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Volunteer Newsletter August 2008

Hello everyone,

I know that summer doesn't officially end until September. However, the end of summer camps and summer reading programs at area libraries signals the end of another busy summer here at ONE. We'll have a little time to regroup and to complete some projects that we simply could not get to this summer before school programs begin. Would you believe that we have a program scheduled for May 1st 2009?! Sheesh! Some people are organized!

So I guess this is as good a time as any to touch base with all of you and get you caught up on some upcoming activities and announce some new critters.

Manon



We could not have made it through the busy summer programming season without the help of some dedicated folks. First, we'd like to thank **Martha Koch** for her assistance this summer. Martha helped us out by conducting oodles of programs allowing Jim and I to have some days off. She also assisted with animal care so that Jim and I could vacation in Canada. Unfortunately, Martha's position is seasonal and she has found a new job as a nature center attendant at Highbanks Metro Park. However, we are hoping that this position will allow her to still be involved with ONE even if only occasionally. We also have to say thank you but sadly goodbye to Tuesday animal care volunteer **Sarah Hirsch**. Sarah is heading to Boston to attend school at Braisen University. Sarah got us involved with Bexley High School environmental club and was ONE's first intern. We also need to extend a warm thank you **Dani Jones and her dad Bob**, Wednesday animal care volunteers as well **as Lindsey Boaz and Trish Collins**, Thursday animal care volunteers for helping us this summer. Dani returns to school this week but we know we'll see her occasionally as this is Dani's third year with us. Trish is recuperating from foot surgery but we hope to welcome her back in early September.

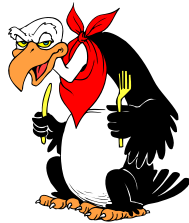
Thanks to **all** volunteers for your help this spring & summer.



Sunday September 28th 3-7

For volunteers, board members,
and their families.

Come and enjoy each others company and take a look at the new enclosures and critters. ONE will provide table service, pop and water, and grilled chicken. Please bring a potluck item to share as we may have a large group. We are inviting the volunteers from McGraw Hill so that they can see their handiwork completed. There has been a discussion about a hayride and bonfire. We'll keep you posted but for now save the date! We'll also be asking for you to RSVP. More on this event in a few weeks. Please plan to bring lawn chairs also.



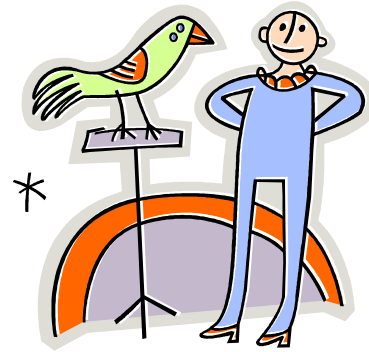
NEW CRITTERS

We have some new and not so new critters to tell you about. I say not so new as some of these animals have been in our care as rehab patients for some time. However, recently we requested and were granted permission to add 5 new birds to our permits.

In late May, Jim & I traveled to Raleigh, North Carolina to pick up a male Barred owl. We named him Raleigh (not a difficult choice) and he is currently keeping Oz company. We also added a male Red tailed hawk, a red phased Eastern screech owl female, another female Turkey vulture and Great horned owl whose gender is yet undetermined (only to us, of course).

We decided to name the Turkey vulture Morticia or Tish for short but we are open to suggestions for the Great horned owl, Screech owl, and Red tailed hawk.

We also now have four Virginia opossums. Their names are Marsi, Stu, Henderson (he was found in the middle of Henderson & High St. by Carol Rich) and Marcelle (a male version of Marsi).

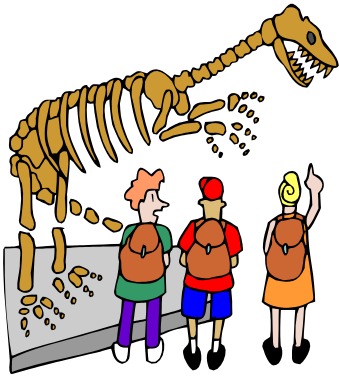


Friday night trainings

With the increased number of birds of prey in our care we are currently looking for volunteers who would like to learn how to train and handle our hawks and owls. Starting Friday September 5th we will be holding trainings to teach **you** how not only to handle the birds but how to train our new birds. We will also teach how to cope beaks and talons as needed and jess, anklet, swivel and leash placement. Whether you'd like to assist with programs by handling birds or whether you'd like to get in some personal time with them, these classes are for you. We will begin at 6:30 p.m. **PLEASE rsvp if you are interested.** I recommend purchasing your own gloves which need not be expensive. You'll need short leather or suede gloves for kestrels and screech owls. I saw long welder's gloves at Harbor Freight recently which would work for the larger hawks and owls. Hope to see you here!



FYI -We have no *current* plans to acquire a gorilla.



Help Needed in tending displays

As the fall season approaches we schedule more wildlife displays. Some of these events we've been attending for years. While most of these events are laid back and a great opportunity to leisurely talk to folks about our mission, others are fast paced, crowded and a time when our mission is simply to keep fingers out of cages! Displays are a good opportunity to learn natural history facts, about our individual animals and how to interact with the public. We already have 4 dates scheduled in September and October and one of those dates we are scheduled to be at two events simultaneously.

WE NEED YOUR HELP! And are looking to train volunteers to assist us in this capacity. We will be at Blacklick Woods Metro Park on Saturday September 27 from 1-4. This is a great opportunity to learn the ropes. Please consider attending.

Keep in mind that we do pay mileage to volunteers who transport gear & animals to events and that you will not work alone but will have additional volunteers with you.

Dates for displays so far are;

Saturday 10/11 – Oakland Nursery Dublin 1-4

Sunday 10/12 – Oakland Nursery Dublin 1-4

Sunday 10/12 – Velvet Ice Cream Utica 2-4

Saturday 10/18 – Jefferson Twp Haunted Forest 7-10 * tentative

Contact Manon via email @ mvs@ohionature.org or at 740 967-8320.

Area Workshops Scheduled

There are many good workshops and seminars offered annually in Ohio. Most weeks announcements for such opportunities crosses my desk. My goal is to begin to forward these on to you, our volunteers. Perhaps we can even make arrangements to carpool to some of these events. Below are a couple of upcoming conferences some I have attended and others not.

September 18 8:30-3:30
2008 Urban Forestry Conference
Columbus, Ohio

<http://dnr.state.oh.us/Home/urban/meetings/tabid/5442/Default.aspx>

November 7-9
Ohio Wildlife Rehabilitators Association (OWRA)
Annual Conference
Columbus, Ohio

This is NOT just for rehabilitators but for non-profits board members and volunteers.

I strongly encourage you to attend this one & it's local.

www.owra.org

March 11 2009
8-5

Ohio Department of Wildlife's
Wildlife Diversity Conference
Columbus, Ohio

This is not to be missed! Not only do they offer awesome speakers but they give out free items such as cd's, posters, booklets.

More to come.