

# inside or out

In January and February we were blessed with deep drifts of lovely, light snow. Our education classes hit the trails on snowshoe to see the abundant tracks left behind by quail, deer, rabbits and many other animals that call this 152-acre nature preserve home. And today it feels like spring, with sunny skies, melting ice and birds sounding their calls.

In the afternoons when the school children leave, the deer venture in, up close by the buildings, foraging for scraps at the bird feeders. Today at the windows we see California Quail, White-crowned Sparrow, Junco, Towhees and finches galore. Thanks to the Wasatch Audubon Society for filling our bird feeders each day!

If you haven't already, load up your boots, snowshoes or cross-country skis and come explore our open fields and woodland trails. Whether it's snowy or sunny, you'll be rewarded with sightings of wildlife, fresh air in your lungs and a healthy heart. If you feel like staying warm inside, we have a host of nature classes for all ages and we have a bird viewing station in the Visitor Center. You're invited to bring some hot cocoa and enjoy nature from the inside or out!

## fuel spill update

In mid-December an accidental diesel fuel spill from a nearby manufacturing plant contaminated the Plain City Canal which runs along the eastern side of the nature preserve. Environmental clean-up crews quickly responded and contained the majority of the spill within 24 hours. Clean-up crews continued working into the new year, soaking up traces of fuel and pulling contaminated vegetation from the stream bed. The majority of the clean-up effort is already complete. The only sign of the accident may be a lingering smell in some areas. There have been no signs that animals were affected.

This accident has brought some positive attention to this small waterway, ensuring a brighter future for its health and the wildlife that depend on it. Water testing will continue through 2008 to ensure the canal is running clean, and a proactive plan for the future is taking form. The Nature Center is hoping to create a wetland area to serve as a biofilter for the storm water which drains into the canal. This would be a wonderful, working example and education tool -- demonstrating the importance of wetlands in our ecosystems.



photo by Jack Rensel

# Nature's Log

newsletter of the Ogden Nature Center • winter 2008

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Ogden  
Nature Center

Mon.-Fri. 9-5 / Saturday 9-4  
[www.ogdennaturecenter.org](http://www.ogdennaturecenter.org)

801.621.7595  
966 W. 12th Street, Ogden, UT 84404



Red-shouldered Hawk at Ogden Nature Center.  
Photo by Jack Rensel.

# red-shouldered hawk visit

Birders visiting the Ogden Nature Center have been enjoying a rare visit from a Red-shouldered Hawk (*Buteo lineatus*) not normally found in Utah. This bird is usually found in forest habitats with riparian zones and swamp areas, primarily in the Eastern U.S. and California. They are often heard before being seen and are one of the most vocal hawks.

The red-shouldered Hawk is medium sized at 17-24 inches with a wing span of 37-44 inches. The chest and under parts are reddish and barred. The brown wings and tail are edged with black and white striping. There are pale crescents near the wingtips, visible in flight. Red-shoulders weigh 17-28 ounces.

Logging and clearing of forests have disadvantaged Red-shouldered Hawks while increasing habitat for the open country Red-tailed Hawk.

The summer breeding range extends from Minnesota to New Brunswick, southward to eastern Texas and Florida, and on the Pacific Coast from southwestern Oregon into Baja California. It winters throughout much of its range below the Canadian border.

It builds a nest in the crotch of a tree with sticks, twigs, leaves, mosses and other soft material where it will incubate 2-5 eggs. Hatchlings are helpless at birth but at five days can excrete waste over the nest rim onto the ground.

The Red-shouldered hunts from a perch, dropping down from the canopy onto small mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians and crayfish. Occasionally they will join forces with the American Crow to drive Great-horned Owls from their territory.

*—by Bill Fenimore, owner of the Layton, Wild Bird Center*



## Board of Directors

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## Nature Center Staff

Mary McKinley.....Executive Director  
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DaLyn Erickson.....Wildlife Specialist  
Sabrina Foster.....Development & Special Events Coordinator  
Jenny Frame.....Volunteer Coordinator  
Amber Hansen.....Wildlife Administrative Assistant  
Deb Jackson.....Administrative Assistant  
Dale Jensen.....Finance Manager  
Linda Page.....Visitor Services  
Richard Patton.....Sanctuary & Facilities Manager  
April Phillips.....Education Director  
William Pollett.....Teacher/Naturalist  
Lisa Schultz.....Teacher/Naturalist  
Susan Snyder.....Teacher/Naturalist

# volunteers

## we need you!

- Earth Day volunteers are needed for flyer distribution, booths, set-up and clean-up.
  - Adopt-a-Spot Gardeners -- spring is just around the corner. Claim your favorite garden spot today and help keep ONC beautiful.
  - Help is needed at Ogden Nature Center North for a spring clean-up.
  - The Visitor Center front desk needs a cheerful presence for answering the phone and helping in the gift shop one Saturday each month (or more)!
  - Summer Camp Assistants are needed for the 2008 season, must be ages 12-18.
  - Friendly folks are needed to represent the Nature Center at Ogden's Farmers Market.
- To help with any of these needs, please call Volunteer Coordinator, Jenny Frame at 621-7595 or email [jframe@ogdennaturecenter.org](mailto:jframe@ogdennaturecenter.org).*

## volunteens

*A service based program for ages 13-16*  
Tuesdays and Thursdays / no charge  
June 10 - July 31 / 9 am -12 noon  
Join the Volunteens, a fun, service-centered nature experience. Volunteens will complete many needed projects at the Ogden Nature Center and learn about ecology, botany and other natural sciences. Contact Jenny at 621-7595 or [jframe@ogdennaturecenter.org](mailto:jframe@ogdennaturecenter.org).

