donors are listed on page 11.

Katy Malcolm, a Naturalist Apprentice from Dayton’s Five Rivers Metroparks, eats lunch on the go. One of the busiest MBS volunteers, Katy led morning field trips, checked attendee ID lanyards at lectures, and worked with the optics cleaning crew. She also made time to contribute two donations to the OOS Adopt-A-Bird campaign. Photo courtesy Ann Oliver.

More than money was donated at MBS; attendees gave 49 pairs of binoculars and two spotting scopes to the American Birding Association’s Birders’ Exchange Program (BEX). Thanks to your generosity, these optics will soon be in the field with researchers, educators, and conservationists in Latin America and the Caribbean. So many optics were donated, Chip Clouse of ABA could barely close the trunk of his vehicle when driving out of Lakeside! Information: www.aba.org/bex/
Hawk Mountain is celebrating its 75th anniversary this year. Travel to the legendary Allegheny Mountains promontory near Kempton, Pennsylvania is a fall pilgrimage for many Ohio birders. To honor the milestone, the first-ever coffee table book about Hawk Mountain hit shelves earlier this year. Hawk Mountain features a forward by Deborah Edge, granddaughter of founder Rosalie Edge. The non-profit group is also selling a commemorative print of a Northern Goshawk called “75 Years of Safe Passage”. Details: http://hawkmountain.org

Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamps, popularly known as “Duck Stamps”, celebrate 75 years of wetland conservation this year. Approximately 98 cents of every duck stamp dollar is directed to the Migratory Bird Conservation Fund for land acquisition. Ohio has played a key role: 2.2 million duck stamps have been sold in the Buckeye State since 1934. Nationwide, more than $700 million has been raised since the F. D. Roosevelt administration act was passed. Since that time, more than 5.2 million acres of habitat have been acquired by the National Wildlife Refuge System.

You can purchase a yearly Federal Duck Stamp from Ohio’s Black Swamp Bird Observatory. For details: http://www.bsbo.org. Duck Stamps are also available for purchase through the United States Postal Service (1-800 STAMP-24).

BSBO MILESTONE: 500,000TH BIRD BANDED

Black Swamp Bird Observatory hit the half-million mark this fall when founders Mark and Julie Shieldcastle banded a migrant Blackpoll Warbler. BSBO’s Kim Kaufman says “It is more than just a research milestone, it tells a story about this area, about the concentrations of birds and the impact birdwatching has on the local economies, and about the extreme importance of, not only conserving the habitat we have now, but creating more.”
As the snow melted, shorebirds set up territories. Through the month of June, our job was to find as many shorebird nests as possible on six different study plots. Regular breeders included American Golden-Plovers, Dunlin, Pectoral, White-rumped, Western, Semipalmated and Buff-breasted Sandpipers, as well as Long-billed Dowitchers, Red and Red-necked Phalaropes.

Nesting Baird’s Sandpipers, Semipalmated Plovers, and Lesser Yellowlegs (possibly first nesting record) were also found around town. Besides breeders, we also had a few transient shorebirds including Black-bellied Plovers, Killdeer, Ruddy Turnstones, Sanderlings, Ruffs (white and chestnut males) and Stilt Sandpipers.

Early July is when shorebirds hatch and we were soon busy banding adults and chicks. Depending on the species, we were collecting data on Avian Influenza, mercury levels, molt and so on. It is vital to look for Avian Influenza in Alaska given many of our shorebirds, such as Dunlin, migrate to infected areas in East Asia. Most of our project funding came from Avian Influenza research.
Unfortunately, this year turned out to be a Brown Lemming crash year. Brown Lemmings are small rodents that experience drastic population cycles. During the entire summer I saw only one, while last year a few hundred a day wasn’t out of the question. During crash years, predators that normally rely on lemmings, such as jaegers and Arctic Fox, are forced to prey on shorebird eggs instead. Roughly 60% of nests we found were eventually predated. Luckily, once the chicks hatched, the fledging rate was more successful.

By the end of July, there were no active nests remaining and shorebirds were flocking up. I boarded a plane and followed them south.

