

The background of the entire page is a photograph of a lush green field, possibly a meadow or wetland, with tall grasses in the foreground. In the distance, there is a line of trees under a clear blue sky with a few wispy clouds. On the left side, there is a large, dense tree with green leaves.

In the Glen

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Setting the membership bar higher.

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Charting the path from field to forest.

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Training the next generation of environmental leaders.

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In which the Raptor Center director takes a turn as statistician.

In the Glen

is published for Glen Helen
Association members and other friends of the
Glen Helen Ecology Institute.

Contributors

Editor: Nick Boutis; Contributors: Kevyn Breedon,
Rebecca Jaramillo, Ian McClung, Kelsey Pierson;
Design: Bob Bingenheimer

Glen Helen Nature Preserve

Trails are open daily, sunrise to sunset. All
wildlife, vegetation, and natural features are pro-
tected. For general information: 937-769-1902

Glen Helen Ecology Institute Administrative Offices

Located in the Vernet Ecological Center
405 Corry Street, Yellow Springs, OH 45387
Mon-Fri, 9:30-4:30; 937-769-1902
For facility rentals: 937-769-1902 x103

Trailside Museum

505 Corry Street, Yellow Springs

Outdoor Education Center

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

Raptor Center

Raptor education and rehabilitation center
Visitors are welcome to visit the center and see
the resident birds. Spring hours: 9am-6pm. 1075
State Route 343, Yellow Springs 937-767-7648

Glen Helen Nature Shop

405 Corry Street, Yellow Springs
Mon-Fri, 9:30-4:30; Sat-Sun 10-4.
937-769-1902 x108

Antioch College Mission

The mission of Antioch College is to provide
a rigorous liberal arts education on the belief
that scholarship and life experience are
strengthened when linked, that diversity in all
its manifestations is a fundamental component
of excellence in education, and that authentic
social and community engagement is vital for
those who strive to win victories for humanity

Ecology Institute Mission

We steward and strengthen Glen Helen for
present and future generations, safeguard the
ecological, historical, and geological resources
within its bounds, and utilize the preserve to
provide life-shaping environmental learning to
our students and visitors.

From the Director

Raising the Bar

In 2014 or thereabouts, longtime volunteer Roger Reynolds pulled me aside to share an idea. "You know," he said. "Glen Helen has a thousand acres. We should have a thousand members." A member per acre seemed a plausible goal, since we knew that the Glen received upwards of 100,000 visitors a year. But of course, not every visitor is a donor. We were then several hundred people shy of Roger's milestone.

The Glen Helen Association membership committee took this goal as a rallying point, and doubled down on its efforts to reach out to people. Their message was simple and elegant, reminding our visitors and our community that the Glen can thrive if and only if we all do our part.

Gradually, their efforts began to succeed. So it was that in January, they reached their goal of a thousand members! And, as much credit as the membership committee deserves for its work, the major credit – and gratitude – goes to everyone who has joined and renewed and renewed and renewed over those years. Your support as a member is what allows us to maintain trails, to offer life-shaping environmental learning programs, and to steward this special place.

But now, I need to raise the bar. Over the past few years, we've had five occasions to add land to Glen Helen. What was once a thousand acre preserve now spans 1,125 acres. Is it within our reach to achieve a member per acre? I'm confident that it is. I'll look forward to you proving me right! 🌱