## snagged

Recently retired from the state of Utah as a building inspector, Pharol Beasley agreed to temporarily serve as sanctuary manager while the Nature Center searched for a full time manager last spring. The staff quickly learned to rely upon his know-how and found him irreplaceable. We twisted his arm, and now Pharol volunteers at the Nature Center every Wednesday. He is our fabulous "fix it" guy. Thanks for all the hard work, Pharol.



Pharol Beasley



Special thanks to Colten Wendt, who completed his Eagle Scout badge by building this outdoor cage for our desert tortoise, Laser.

# for volunteers

As a special benefit for our volunteers, we are offering a series of fun, free and informative activities. We hope our volunteers will take advantage and enjoy the Nature Center in a new light. To attend, call Jenny at 621-7595.

### **Get to Know ONC's Green Buildings**

March 13 / 5:30 - 6:30 pm

Tour the LS Peery Education Center and the Visitor Center to learn about sustainable features in our energy efficient and beautiful green buildings. Led by ONC Executive Director, Mary McKinley.

### **ONC North Trail Walk**

April 10 / 6 pm

If you've never been to ONC North, come check it out! There have been many exciting changes. This short walk and talk will be led by volunteer, Jay Hudson.

### **Growing a Cutting Garden &**

### **Arranging Cut Flowers**

May 7 / 7 pm

Learn how to grow a cutting garden, best bets for plant selection and how to grow in the dry, Utah climate. Also learn techniques for arranging cut flowers from the garden. Led by ONC volunteer and master gardener, Lorna Gehrig.

### **Perceptive Art Ecology**

June 10 / 10 am - 12 noon

Create a personal connection with the natural world through an easy, art-based exercise. In this fun and contemplative class you'll use ink, watercolor and oil pastels to create three simple works of art. This process will connect your mind intimately with the trails of the Ogden Nature Center. All materials will be provided. Led by ONC PR Coordinator, Brandi Bosworth.

### **Tree House Party**

August 6 / 6 pm

Our young volunteers are invited to bring their families out to enjoy a night of fun. We'll play in the treehouse and roast hot dogs by the fire.

### **Enjoy the Harvest Potluck**

October 2 / 6 pm

Bring your favorite harvest dish and recipe. Come relax with fellow volunteers for a night of good food and friends.

# camps for kids ... classes for teens

## **Nature's Myths, Legends & Stories**

June 9 -13 / ages 6-8

June 16 -20 / ages 9-12

\$145 members / \$160 non-members

Mon., Tues., Wed. / 8:30 - 2 pm

Thurs. night campout / 5 pm

Fri. morning pick-up / 9 am

From rock art to American Indian legends, from poetry to folklore, people tell many stories about nature, its lessons, beauty and wildness. And nature tells its own stories too! The millennia of geologic history recorded in rock, the decades of climatic fluctuations written in tree rings, and secrets residing in glacial ice and soil samples are all fascinating stories just waiting to be read. Come open the books of nature as we explore the stories we share about nature and the stories that nature shares with us.

## **Mystery & Magic in Nature**

July 7 -11 / ages 6-8

July 14 -18 / ages 9-12

\$145 members / \$160 non-members

Mon., Tues., Wed. / 8:30-2 pm

Thurs. night campout / 5 pm

Fri. morning pick-up / 9 am

Caterpillars that freeze solid and then come back to life! Bird-eating spiders! Frog-eating plants! Giant rocks that slither thousands of feet through the desert! Nature is full of mysterious and magical phenomena like these. Come investigate and explore the strange happenings of the natural world, including bizarre plant and animal adaptations, weird weather events, and other curious and magical mysteries of Mother Nature.



## **Home Sweet Habitat**

### **Preschool Camp**

June 2 - 6

June 23 - 27

or July 28 - Aug. 1

Geared for ages 3-5

\$75 members

\$80 non-members

Mon.-Fri. 9 am - 11 am

Snoop around snags, delve into dens, and hunt through holes as you investigate forests, deserts, marshes and mountains to find out how, where, and why animals build the homes they do.



## **Camp Assistants**

Summer camp assistants are needed to help with nature camps for kids. Volunteers must be 12-18 years of age. For more information please call Jenny at 621-7595 or email [jframe@ogdennaturecenter.org](mailto:jframe@ogdennaturecenter.org).