Ethan Kistler
- Newton Falls, Ohio

Editor’s Note: Ethan has been accepted at the University of Cape Town in South Africa. His plans include academic pursuits and working as a professional birding guide. If you’re planning a trip to the African continent, you can contact Ethan through Tropical Birding: www.tropicalbirding.com
THE CASE FOR CORMORANT CONTROL

In January 2006, United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Wildlife Services (WS) in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and the Ohio Division of Wildlife published in the Federal Register, an environmental assessment (EA) entitled “Reducing double-crested cormorant damage in Ohio.” The document examines various alternatives for preserving the critical colonial waterbird habitat on the Lake Erie Islands. The EA selected an integrated cormorant damage management plan that includes lethal control of adult Double-crested Cormorants (DCCO) as the best method of saving the island waterbird habitat. Harassment of cormorants on the islands was attempted as part of the integrated management approach, but was unsuccessful.

For West Sister Island (WSI), the USFWS has given consent as the land owner of WSI to control cormorant numbers based on observed and quantified habitat destruction on the island. In addition, the USFWS has a population goal (1500-2000 nesting pairs) for WSI which has been reached and the agencies are striving to maintain.

Any time a management decision is made (including the decision to do nothing), the decision will be beneficial to some species and detrimental to others. Resource management agencies make these decisions every day – cowbirds are killed to benefit Kirtland’s Warblers, old growth forests are preserved to benefit the Spotted Owl, etc. Way back when, these decisions did not need to be made because there was enough habitat to go around for everyone; however, in these modern times, habitat, especially for colonial waterbirds, is extremely scarce.

Herons and egrets prefer to nest on the Lake Erie islands despite energetic costs associated with doing so. An 18-mile round trip from the mainland to WSI several times a day to feed young expends a lot of energy. If suitable habitat existed on the mainland, I would expect the waders to use that habitat. If the cormorants were left unchecked, the Division is convinced the cormorants would defoliate the islands (as they have partially done on Middle Island in Canada) and possibly extirpate Great Egrets, Snowy Egrets, and Black-crowned Night-Herons from Ohio. The Lake Erie Islands remain the only long-term colony sites for these three species in Ohio, and WSI currently hosts one of the largest remaining colonies of herons and egrets in the US portion of the Great Lakes. The decision to manage cormorants was not taken lightly, and the three agencies annually re-review management efforts and determine what actions, if any, need to be taken the next year. It is especially important to remember that the agencies’ plan for DCCO management in Ohio recognizes DCCOs as a valuable member of the colonial waterbird community. Thus, the plan focuses on sustaining DCCO populations at a level which retains their viability as an Ohio breeding bird while also protecting against the degradation of rare island habitat upon which so many other species of wildlife depend.

Link for more information: http://www.fws.gov/midwest/MidwestBird/cormorants.htm

Dave Sherman
- Oak Harbor, Crane Creek Research Station

Editor’s Note: Dave Sherman is a wildlife biologist for the state of Ohio. An online article in Cleveland.com (http://www.cleveland.com/news/plaindealer/index.ssf/?/base/cuyahoga/125412674688870.xml&coll=2) from September 28, 2009 states 2,300 DCCO were killed by sharpshooters this past May.
No one thinks that the 11.5 million (give or take) humans in Ohio have overpopulated the state, and yet a population of Double-crested Cormorants only 13 percent that size is deemed too many even though the cormorants are distributed from Alaska to Newfoundland and from the subarctic to Mexico.

While we know cormorants were abundant in Ohio prior to the 20th Century, the arrival of Europeans was followed by a massive slaughter of wildlife that reduced, extirpated or exterminated many wildlife species before they could be documented, with predatory (including fish-eating) species often especially targeted.

Cormorants survived (although a flightless Alaskan species was exterminated), and even began returning to depopulated regions in the 20th Century. But again the species was hammered, this time by organochlorines in DDT, which led to massive reproduction losses in fish-eating birds.

In 2006 an important paper (Wires, Linda, and Francesca Cuthbert, Historic Populations of the Double-crested Cormorant (Phalacrocorax auritus): Implications for Conservation and Management in the 21st Century, Waterbirds, 29 (1): 9-37) was published. It reviewed historic evidence to show that every indication is that cormorants were more common, historically, than now. That contrasts the picture painted by the wildlife management industry, whose raison d’etre is largely based on a need to convince us that there are far too many of an increasing number of wildlife species. Last year the U.S Department of Agriculture more than doubled the number of animals poisoned, shot or snared, knocking off nearly five million wild creatures, mostly birds.