Glen Helen Annual Report

July 2016–June 2017

Operating Expenditures: \$1,158,566

Environmental Education Programs: 38%

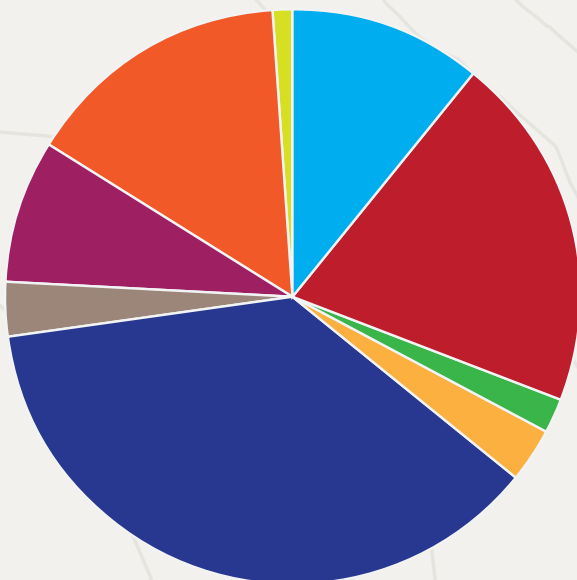
Raptor Center: 6%

Land Management: 9%

Facilities: 15%

Administration: 32%

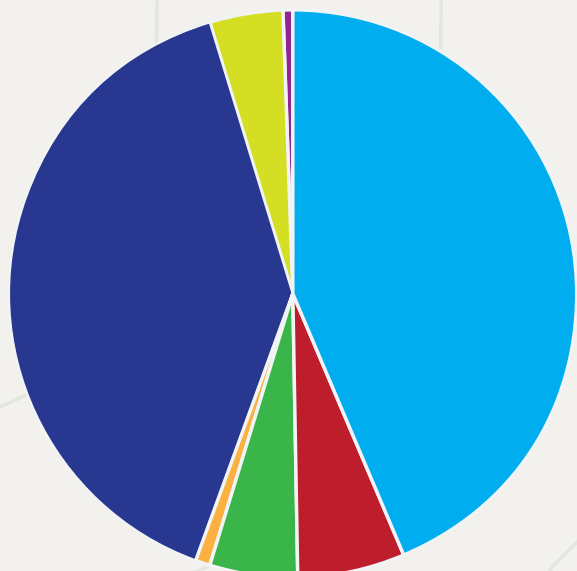
Glen Helen Ecology Institute Revenue



Clockwise from top:

- 11% ■ Gifts \$126,963
- 20% ■ Endowment Income \$227,138
- 2% ■ Sales \$22,765
- 3% ■ Events \$28,463
- 37% ■ Program Fees \$413,724
- 3% ■ Visitor Fees \$35,935
- 8% ■ Facility Rentals \$90,488
- 15% ■ Grants \$171,534
- 1% ■ Miscellaneous \$6,970

Glen Helen Association Revenue



Clockwise from top:

- 44% ■ Gifts \$296,404
- 6% ■ Endowment & Interest Income \$38,318
- 5% ■ Sales \$30,939
- 1% ■ Events \$4,743
- 40% ■ Grants \$270,020
- 4% ■ Facility Rentals \$26,210
- 0% ■ Miscellaneous \$340

By the Numbers, July 2016 to June 2017

1,332

donors to Glen Helen (and we are profoundly grateful to you all)

4,836

hours of volunteerism tallied

1,125

acres, the size of Glen Helen with the recent addition of the Sutton Farm

2,029

children attended our residential Outdoor School program

9

Antioch College students worked in the Glen as Miller Fellows

310

raptor education programs

42.3

acres of invasive honeysuckle cut

4,602

birds found on the Christmas Bird Count

Administration

Glen Helen Ecology Institute Staff

George Bieri, Land Manager; Michael Blackwell, Outdoor Education Center Director; Nick Boutis, Executive Director; Kristen Bruns, Food Service Manager; Tom Clevenger, Assistant Director for Finance and Administration; Les Groby, Housekeeper; Rebecca Jaramillo, Raptor Center Director; Robbie Marion, Property management staff; Ben Silliman, Assistant Land Manager; Ann Marie Simonson, Project Manager; Susan Smith, Ranger; Shahkar Strolger, Property Manager; Diane Ulrich, Outdoor Education Center Business Manager

Glen Helen Association Board of Trustees

Dan Halm (President), Richard Heil, Mark Heise, Allen Hunt, Ron Lewis, Kevin Lydy (Secretary), Craig Mesure, Bob Moore, Deanna Newsom, Betty Ross, Paul Sampson, Jay Smithberger, John Stireman, Jo Wilson (Treasurer)



Restoring the Sutton Farm: Ecological management in the newest part of Glen Helen

"Why do you want this property? It's already protected."

The question was pointed, but reasonable. It came from a representative of the Clean Ohio Conservation Fund, who had come to look over the Sutton Farm, part of their due diligence as they considered whether or not to help us purchase it.

I inhaled and began to answer.

"Well, yes it is, but..."

Before I continue, I should probably share some background.

A hundred years ago, Harry Sutton owned a farm to the north of what is now Glen Helen. A generation later, Bernard Sutton expanded those holdings, buying land to the east of the Glen. But, by the early 1960s, the Sutton family was winding down their farm operations. This, students of Glen Helen will recall, was a time of great development pressure on the Glen and its surrounding area. The Ohio Department of Transportation had just proposed to construct a highway bypass around Yellow Springs and through Glen Helen, meanwhile the Village of Yellow Springs sought to replumb its municipal sewer lines by routing them through the Glen. Of course, both of these affronts were



promoted because the region was growing in population; expanding the highway and sewer systems was the next logical step in progress.