## **Junior Naturalist Certification**

A summer program for ages 11-14

Thursdays, June 12 - July 31

9 am - 12 noon

Friday, August 8 from 6 - 7 pm

Cost: \$40

Hone your naturalist skills this summer as you become an expert on local plants, animals and conservation issues, and explore the roles of a naturalist. Attend 7 discovery workshops, participate in a community volunteer project, and receive an Ogden Nature Center Junior Naturalist Certification. Pre-registration is required. No meeting on July 24. Please call April at 621-7595 or send an email to [aphillips@ogdennaturecenter.org](mailto:aphillips@ogdennaturecenter.org) to register by Thurs. June 12.

## **Green Teens**

July 21 - 23 10 am - 12:30 pm / ages 12-15

Cost: \$30

How is the natural world connected to you and your choices? How can you make a real difference in your community? What does the future hold for our planet earth? Be the first on the block to explore sustainable living practices, alternative energy, and climate change as you spend three fun-filled days in the great outdoors uncovering the answers to questions like these and much more. Green Teens is offered in partnership with The Leonardo in Salt Lake City.

## **To Register call 621-7595**

Camp sizes are limited to ensure a quality experience. Call in your reservation and pay with VISA or Mastercard, or come in person to pay with cash or check. We cannot accept reservations through the mail or without payment. We reserve the right to change instructors or cancel classes due to circumstances beyond our control, including illness, inclement weather or low attendance.

## 15th Annual Birdhouse Competition

- *Entries are due March 31 - April 5.*
- *Exhibit showing April 19 - August 31.*

Nature lovers, designers, artists, crafts-people and others who give a hoot about birds are invited to enter their hand-crafted birdhouses in the 15th Annual Birdhouse Competition and Exhibit. Entries will be received Monday, March 31 through Saturday, April 5 at the Visitor Center. Artists of all ages may enter up to two works, and there is no entry fee.

Stoke your creativity and bring us your finest birdhouse – whimsical, beautiful, practical, functional, artistic or magical. Please be sure your birdhouse entry can last through the summer weather. The exhibit will be on display outdoors April 19 through August 31.

All birdhouses must be on a post and ready to “plant.” Entries must be original creations and will be judged by an interdisciplinary jury. Winners will receive awards at a reception and awards presentation on Thursday, April 17 at 5:30 pm. The exhibit’s main sponsor is the Utah Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts. Entry forms are available at the Ogden Nature Center and online at [www.ogdennaturecenter.org](http://www.ogdennaturecenter.org).

## Earth Day Art Poster Contest

- *Entries Due April 12*
- *Theme: BE A PLANET PROTECTOR!*

Hey kids -- get out your art supplies and thinking caps for our annual Earth Day Art Poster Contest. Fabulous prizes will be awarded to three winners per grade, and winners will be invited to an awards program on Earth Day, April 19, at 11 am. There is no fee to enter. Just bring your two-dimensional, 9 x 12 poster to the Ogden Nature Center by April 12, 2008. Please do

not glue anything onto your project. On the back, include your name, school, grade (K-5), teacher, home phone (to notify winners) and project title.

## Earth Day 2008

April 19 / 12-4

Admission \$1 or FREE if you ride the bus or bike. Come celebrate Earth Day at the Ogden Nature Center. Enjoy earth-friendly exhibitors, entertainment, food, nature crafts and fun activities. Explore the trails, tour our green buildings and learn what you can do to improve the health of the planet.

## Fly With the Flock 5K Fun Run

Saturday, May 3

Day-of registration: 6:30 am - 7:30 am

Run begins at 8 am, with a 2.5K option for kids 12 and under. An informal kids dash will begin at 9:30 am. Cost (see form) includes breakfast, t-shirt and goodie bag. Please note: walkers will not be timed for medals, but are welcome and encouraged to participate.

## 2008 Summer Concerts

We are planning another great summer concert season. This year’s line-up will feature blues, folk and newgrass talent. Ticket prices will be \$15 for adults and \$10 for children ages 3-12 years.

## 2008 BASH - Save the Date!

The Wildwoods BASH is slated for Saturday, **Sept. 13**. In its 22nd year as the Nature Center’s premier event, the BASH features a gourmet dinner, an auction of nature-inspired items and music in the great outdoors.

*Sponsorship opportunities are available for all major events. Reach out to the Nature Center’s great audience and support our mission of uniting people with nature. Call Sabrina at 621-7595.*

6th Annual  
**FLY  
WITH  
THE  
FLOCK**  
5K FUN RUN  
2.5K KIDS RUN

Ogden Nature Center  
May 3, 2008



## REGISTRATION

Entry fee: \$18 adults / \$12 kids

After April 25, \$22 adults / \$15 kids

Please mail registration form and check to:

Ogden Nature Center, 966 W. 12th St.,  
Ogden, UT 84404

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Circle shirt size: Adult: s m l xl

Child: s m l

Check here for kids 2.5k

Breakfast only (\$7)

SIGNATURE OF ENTRANT

(parent/guardian if under 18)

Please read this WAIVER: In consideration of accepting this entry, I intending to be legally bound, do hereby for myself, my heirs, executors, and administrators waive and release any and all claims for damages, including personal injuries to me or wrongful death, I may accrue against Ogden Nature Center, and all persons and organizations affiliated with the race for any and all injuries that may be suffered by me during or in route to or from the event. I attest that I am physically fit and sufficiently trained for this competition. My physical condition has been verified by a licensed physician in the last 6 months. As part of the contract, I acknowledge that I have read and understand all of the above.

special events

## FEBRUARY

### **Bookworms**

Thursday, February 28 / 7 pm

Cost: FREE members / \$3 non-members

Join our discussion on *Beowulf*, translated by Seamus Heaney. Explore natural and unnatural worlds. Refreshments provided.