When we emerge from the relatively clean and contrived environs of our homes, offices, shops, parks and transport vehicles we sometimes find that nature is messier than books, zoos, Disney documentaries or TV shows may imply. A large waterbird colony can seem a chaotic milieu of foul smells, harsh sounds, abrupt movement, rotting fish, excrement, broken eggs, regurgitated food and dead vegetation. But in no country, state or province on earth has any of the world’s 39 species of cormorant, found on every continent, ever wiped out a population of any other wildlife species. Cormorants are all part of intricate ecological interactions three billion years in the making.

Nonetheless cormorants are reviled, particularly in places where they have been so absent for so long that it is easy to convince people that recovering numbers are “out of control” and represent a “population explosion”.

The simplistic argument that they “eat too many fish” has been discredited by American Ornithological Union (see http://www.nmnh.si.edu/BIRDNET/OC/experthelp/AOU-cormorants.html) review of scientific literature, hence numerous other accusations made against these dynamic birds. They are native, natural and they do belong as a recovering part of our magnificent wildlife heritage.

Barry Kent MacKay
-Markham, Ontario, Canada

Editor’s Note: MacKay is a founding member of Cormorant Defenders International, Senior Program Advisor for Born Free USA United with Animal Protection Institute, a founding director of Animal Alliance of Canada, a founding director of Zoocheck-Canada, a Life Member of the Wilson Ornithological Society, a member of the Ontario Field Ornithologists, a member of the Toronto Ornithological Club, and a bird artist and illustrator.
20,000 ACRES OF MIGRATORY BIRD HABITAT PROTECTED

Five energy industry-funded grants will soon protect more than 20,000 acres of migratory bird habitat in Ohio. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, The Conservation Fund, and other partners launched the project to mitigate impact on critical habitat and to meet future energy needs.

Funding for the grants came from two sources: Rockies Express, which is constructing a 1,700 mile natural gas pipeline stretching from Ohio to Colorado, and Columbia Gas which plans expansion of two storage facilities in Ohio.

Since 1985, The Conservation Fund (TCF) has helped protect more than six million acres spread across all 50 states. TCF is a non-profit conservation organization with a business team of real estate, legal, finance, investment, and science representatives. TCF partners with local community, government, and corporate groups to achieve local conservation goals. In Ohio, TCF and partners have protected nearly 100,000 acres including habitat on Lake Erie’s North Bass Island and recreation lands near Cleveland including 90 acres at The Holden Arboretum.

Recipients of the five grants:

1.) Project: Raccoon Ecological Management Area/Vinton Furnace Experimental Forest. Will protect the largest remaining block of privately owned forest in Ohio.

Grant Recipient: The Nature Conservancy.

Amount: $ 1.5 million.

Acres Protected: 15,896

Location: Vinton County

The Nature Conservancy’s Lynsey White Dasher wrote to the Ohio Ornithological Society to express appreciation for OOS backing the Raccoon Ecological Management Area/Vinton Furnace Experimental Forest project. Dasher said “We wanted to thank you again for providing a letter of support for the proposal. It meant a great deal that you were willing to help.”

2.) Project: Camp Pioneer Conservation Easement. Property features a significant natural habitat supporting 22 state-listed species of birds, rare plants, amphibians, reptiles, and mammals.

Grant Recipient: Black Swamp Conservancy (partner with Erie Shores Council of Boy Scouts of America)

Amount: $136,000

Acres Protected: 985

Location: Williams Co., OH/ Hillsdale Co., MI

3.) Project: Wayne National Forest, Athens Unit. Conserve habitat for Cerulean, Worm-eating, and Kentucky Warblers, as well as Indiana Bat and the Timber Rattlesnake.

Grant Recipient: USDA Forest Service, Wayne National Forest

Grant Amount: $ 630,935

Acres Protected: 2,438

Location: Athens County

4.) Project: Wayne National Forest, Athens Unit, Sunday Creek Coals Lands Phase 2.

Grant Recipient: USDA Forest Service, Wayne National Forest

Grant Amount: $ 631,500

Acres Protected: 1,044

Location: Athens County

5.) Project: Bakers Fork and Rocky Fork Riparian Corridor Project. Expands current Arc of Appalachia Preserve properties in a connected, contiguous block for outdoor education and hiking.

Grant Recipient: Arc of Appalachia Preserve System

Grant Amount: $140,500

Acres Protected: 239

Location: Highland County

MEMBERSHIP EXPIRATION ON YOUR MAILING LABEL

Something is different on the back of The Cerulean. Take a look! Your membership expiration date is printed in red on your mailing label. Thanks in advance for renewing promptly which helps OOS save mailing costs, time, and trees! Go “green” by signing up to get the newsletter online: see the next page for how to subscribe to an online version.
Thank you for your donations!