Given this, the people of Yellow Springs must have been on high alert when they learned that 150 acres next to Glen Helen were up for sale. Fortunately, there were federal funds to be found for the purchase of green space. With this funding, the Village of Yellow Springs was able to acquire the 100 plus acres north of the Glen. (A side note: David and Barbara Case purchased the portion of the farm located east of the Glen, and treated it as a de-facto nature preserve for fifty years. The Glen Helen Association acquired it from the Case family in 2016.)

So, the Sutton Farm was already protected, right?

Not really. During the Reagan Administration in the 1980s, restrictions were lifted on lands purchased with the green space funds. The Village was no longer under obligation to conserve or to keep the land. They continued to lease the land for agriculture, and developed the middle portion of the property as storage and equipment space for the municipal crews.

Along the way, people in the Village recognized that the farm was vulnerable. Fortunately, there was broad interest in seeing those lands conserved. In 1995, working with

continued

Above: Birch Creek as it flows through the Sutton Farm.

the recently established Tecumseh Land Trust, the Village placed a conservation easement on the property.

So, fully protected, right?

Yes. But also, no. The conservation easement ensured that the land could never be subdivided or developed, but conventional soybean crops continued. Drainage tiles installed under the ground whisked rainwater into the creek, instead of allowing it to slowly recharge the aquifer. Meanwhile, honeysuckle and other invasive species grew thicker and thicker along the banks of Birch Creek. On one hand, the land was “protected”; on the other hand, every year, it was declining further.

The lesson here is that an environmentally mindful landowner and a modern conservation easement are both crucial to making certain that significant lands are not developed. But, to ensure that these lands are managed in a way that fosters their ecological health, you have to do more. You have to have a plan for what you want to accomplish, and be able to put expertise and energy towards implementing that plan. That’s what we were able to bring to the table.

In the management plan we developed for the property (an 85–page document that, admittedly, is not the kind of reading material you’d bring on a beach vacation), we identified a series of priorities aimed at both restoring the property, and seeing to it that the property helped support the overall health of the Glen.

This all starts with water. Water – in springs, creeks, and the Little Miami River – is at the heart of Glen Helen, but the watershed that supplies these creeks is mostly outside of the preserve. We recognized that, to better protect the quality of the water coming into the Glen, we would have to work our way upstream. The map above right illustrates this. Glen Helen is outlined in green at the lower left of the map. The blob with the yellow outline is the watershed of Birch Creek. All the water that



Above: The Birch Creek Watershed seen from above. Glen Helen is at the lower left outline in green.

Right: The confluence of the two branches of Birch Creek.





pours over the Cascades comes from rainfall and springs within this yellow line.

Now look at the Sutton Farm, which is shown in red. Early on, as we looked at this map, it was clear to us that the farm was perfectly positioned to be a pre-filter for water flowing downstream into the Glen on Birch Creek. Both forks of Birch Creek go through the farm. If we were able to slow the movement of water coming through the farm, we could reduce erosion and improve the quality of the water that was arriving in the Glen.

Step one was to eliminate drainage tiles on the property. Farmers find benefit in tiles because they improve yield by keeping fields from getting too soggy. However, drainage tiles have negative impacts downstream, because



they make it so the water coming into the Glen arrives faster, and with more sediment than it would have if that rainwater had been able to slowly seep into the ground.

Our step two will be to expand the riparian areas. Presently on the Sutton Farm, the buffer between the Birch Creek and agricultural fields is in places as narrow as 50–75 feet. In the Glen, we strive for at least 200 feet of Riparian buffer, and studies indicate that local species including cerulean warbler and red fox need over 300 feet. As we begin the work of planting native tree species on the farm, we'll be working to expand the riparian buffer on Birch Creek, as illustrated by the map at top right.

Top: We plan to expand the forest areas near the creek, as shown in green.

Above: We plan to target honeysuckle removal around areas with healthy native trees.

continued



Above: Skunk cabbage in a riparian wetland.

Right: One of many great oaks on the property.

A next step will be to take action to restore and expand the native forest on the farm. One of the exciting things about the Sutton Farm is that it contains an old growth woodland with a number of mature oak and hickory trees, including black walnut, red, scarlet, burr, and white oak, and pignut, bitternut, and shagbark hickory. Unfortunately, invasive species have made it so that these trees have been unable to serve as the matriarchs of a future forest. By eliminating the honeysuckle that is crowding and outcompeting the oaks and hickories, we hope to give future generations of acorns and hickory nuts a fighting chance to grow and prosper. The Priority Resotration Areas map on page 7 shows our target areas for honey-suckle removal.