## MARCH

### **Brunch, Birds and**

### **Art History**

Saturday, March 8 / 10-11 am

Ages: All

Cost: \$12 / members, \$14 / non-members

Enjoy a light brunch as local wildlife artist Debbie Goodman presents a slideshow of some of the world's most recognizable bird and wildlife art images from ancient times to the present. Join the discussion as she explores what the portrayals tell us about art, culture, and our connection with nature. Pre-register by Thursday, March 6.

### **Fair Feathered Friends**

March 10- 9:30 am, 11 am or 1 pm

March 18- 9:30 am or 11 am or 1 pm

Geared for ages 3-5

Our preschool programs are one hour and cost \$3 per child. Adult chaperones are free. Discover what makes a bird a bird as you delve into the world of beaks, wings, feathers and feet. Meet our birds of prey. Hear some fanciful feathered fables and eat a tasty bird treat. Pre-register at least two days in advance.

### **Bookworms**

Tuesday, March 25 / 5:30 pm

Cost: FREE members / \$3 non-members

Join our discussion on *Animal, Vegetable, Miracle* by Barbara Kingsolver. Refreshments provided.

## APRIL

### **Watersheds 101**

Tuesday, April 1 / 6-7 pm

Ages: Adults

Cost: \$1 members / \$3 non-members

Join Prescott College student Robyn Knight as she discusses watersheds—what they are, how they work, and why we should care. Call to pre-register by Monday, March 31.

### **Colored Pencil Drawing**

Fridays, April 4, 11, 18 & 25 / 5:30-7:30 pm

Ages: Adults

Members \$12 per class / \$40 for 4 weeks

Non-members \$15 per class / \$50 for 4 weeks

Back by popular demand! Come enjoy this four week course and discover how to draw nature in colored pencil. Each class builds upon skills learned in the previous class, but attendance at all four is not mandatory. A supply list will be provided upon registration. Instructor: Niki LeClair  
Pre-register by Thursday, April 3.

### **Baby Bird Basics**

Saturday, April 5 / 1 - 2:30 pm

Ages: 12 and older

FREE with donations accepted

This class is required for new volunteers wanting to volunteer in song bird rehabilitation. Led by ONC Wildlife Specialist, DaLyn Erickson. Pre-register by April 4.

### **Fair Feathered Friends**

April 9- 9:30 am or 11 am

Geared for ages 3-5

Our preschool programs are one hour and cost \$3 per child. Adult chaperones are free. Discover what makes a bird a bird as you delve into the world of beaks, wings, feathers and feet. Meet our birds of prey. Hear some fanciful feathered fables and eat a tasty bird treat. Call to pre-register at least two days in advance.

### **Birdhouse Competition**

Entries due March 31-April 5.

Details on page 5.

### **EARTH DAY!**

April 19 / 1-4 pm. Details on page 5.

### **Nestlings, Fledglings, & Birds...Oh My!**

Saturday, April 26 / 11 am-12 noon

Ages: 6 to adult (great for families!)

Cost: \$5 members / \$6 non-members

General introduction to birds in the backyard, nesting habits, and accident prevention. Instructors: DaLyn Erickson and Teresa Anderson. Pre-register by Friday, April 25.

### **Bookworms**

Tuesday, April 29 / 5:30 pm

Cost: FREE members / \$3 non-members

Join our discussion on *Arnie the Darling Starling* by Margarete Corbo. Refreshments provided.

## MAY

### **5K FUN RUN**

### **FLY WITH THE FLOCK**

Saturday, May 3 / 8 am

Details on page 5.

### **Fair Feathered Friends**

May 9- 9:30 am, 11 am or 1 pm

Geared for ages 3-5

Our preschool programs are one hour and cost \$3 per child. Adult chaperones are free. Discover what makes a bird a bird as you delve into the world of beaks, wings, feathers and feet. Meet our birds of prey. Hear some fanciful feathered fables and eat a tasty bird treat. Call to pre-register at least two days in advance.

## Baby Bird Basics

Saturday, May 10 / 1 - 2:30 pm

Ages: 12 and up

FREE with donations accepted

This class is required for new volunteers wanting to volunteer in song bird rehabilitation. Led by ONC Wildlife Specialist, DaLyn Erickson. Call to pre-register by Friday, May 9.

## Bird Walk

Saturday, May 24 / 9-10 am

Ages: All

Cost: \$6 members / \$8 non-members

Enjoy the emerging life of spring and get a close-up look at birds with wildlife expert, Audubon member and life-long birder Jack Rensel as he leads us on a morning walk along Nature Center trails. Pre-register by Friday, May 23.

## Nature at 14 mph

Thursday, May 8 / 6-7:30 pm

Ages: Adults and Families

Cost: \$6 members / \$8 non-members

Join ONC teacher-naturalist Susan Snyder and her spouse Douglas Murray as they share nature photos and experiences they have collected while touring the United States by bicycle. Tips on packing for and planning such tours will be included. Pre-register by Wednesday, May 7.