We would like to thank and acknowledge the following members who have given generous donations. These donations have been deposited into the Ohio Ornithological Society’s Conservation & Education Fund. These funds will be used towards promoting conservation, education, and research of Ohio’s avifauna. Thank you!

Delores Cole                              Janice C. Petko
Steve & Dianne Drew                     Bob Scott Placier
Janet Duerr & Steve Schafer             Kelly Riccetti
Robert & Angela Foster                  Ronald Sempier
Chuck Gardner                           Jon L. Seymour
Michele Hendrick                        Buelah Shanks
Catherine Hunziker                      Carol Skinner
Denise Iams                             Wanda Smith
Roberta Laffey                          Dorinda Whitsett
Marilyn J. Lawrence                     Janet (Shila) Wilson

Welcome New Members!

We would like to welcome our new members who have joined us since our last issue:

Paula Arnold                            Linda Lessin
Heather Aubke                           Lois Main
Carol Bremer                            Tammy Martin
Claire Britton                          Patricia Mauer
Anne Clouser                           Carol Ann Mayka
Michelle Dalton                        Karen McGuire
Samantha Erickson                     James & Carol Mundy
Sally Fox                               Penny O’Connor
Phyllis Fried                          Kelly Riccetti
Stefan Gleissberg                      Maureen Shiffler
Laura Gooch                             Lee Smith
Nina Harfmann                          Barbara Stigler
Michael Herman                         Jeri Stitt
Nancy Keeler                           Karen Stose
Robert Laffey                         Edith Swank
Anne & Tom LaMotte                     Cindy & Frank Voelker
Bonnie Law                            R. Alan Walter
Patty Lehane-Hoffman

Additional Thanks to all the MBS Raffle Donors:

OOS Calendar of Events

Winter Raptor Extravaganza 2010 at the Wilds on Saturday, January 16: FREE but advance registration required. See details on page one. Email wilds@ohiobirds.org to reserve your space: confirmation will be emailed to you.

Waterfowl Symposium 2010 at the Grange Insurance Audubon Center in Columbus February 26-28: Presented by OOS and Columbus Audubon. Speakers include Jessie Barry and Chris Wood from the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Nature Iraq CEO Dr. Azzam Alwash, and more. Field trips Sunday morning to area reservoirs and rivers. Plus a fundraiser Friday evening with The Swinging Orangutangs (Julie Zickefoose, Bill Thompson III, & friends). Look for details in the winter issue of The Cerulean and check the OOS website in December for registration information: www.ohiobirds.org

Ohio Ornithological Society Membership Application

For an online version of this application visit: www.ohiobirds.org/join.php

Name: _________________________________________________________

Organization: ______________________________________________________

Address: __________________________________________________________

City: ______________________ State: ___________ Zip: ___________

Phone: ____________________  Email: _____________________________

(For electronic news updates such as field trips)

$ ______ Donation Amount - Additional donation to the OOS Conservation Fund.

$ ______ Membership Dues– Please check appropriate box on the right.

$ ______ Total Payment Enclosed -Please make checks payable to OOS.

How did you hear of OOS? _________________________________________________

Are you interested in:

☐ Volunteering?      ☐ Distributing OOS flyers within your club or community?

Mail to: Ohio Ornithological Society ◊ P.O. Box 14051 ◊ Columbus, Ohio 43214

☐ $15 Student/Limited Income
☐ $25 Individual
☐ $40 Family or Nonprofit
☐ $40 SPECIAL: Renew your individual membership at $25 and give a new $15 membership to non-member. Please provide your name/address AND the name/address of the gift member. Join by December ’09.
☐ $100 Patron or Business
☐ $100 CHRISTMAS SPECIAL: get a $25 dollar certificate for OOS activities or merchandise good through the end of 2010.
☐ $250 Sustaining Member
☐ $500 Benefactor
☐ $1,000 Lifetime Benefactor

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Our Mission

Welcoming backyard birdwatchers and researchers in the field alike, the Ohio Ornithological Society is the only statewide organization specifically devoted to fostering a deeper appreciation of wild birds, fellowship and collaboration in advancing our collective knowledge about them, and our ability to speak with one voice to preserve Ohio’s bird habitats.

Ohio Ornithological Society

P.O. Box 14051 ◊ Columbus, Ohio 43214