As we implement our management plan for the farm, we'll monitor how those efforts are impacting the ecology of the farm and the rest of the Glen. Calming the flow of water on the farm should lead to a higher water table there, which should allow more wetland species to flourish. Removing honeysuckle and other invasive plants should make it so we start seeing oak and hickory seedlings. In time, we'll expect a greater diversity of native birds and mammals. Essentially, our role as stewards of this land is to see to it that every year, it's a little healthier than it was a year prior. 🌿

Nick Boutis (nboutis@glenhelen.org)



Want to learn more? We'll be hosting a walk on the land on Sunday, May 20, starting at 10:00 am. Unlike a typical walk in the Glen, we'll explore farm fields transitioning from agriculture to woodland, and bushwhack through the woods, crossing Birch Creek several times along the way. Expect scratchy branches and wet stream crossings on this 1.5-mile adventure. Hike cost is \$5, free for members. Please park across the road at 1265 SR 343.

Want to get involved? We'll be hosting a land stewardship day on the Sutton Farm on Sunday, April 15, from 9am to 12 noon. We'll be working to remove invasive species, planting cover crops, and encouraging native plants. Expect hard physical work, but coupled with the immense satisfaction of making a difference. Ages 16+, please. RSVP to asimonson@glenhelen.org.

Up Close & Personal

Any given year, Glen Helen works with many people at the beginning of their careers, whether college students with a part-time job, recent graduates, or folks desiring professional training in environmental education. Below, you'll find stories and perspectives of three such members of our team.

Ian McClung



I've been working with Glen Helen since the beginning of my 3rd year at Antioch, after spending a co-op with an arts non-profit in my hometown. I got to spend my third co-op working here as the Marketing Assistant, and I've continued with that job into my fourth year. Working in marketing for Glen Helen allows me to apply my media arts background to my work life, as well as learn a variety of other

functions involved with communicating events that are happening.

I've updated calendars, generated advertising materials, set up for events, work at events, take photos around the Glen, and help in general where I've been needed. It's been a fantastic opportunity not only to develop my professional skills but to also flex my own media skills when able. I've thoroughly enjoyed working at Glen Helen, and moving forward I'll always look back on the Glen with joy. I'm still around for a few months, and while I have helped people with directions in the past when they wandered down into the offices, the main thing that proves I exist are the postings you see on the Glen Helen Facebook page.

Ian is a fourth-year student at Antioch College. Post-graduation, he is looking toward graduate communications programs.

Kelsey Pierson

My relationship with Glen Helen began during the Fall of 2013, when I met former Land Manager George Bieri at an Antioch job fair; part of the orientation programming during my very first week at college. I was excited about the idea of working outside in the



Kelsey, at work with George Bieri

woods, especially as I had already had a taste of trail management and invasive species removal from volunteer work at other organizations, and knew that I found it engaging and rewarding.

As a Miller Fellow I quickly fell in love with working in the Glen and grew fond of my coworkers and the volunteers that work with us. I was learning a lot on the job: about the plants that make up the forest, the relationships between them, and the ways people have influenced these relationships, from past uses of the land to the invasive plants that have been introduced over time. This new knowledge led me to begin exploring environmental science as an academic path; far from what I expected to study when I entered college.

My job in the Glen was

also integral in setting the trajectory of my co-op experiences. When I was looking for my first co-op placement, George connected me with Nancy Stranahan, the director of the Arc of Appalachia Nature Preserve System. This connection led me to spend the spring of my freshman year in South Central Ohio, where I learned more about the historic and current conditions of the Eastern Deciduous Forest, the plants within it, and how much similar work can change within a different group of people, organization, and landscape. Over the course of the next 3 years I held co-op jobs at the Wild Horse Sanctuary in Northern California, Powdermill Nature Reserve in Southwestern Pennsylvania, and the Aullwood Audubon Center and Farm in Dayton.

During my time in Yellow Springs, my continued employment in the Glen was a welcome reprieve from academia as I pursued my self-designed degree in Environmental Science and Media Arts. My senior project, the culmination of my work experiences and academic ventures, took the form of a botanical

continued

field guide 'zine filled with original photography and personal musings, inspired by the relationship I had developed with local plants, many of which I had come to know through my time in the Glen.