## GPS for Families

Saturday, May 10

9 am-11 am

Ages: Adults & families

Cost: \$6 members / \$8 non-members

\$10 for a family of 3 or more

Learn to use a GPS and discuss the sport of geo-caching with Juan Barrientez, trails coordinator for the U.S. Forest Service Ogden Ranger District. Bring your own GPS unit or borrow one. There are a limited number available, so sign up early!

Call to pre-register by Friday, May 9.

## Bookworms

Tuesday, May 27 / 5:30 pm

Cost: FREE members / \$3 non-members

Join our discussion on *The World Without Us* by Alan Weisman. Refreshments provided.

## To Register call 621-7595

Class sizes are limited to ensure a quality experience. Call in your reservation and pay with VISA or Mastercard, or come in person to pay with cash or check. We cannot accept reservations through the mail or without payment. We reserve the right to change instructors or cancel classes due to circumstances beyond our control including illness, inclement weather or low attendance.

## I can make a difference by....

*Every year on Earth Day, I can make a difference by... walking the city's trails, and picking up trash. In these next few paragraphs, let me inform you more about picking up trash off of the trails and describe how to make small differences.*

*On Earth Day every year, my family, myself, and a couple other friends, pick a trail or two to walk. We walk along to the end of the trail, picking up the trash that littered the wildlife and cutting back tree branches and weeds. We brought a heavy wagon and several large plastic garbage bags to store the litter in. This is always very fun, and even though we never make a large difference by doing this, we still make a difference.*

*Anyone can make a difference. It can be a simple difference like saying THANK YOU to your lunch ladies, and bus driver or it can be a very big difference, like devoting yourself to save the planet from global warming.*

*It doesn't matter how they do it. I am in the opinion that everyone should make a difference in the course of their lives. Every little difference is big!*

— by Gretchen Gouchner, age 12



Mule Deer in winter:  
Photo by Jack Rensel.

# 2007 annual report

-- written by  
Mary McKinley,  
Executive Director



Photo courtesy of the  
Standard Examiner.

*2007 went by like a blur – and The Nature Center accomplished many of its goals for the year, including improving our education programs, enhancing community awareness and becoming more involved with the environmental education community, both at the state and national levels.*

## Education recap 2006-2007

First offered in 1980, our education efforts have focused on half-day school programs – field trips for grades K-6. Our programs meet core curriculum requirements for science and our talented educators are always updating and enhancing our programs. Teacher surveys and focus groups provided staff with valuable feedback to further hone these programs.

- During the past school year 11,516 children from kindergarten through 7th grade attended **field trip programs**, with 1,697 adult chaperones joining them.

Students experienced a range of fun outdoor activities from netting insects to snowshoeing, digging in the dirt, and birding, while learning key scientific principles.

- Over 30 **community classes** and workshops were attended by over 250 people of all ages. A new series focusing on the aquatic life of northern Utah was offered and monthly nature craft classes continued. We also helped scouts to earn their merit badges and provided birthday parties with a nature education theme.

- **Preschool Discovery Days** are for children 3-5 years old. These programs combine full body learning with crafts, stories, songs, and a walk. In all, 902 children participated in 2007.

- Week long **summer camps** at the Nature Center were attended by over 60 children. They climbed trees, sang around the campfire, wrote plays about nature and slept in tents under the stars.

- A free week-long camp was offered to children in the Boys and Girls Club.

Partnering with the U.S. Forest Service, 30 children were able to attend a fun and traditional nature camp with a campout at Dumke Picnic Grove, and a summer concert sponsored by RAMP funding.

- 2007 marked the 13th year for the **Swanson Summer Sampler**, a collaborative venture which includes the Treehouse Museum and Eccles Dinosaur Park. Approximately 377 at-risk children ages 5-15 visited the Ogden Nature Center during the summer for hands-on outdoor activities. Many thanks to the Dr. W.C. Swanson Family Foundation for their ongoing sponsorship of this program.

- Touching people's lives like little else can, our non-releasable **outreach education** animals ventured into the community with their handlers to teach about wildlife, habitat and their role in the ecosystem. **Vanimals** was presented to 13,006 people on 141 occasions. Volkswagen Bank and Volkswagen of America donated the Eurovan they had loaned to us for the last three years, enabling the safe transportation of our animals and staff. Thank you!

## Exhibits

Photography by Cory Waite and John Blumencamp graced the walls of the Visitor Center in the summer and Deborah Muller showed her nature photographs in the early fall.

## Wild Bird Rehabilitation

Federal and State permits authorize the Nature Center staff to rehabilitate injured and orphaned wild birds. During 2007, we cared for 1,019 birds. Many volunteers dedicated their time to help with every aspect of wild bird rehabilitation, from cleaning cages and preparing food, to hand-feeding baby birds.

## Events and Fundraisers

- On **Earth Day** over a thousand people came out to enjoy nature crafts, trail walks, a climbing wall, educational activities and booths, and to learn more about what they can do to take care of and honor the earth.