As I take time to collect myself and look to the future after a hectic 4 years, I am profoundly grateful for the learning, community, and work provided by Glen Helen and made possible by the Miller Fellowship of the Yellow Springs Community Foundation.

Kelsey graduated from Antioch College in September 2017, and has continued on with us as a land stewardship contractor.

Kevyn Breedon

Children visiting Glen Helen Outdoor Education Center experience many Firsts. First time being away from home. First time seeing an owl or a bald eagle. First time stepping into a creek. First time exploring a decomposing log. First time holding a snake. First time walking outside in the dark without a flashlight during their Night Hike. First time being without a phone, tablet, or computer. First time climbing a tree. I once led an activity on leaf printing using tempera paints. To my surprise, none of the 5th graders present had



Outdoor Education Center Naturalists: (front, left to right) Sara Lobdell, Michael Blackwell (Director), Emily Kridel, Kevyn Breedon, Melissa Lutz; (rear, left to right) Nathan Fox, Laci Rose, Teresa Slonaker, Emma Strick, Jonathan Brokaw, Devin Herlihy, Megan Lineweaver

ever painted on their hands and simply made hand prints. It was a most joyous and messy First.

When we, the naturalists and students, sit down at each meal, we practice the art of passing food around the table, pouring our own drinks, and cleaning up after ourselves. For the child who receives only packaged meals both at school and at home, this family-style setting also becomes a First. For the child raised on the highest expectations of manners, licking ketchup off their plate to meet our goal in the Wasted Food Challenge is another joyous and messy First.

As a naturalist, I have experienced my own Firsts. First time having an owl perched on my hand. First time leading a dozen mildly terrified children around the woods in the dark of

a new moon. First time being able to say that my commute to work is walking in those woods to the sound of birds greeting the morning and never once having to wait for a traffic light. Most importantly, in my career as an educator, it is the first time teaching outside more often than inside.

It is only in relatively few remaining areas of the world where children will learn their most important lessons outside and, in many cases, entirely on their own accord and at their own pace. For most of human history, children were afforded a great deal of time to climb trees, step in creeks, and be messy. Of course, they also received plenty of instruction on how to behave in a good way, the routines of daily living, the vast knowledge

passed down with each generation, and how to survive – how to start a fire, how to catch a fish, how to skin an animal, and how to identify which berries are safe to eat.

We value dearly these memories of tree climbing, encountering wild animals, and berry picking in our own childhood. So why are these such rare experiences? How can it be that a child will have these Firsts after surviving ten winters on Earth? If massive disconnection from nature is passed down to their children's children, what will happen to humanity? What will happen to this planet which we call home?

Kevyn is currently a Naturalist Intern with the Outdoor Education Center. He has studied graphic design, traveled the country, and taught with Americorps.

Raptor Rehabilitation Over the Years: A Rehabber Tries to "Science"

In order for the Raptor Center to operate legally, we are required to hold state and federal permits that allow us to conduct rehabilitation and to keep birds on site. Every year, we have to have file reports to document our work. And, we are nearing our 50th anniversary. This means, among other things, that we have accumulated almost five decades of data on our rehabilitation and education efforts.

While I was sitting at my desk compiling the 2017 rehab report for the Feds, I started thinking about what secrets were inside those years of accumulated data, parked on a dust bookshelf over my desk. So here, I offer you just a taste, a tiny peek at what this data reveals. Perhaps, once I have more time and am able to get an advanced degree in statistics, I'll be back with more.

I was most curious to look at the trends over time of the five most common species we take in: Red-tailed hawks, Eastern screech-owls, Cooper's hawks, Great horned owls, and American kestrels. These five species span habitats from forest to farm fields to backyard neighborhoods. Here they are, plotted over an eleven year period.

What secrets do the data reveal? Short answer, I'm not sure. Long answer, there are some interesting observations to be had!

The most striking comparison to me are the graphs for the Eastern

Raptor Education and Rehabilitation: 2017 by the numbers

	Received	Released	Transferred	Pending	Euthanized	Died	DOA
Great horned owl	45	15	0	0	10	19	1
Red-tailed hawk	43	11	0	2	17	12	1
Cooper's hawk	34	7	0	1	3	23	0
Eastern screech-owl	30	17	0	1	5	5	2
Red-shouldered hawk	17	6	0	0	1	10	0
Turkey vulture	12	1	1	1	8	2	0
American kestrel	11	8	0	0	0	3	0
Bald eagle	6	3	0	0	2	1	0
Barred owl	6	1	0	0	4	1	0
Broad-winged hawk	3	2	0	0	0	1	0
Peregrine falcon	3	2	0	1	0	0	0
Black vulture	2	0	0	0	0	1	1
Snowy owl	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
Totals	213	73	1	6	50	79	5

2017 was a very busy year with 213 total raptor intakes from 13 species. This was the highest intake total since 2002, so food and medical supplies took a bit of a hit this year. Thankfully, our loyal donor base and a few supply drives kept us operational. Many of the birds that came in this year were showing neurological signs of West Nile virus, which was particularly deadly this year. Despite this, the release rate remained just over 30%, within the expected for wildlife rehabilitation.

2017 was another big year for eagles, whose populations are still on the rise in southwestern Ohio. We also saw more kestrels this year than in the recent past. The past few years have seen a decline in the number of kestrels in rehab, so having eight baby kestrels was an interesting development. Thankfully, we were able to release seven as healthy youngsters after a bit of TLC and some serious hunting practice.

Educational programs in 2017 spread the word of conservation. We conducted 310 programs to just under 4,000 individuals at the Raptor Center, and another 77 programs and almost 4,000 individuals reached through offsite programming. In total, 7,684 people experienced an in depth educational experience with our non-releasable educational ambassadors, in addition to the estimated 10,000 self-guided visitors touring the Raptor Center during daily open hours.

screech-owl and American kestrel. Though there are consistently more screech-owls admitted to the clinic than kestrels, with the exception of 2011, their graphs are almost identically shaped. Both of these small raptors depend on cavities or nest boxes in order to lay their eggs. They do not create these spaces themselves, but rather rely on abandoned natural cavities or the presence of man-made nesting boxes in suitable open

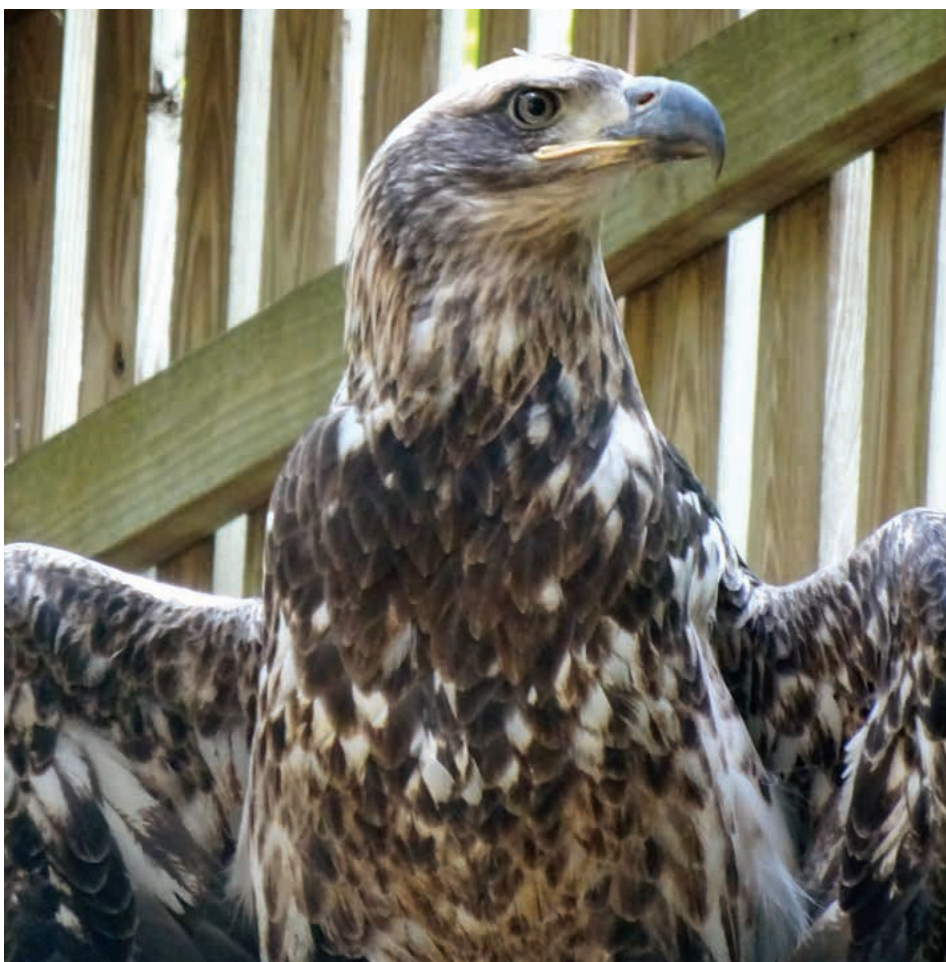
woodland or farm habitats. Their prey of choice is similar as well, especially during their first few years of hunting when they take a large number of small insects, invertebrates, amphibians, and reptiles. Perhaps during these years of fewer intakes, the prey populations were abundant and fewer youngsters were in need of human assistance. Conversely, it is possible that the decrease in intakes

continued



Top left: A red phase Eastern Screech-owl released in 2017.