- The **Earth Day Poster Contest** was especially popular. A record 982 children entered their artwork! The Nature Center proudly exhibited their thoughtful and creative works about climate change solutions in the LS Peery Education Center through May.

- Clever folks of all ages submitted 25 entries for the **Annual Birdhouse Competition and Exhibit**. Wrens were spotted busily raising their young in many of the charming birdhouses which remained on exhibit throughout the summer. Awards were made for entries which ranged from elegant to whimsical.

- Running on dirt trails, kids, parents, teenagers, young adults and grandparents all had a grand time at our **Fly With the Flock 5K Fun Run**. With almost 300 runners, 30 youth in the 100 foot kids dash, and lots of family members to cheer them on, the event was a huge success. New this year was a kids 2.5K. Many

thanks to the LS Peery Foundation and Striders Running Store for making this event possible.

- Our third annual **Sunshine Breakfast** was held on June 21, the longest day of the year. We gladly gained new friends while raising important funds to support all we do. More than 250 guests attended, and we raised over \$21,000.
- The summer was busy with our **Summer Concert Series**, made possible by RAMP, the Weber County Recreation Arts Museum and Parks Tax. RAMP funding allowed us to keep ticket prices affordable, even for these world class musicians. We offered four performances: Old School Freight Train, David Francey, Guy Davis, and The Banana Slugs String Band. Despite the uncomfortably hot weather, the concerts were well attended and received rave reviews.
- The **Wildwoods Bash** fundraiser was held in September, also outdoors on the back lawn. Fun and lively music had people in great spirits and in a generous mood. Area restaurants each donated a portion of the dinner, coordinated by Pete Buttschardt of Rooster and the Union Grill. More than \$47,000 was raised to help support the Ogden Nature Center.
- **Creatures of the Night**, a non-scary, educational Halloween event, brought families out in droves. Face painting, live owls, snakes and tarantulas, story telling in the teepee, and much more provided for our most successful Creatures ever with more than 500 people attending.
- Winding up the year, our **Holiday Open House** in December featured fresh evergreen swags and arrangements, created and donated by Mary Jane Catlin and Sally Neill (along with a few assistants)

plus a free Christmas craft workshop, home baked treats, and great shopping in the Nest Gift shop.

## Volunteers

- We enjoyed outstanding volunteer support in 2007, and wish to give special recognition to Zion's Bank employees who spent the day here as their United Way Day of Service, and also to AARP, who chose the Nature Center for their day of service. The Rotary Club of Ogden came for their annual garden cleanup as well. Communication classes from WSU, high school students working on service projects, elementary school classes, scouts, and more all helped to make the Nature Center beautiful and functional for visitors.
- Over 348 volunteers donated 15,589 hours of service to the operation of the Nature Center. From digging noxious weeds, answering phones and scrubbing out bird cages, to maintaining our databases, our volunteers keep this organization humming. We were pleased to personally thank our 2007 volunteers at a luncheon in February.

## Awards and Recognition

- Visitor services volunteer **Lorna Gehrig** was honored with the **Hearts and Hands Award** for her outstanding volunteerism at Utah Philanthropy Day.
- **Jack Rensel** was selected to receive **REI's annual award** as an outstanding volunteer for an outstanding partner organization, specifically for making a significant contributions to conservation and trails.



Wood Ducks on Teal Pond. Photo by Jack Rensel.



Gearing up to hit the trails. Photo by Debra Jackson.

- **The LS Peery Education Center**, designed by Bob Herman of EDA, received the **Prestigious Honors Award by the Utah Chapter of the American Institute of Architects**. Interpretive signage explains unique and eco-friendly features of this green building. Tours are available upon request.

### Special Projects

- In May signage was installed to officially name the **LS Peery Education Center**. We celebrated with a small and joyful crowd of supporters, staff and volunteers. New waterwise landscaping around the center thrived and brought great beauty throughout the summer.
- An anonymous donor commissioned a **bronze sculpture of a covey of California Quail in memory of Edna Ione Hall**, a long-time supporter of the Ogden Nature Center. The bronze quail, created by Terry Johnson, were installed in front of the Visitor Center, and a dedication ceremony was held in July. If you haven't had a chance to stop and admire them, they are the quail that are sitting on the rock in the garden. These quail won't flush and fly away when they see you!
- **Northern Arizona University** graduate students and professors returned to the Nature Center to continue their **research on cottonwood trees**. This has proven to be a wonderful collaborative project providing a protected area for research and habitat for wildlife.

### Grounds

- At the beginning of the summer, **Plain City Canal and Tadpole Pond** had a problem that was never identified. The Pond, fed by Plain City Canal, had a massive algal bloom and smelled terribly.

At the end of the year a diesel fuel spill was discovered in Plain City Canal. Emergency Response teams from Ogden City and Weber County were quickly on the scene. The source was discovered and the spill was contained and eventually cleaned up.

- Volunteer Jay Hudson spearheaded the creation of additional trails at **Ogden Nature Center North** on Mountain Road, installing bridges and making plans for interpretive signage in 2008.