Below left: A young Bald Eagle getting ready to be released.



is indicative of a decline in species population, thus fewer individuals ending up in peril.

Between 2011 and 2012, the number of rehab admissions increased for all five of these species, followed by a dramatic down turn in 2013. Does the data tell us that 2013 was a year of abundance? Perhaps 2012 was particularly hard on raptor populations resulting in a lower population density and less competition in the following year? If we were to separate human-related intakes and remove them from our data, I wonder if our graphs would reveal a different narrative? There are so many questions I have floating in my head. What if I overlapped the data with weather or precipitation? Would I see a correlation between intake numbers and the fluctuations related to climate change? How does human population density affect the types of species that are brought into the Raptor Center?

Ultimately, the data contained in this small sample, as well as the well-spring of data resting on my dusty shelves, proves to be far too complex for this intrepid Raptor Center Director to piece together. Perhaps some daring college student will be able to pick up where I have left off. Though I must leave you with more questions than answers for now, if I have sparked curiosity, or fired up your own desire to dig further into the complex and changing world in our own backyards, I have done enough. After all, any good scientist starts with questions. Now go out, and quest!

Rebecca Jaramillo rjaramillo@glenhelen.org

Thanks, Robbie!

In December, we said farewell to Robbie Marion, who has been part of our property management team since 2011. Apart from his boundless energy and endlessly cheery disposition, Robbie brought with him a rare suite of talents and interests. His band, Blue Moon Soup, brought their bluegrass sound to several concerts at the Glen. Last year, when we were contemplating how to move several boulders to restore the Birch Creek stepping stones, Robbie's family draft horse was called into service. In his spare time, Robbie maintained his own custom matting and framing service, CruxCalix.

Reflecting on his experience in the Glen, Robbie noted, "I was incredibly lucky to find a job at my hometown nature preserve; a place I had spent much of my childhood exploring and a place I thought I knew from end to end. Over the next 7 years I found that there was so much more to do and experience. It was at Glen Helen I began to realize that a career working towards the protection and advocacy of the world's incredibly important, yet threatened natural resources, could be a reality. I'm very hopeful for a future and career involved in the protection and proliferation of the natural places that could indeed be the world's most valuable assets."

He's now at Ohio State University, pursuing a degree in Natural Resource Management and Administration, no doubt with a substantial leg up on his peers. We wish him all the best! 🍀



Robbie Marion

From the Archives



The Inman Terrace

W. Boyd Alexander, Antioch College Dean of Faculty, delivers remarks at the dedication of the Inman Terrace. Named for biology professor Ondess Inman, the Terrace was built from limestone harvested from lime kilns found in the area of the current Glen Helen parking lot.

Behind professor Alexander, former Antioch President Arthur Morgan and then-Glen Helen Director Ken Hunt are also visible.

Today, the Terrace, with its plaque recognizing Dr. Inman, is well used as a place to pause before or after encountering the long row of stone steps into the Glen.

While the date of the photo is uncertain, the Inman Trail itself was dedicated in 1943. One notable change was made at some point: the low wall that the speakers were sitting on was extended to the left.

Announcements

Ecocamp Registration Now Available

Give your children or grandchildren a truly one-of-a-kind summer camp experience where they have the time of their lives, while learning about the natural world. Investigation and exploration is the focus as campers hike the trails of Glen Helen and discover the wildness and joy of nature.

A variety of camps are offered for five to fifteen year olds by our qualified Naturalist staff. Ecocamp covers a wide variety of topics and offers a diversity of experiences, including day and overnight camps.

To learn more, or to register your child, visit glenhelen.org.

On the Trail and Behind the Scenes at the Annual Run

The Glen Helen Earth Day 5K/10K is coming up on April 22nd. One of the few runs in the area that takes place totally off-road, the event is a great way to challenge yourself on a fun walk or run, while supporting Glen Helen. Registration is open now, and accessible via glenhelen.org.