- **The farmhouse** received needed repairs, fresh new paint and flooring. Northern Arizona University researchers now live at the farmhouse and use it as their base of operations.
- **An infestation of carpenter ants** in the Visitor Center kept our facilities and land manager busy during the summer. Luckily the ants decided to find a better home & moved.

### Public Relations and Marketing

- On the bright side, we had a series of beautiful **new banners** installed along 12th Street, thanks to funding provided by RAMP. The banners help attract attention with their colorful photos of the Nature Center.
- Our **newsletter was redesigned** in 2007, and we developed an **all new website**, complete with a virtual tour,

calendar of events, rotating photos and ways to contribute on-line.

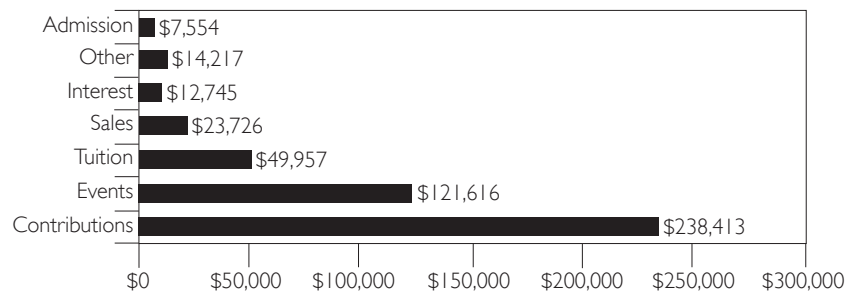
- We were among the first employers in Ogden to sign up for Fresh Air Fridays. Staff and volunteers started riding the bus, bicycling or walking to ONC.
- Staff, board members, architects, and interested community members gathered to participate in an **eco-charrette**, a multi-disciplinary planning session designed to help shape our wants and needs for the south 20 acres of Nature Center property along 12th Street. Through this two day session, a master plan was created which addresses the need for a more functional and attractive

entry, parking, and better direction for visitors as they come and go.

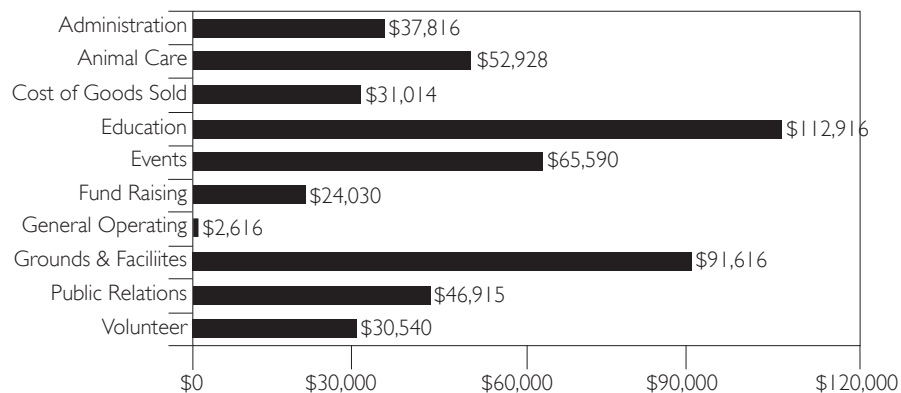
*It's hard to believe that all this took place in only one year. Our deepest thanks to so many who supported the work of the Nature Center. Special thanks to those who, in addition to their membership support, gave generous year-end gifts.*

*We're off to a running start in 2008. We are in a better position than ever to meet the needs of local school children, provide educational experiences for adults, deal with land management issues, and offer the community a wonderful place to tie our lives closer to nature.*

**2007 Operating Income**



**2007 Operating Expenses**



**Total 2007 income was \$468,229 and total 2007 expenses were \$494,980. This is a draft, un-audited report.**

# 2007 friends of Ogdén Nature Center

The following individuals, foundations and corporations supported our mission to unite people with nature and nurture appreciation and stewardship of the environment in 2007. We regret any omissions or errors. Previously unrecognized gifts and gifts received after December 31 will be included in our next newsletter.



Photo by Jack Rensel.

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Des Ta Te the Bald Eagle  
Brian Pugh  
Dos and Tres the Tiger Salamanders  
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Hurricane the Prairie Falcon  
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Laser the Desert Tortoise  
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Rosie 3 the Chilean Rose Tarantula  
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Special thanks to our 2007 BASH in-kind donors. Please see the Nov. 2006 Nature's Log for a complete listing.

## **SPECIAL PROJECTS 12th Street Frontage & Entryway Master Plan**

Anonymous

## **Directional Signage**

Anonymous

## **Dyers Wood Removal**

Various

## **Energy & Education Project**

Rocky Mountain Power

## **Bird Rehabilitation**

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## Quotable Kids at ONC

*"Animals use camouflage to hide from creditors" -- Ella, five years old*

*While viewing algae on Blackbird Pond, four year old Iris said, "look at all the allergies on the water!"*

*As teacher naturalist Susan Snyder instructed students on the different names and functions of a compass, one fourth grade student wanted to refer to the direction of travel arrow simply as "DOT."*

*In reference to deer scat, a kindergartener from Wasatch Elementary exclaimed, "Somebody spilled coffee beans on the trail."*

*Eight year old Mathew said, "This is the best summer camp ever, I made a new friend."*

*While introducing himself to the students of an American Indian Program, Teacher/Naturalist William Pollett offered the name "Itzy Ya-ya" and asked for a definition. A student countered, "Crazy."*

The Jones family frequently visits the Ogden Nature Center. Their bunch especially enjoys Wildlife Wednesdays every week at 3:30 pm.