For all those who'd like to help, but don't want to run or walk, please consider volunteering. We need volunteers for race preparation, folks to check the trail pre-race, trail monitors, water station and start /finish line support, and people to get everything put away post-race.

Contact asimonson@glenhelen.org to get involved.

Jim McCormac to Speak at the Annual Meeting

Jim is one of Ohio's great naturalists, in addition to being a gifted speaker and photographer. We've wanted to host him for years, and finally will get that chance at the Glen Helen Association annual meeting on May 16, at 7pm in our auditorium. He will present "A Romp through Ohio's Flora and Fauna."

Look forward to a pictorial adventure; a wander through Ohio's varied habitats with visits to flora and fauna great and small. We'll look at well-known plants and animals, and obscure species that few have heard of or encountered.

Jim worked for the Ohio Department of Natural Resources for 31 years as a botanist, and later specializing in wildlife diversity projects, especially involving birds. He has authored or coauthored six books, including *Birds of Ohio* and *Wild Ohio: The Best of Our Natural Heritage*.

Seeking Great Images for Our 2019 Wall Calendar!

The diversity of habitats and wildlife in Glen Helen provides outstanding photo opportunities for photographers at all levels of experience. We invite both first time visitors and long time friends to send us photographs taken in the Glen for a chance to be featured in our wall calendar.

We hope for images that convey the different moods and seasons of Glen Helen – an iced-over spring, a flower or animal only found at

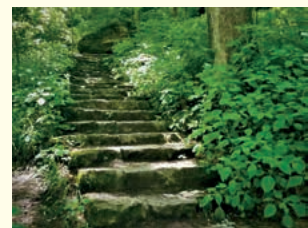


Photo: Daniella Caudle

Save the Date for these 2018 Glen Helen Events

Pancake Breakfast:

April 8

Earth Day 5K/10K:

April 22

Earth Day Raptor Center Program:

April 22

Make it Count for the Birds:

May 5

Glen Helen Association Annual Meeting:

May 16

Friends Music Camp Benefit Concert:

July 29

Whoo Cooks for You?:

September 9

Glen Helen Association Bird Seed Sale:

October 20

Raptor Center Fall Open House:

October 21

Watch for information on glenhelen.org.

a certain time of year, a lush green meadow on a summer day, a foggy morning sunrise in late fall – anything that captures what is special about Glen Helen.

The deadline for submission is July 31st, 2018. Submission forms are available at glenhelen.org. Proceeds from the calendar sales support the Glen.

Order a Glen Helen License Plate Today!

The Glen Helen license plate is a way to show the world that you love the Glen. Plus, as a bonus, you get



to drive with a beautiful Charley Harper

sapsucker affixed to your bumper. Any Ohio car owner can acquire the tag, either from your local Bureau of Motor Vehicles office, or by visiting oplates.com. No need to wait until your regular renewal date on your birthday – you can order your plates at any time.

For each driver who purchases these specialty plates, Glen Helen receives \$15.

Join Our Family of Volunteers

We depend on volunteers to carry out the programs, events, and initiatives that help preserve Glen Helen. From fundraisers, to mailings, to trail maintenance, volun-



teers at the Glen not only participate in our important efforts, they have fun while they do it! Whether you are a short-term volunteer with a service requirement, or seek a longer-term position, we may have an opportunity for you.

To learn more, and to join our family of volunteers, contact asimonson@glenhelen.org.

Support the Glen When You Shop at Amazon.com

Participating is very simple. All you have to do is go to “smile.amazon.com,” any time you’d like to make an Amazon.com purchase. When you are prompted to select your charity, select “Glen Helen Association.” Everything else about your Amazon shopping experience stays the same – the shopping cart, wish lists, shipping options and prices. You shop. Amazon donates 0.5% of your purchase to the Glen.

Adopt a Raptor

When you “adopt” one of our resident hawks, owls, eagles, falcons, or vultures, you help us provide



the specialized care needed for our resident and rehabilitating birds of prey. Plus, you have the pleasure and pride of helping care for our avian ambassadors! Give a unique gift to someone special, or pledge your support for our avian friends. Adopt a Raptor today!

To learn more, contact rjaramillo@glenhelen.org.



Follow us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/glenhelen




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"It is the secret of the world that all things
subsist and do not die, but retire a little
from sight and afterwards return again."
— Ralph Waldo Emerson

Members provide direct support to Glen Helen's land, trails, and programs.
You hike it. You love it. Support it. [**www.glenhelen.org/membership**](http://www.glenhelen.org/membership)

Photo: Fallen Tree by Daniella Caudle