# adopt a wild one

Most of the animals at the Ogden Nature Center are wild, but those who live in our mews, cages and classrooms were injured or raised in captivity and cannot take care of themselves. With state and federal permits, the Ogden Nature Center is their home. These captive critters help teach our community about native wildlife.

All these furry, feathery, scaly and slimy creatures eat several tons of meat, crickets and veggies each year. They need your help. By adopting an animal, you will help provide food, medical checkups and housing for these wonderful animals. You will receive a color photo, fact sheet and adoption certificate, as well as a personal visit with the animal. The following three birds of prey are available for adoption. If you are interested in adopting, please call Deb at 621-7595 or email [djackson@ogdennaturecenter.org](mailto:djackson@ogdennaturecenter.org).

## **Chitters the Great-horned Owl - \$500**

Chitters came to the Ogden Nature Center in 1980 because he was imprinted. Hatched in 1977, he was taken from his nest as a baby and raised by people. He doesn't know how to hunt, has no natural fear of people and is scared of live mice.

## **Pueo the Short-eared Owl - \$250**

The short-eared owl is the only owl native to the Hawaiian Islands, so we named our short-eared owl Pueo, which means "owl" in the Hawaiian language.

## **Grandmother the Golden Eagle - \$600**

Golden Eagles have long been known for their power, grace, agility and majesty. Lewis and Clark called the golden eagle the calumet eagle, because eagle feathers were used on peace pipes or calumets.

Photos by Cory Waite.



# board migrations

On behalf of the Nature Center staff, board of directors and members, we extend a sincere thank you to outgoing board members Yaeko Bryner, Caitlin Gochnour, Adam Kozlowski, Susie Hulet, Bruce Dursteler, Christine Simsich and Richard White. These individuals have donated countless hours of service to the Ogden Nature Center.

We are pleased to announce the appointment of seven new members to the board of directors. The new appointees represent the community with broad backgrounds and expertise in natural history, education and business. The 24-member board guides the mission, policies and finances of the Ogden Nature Center. Please join us in welcoming to our board:

- John Bellmon, retired air traffic controller; HAFB; former national Audubon Society board member and current Chair of the Wasatch Audubon Society
- Chris Bentley, Weber State University (WSU) student and president of the WSU Environmental Club
- Mark Bunker, Autoliv engineer and Weber Pathways board member
- Paul Burnett, aquatic biologist for the Division of Wildlife Resources
- David Malone, Professor of Accounting at WSU
- Mike Monson, retired teacher and former county and state tax official
- Sally Shigley, Professor of English at WSU

New members of the executive committee include Chair, Curt Singleton, retired from the United States Air Force (USAF); Vice Chair, Nicole Okazaki, Professor of Biology at WSU; Secretary, Bill Rembacz, retired from the USAF; Treasurer Mike Jorgenson, retired CEO; and Past Chair, Kim Wheatley, consultant & retired CEO from Option Technologies.

Ongoing board members include Amy Wicks (ex-officio), Colleen Letendre, Jay Lowder (ex-officio), Lee Shirley, Russ Rogler, Steve Waldrip, John Cavitt, Sara Ewert, Kent Jorgenson, Steve Rush, Steve Waldrip and Ann Walters.

# bald eagle bird of the month

One of the most majestic birds along the Wasatch Front during winter is the Bald Eagle. These large birds of prey can be seen roosting along Northern Utah rivers and other water bodies that don't freeze and allow the eagle to catch fish – the mainstay of their diet.

The female lays one to three eggs a year, which hatch after about 35 days of incubation. Eaglets are covered with soft, grey downy feathers that turn brown by the time the eaglets leave the nest at about ten to twelve weeks old. Young eagles are dark brown all over with dark eyes and beaks. At 4-5 years old their beaks and eyes turn yellow and their head and tail feathers turn white.

They were named *bald* eagles by 18th century pioneers because bald is an old English term meaning white. The Second Continental Congress declared the bald eagle to be the national emblem in 1782, but American Indian tribes had long considered the bald eagle to be a symbol of courage, truth, wisdom, freedom, power and spiritual strength.

The Bald Eagle was placed under federal Endangered Species Act protection in 1967 because the widespread use of DDT had damaged its reproduction capabilities. The population dwindled from about 500,000 in the 1700s to fewer than 500. Persistent conservation efforts resulted in the eagle's status being upgraded to threatened under the Endangered Species Act in 1995. In 2007, the Bald Eagle's recovery was considered complete and it was removed from the federal Endangered Species Act list. It remains protected under the federal Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act.

*by Susan Snyder, ONC Teacher/Naturalist*



## best spots to spot...

*To see Bald Eagles in Northern Utah this time of year, look along the Weber River near Morgan and Mountain Green and at Farmington Bay.*

photo by  
Cory Waite



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