



# Cedar Bog Review

Newsletter of the Cedar Bog Association  
Spring - Summer 2005

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[www.cedarbog.org](http://www.cedarbog.org)

## President's Message

It is with great sadness that I write this letter to inform you of the death of Cedar Bog site manager, Terry Jaworski on March 28, 2005 at his home in Urbana, Ohio.

Terry had been site manager at Cedar Bog since 1976, and spent those years as a passionate advocate for the importance of the natural wonders of Cedar Bog. He helped create the Cedar Bog Association in 1982 to support his important work to protect and promote the bog. Terry was also an adjunct professor at Urbana University for 15 years, teaching botany, including local flora and fauna, with the bog as his extended classroom.

Terry was a wonderful friend and mentor. All who came to the bog were greeted as friends, and left with a greater appreciation for the beauty they had seen whether in the soft colors of the spring flowers, the radiant, golden hues of the marsh marigolds, or the bold fall colors that dominate the eye. Terry always found ways to teach as he shared his knowledge that left the participant hungry for more and returning time after time to gain a greater appreciation of the bog.

Terry will be sorely missed. He leaves a beautiful daughter, Anna, who is graduating from Urbana University this spring. We will miss his "larger than life" personality, his love of storytelling and adventure, and his quick wit and love of puns. He leaves us with a love of Cedar Bog and the wild prairies that he loved. He also leaves a legacy for us to follow. To protect and appreciate the bog, to work with the Ohio Historical Society to achieve his dream of an interpretive center where programming and research will provide new avenues of learning about our natural environment, and to always take time to appreciate the beauty of nature and share our knowledge with others.

The Ohio Historical Society will begin the process of hiring a new site manager. There will be a place in the process for input from the Association and the local community. We will keep you informed of the process as it develops.

The Cedar Bog Association members and the volunteers trained by Terry will be manning the Bog kiosk on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays. Please let us know if you would like to spend some time greeting visitors and sharing information on seasonal plants.

*Zara Liskowiak*



*June 17, 1949 - March 28, 2005*

## Memorial Fund

A Memorial Fund has been established in Terry's name. His daughter, Anna, wishes that all contributions to this fund be used in supporting the building fund. As of this writing, more than \$1110 has been placed in the fund.

Contributions can be made to the Cedar Bog Association and sent to the following address:

Cedar Bog Association  
PO Box 510  
Urbana OH 43078-0510

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## Always and Forever

All of us who knew Terry are finding it hard to deal with his loss. Many of you have small children who may find it even more difficult to understand the loss they feel. This is a subject dealt with beautifully in a picture book titled *Always and Forever*, written by Alan Durant and illustrated by Debi Gliori. The book follows the story of forest friends Otter, Mole, and Hare who lose their friend Fox. Fox falls ill and is found in the forest. His friends go through the grieving process and eventually find ways to remember Fox with love and happiness. Told simply in a way that young ones can understand, the book teaches children to remember loved ones and to remember happy times shared with loved ones lost. Even adults can find some comfort in this well-written story.

### **Always and Forever**

Author: Alan Durant  
Illustrator: Debi Gliori  
Publisher: Great Britain - Doubleday 2003  
US - Harcourt, Inc. , Random House Children's Books 2004  
ISBN: 0-15-216636-X

## Friends and Colleagues of Ralph Ramey:

Since Ralph is a recent-past OHS Trustee, and remains active in the Cedar Bog Association, I thought each of you would appreciate hearing the following information.



This past Saturday (February 26th) was the annual Ohio Natural History Conference sponsored by the Ohio Biological Survey and held here at the Ohio Historical Center. There was an impressive agenda with 17 talks on various natural history projects and research around the State, 8 poster presentations, a keynote speech by Dr. W. Hardy Eshbaugh (retired professor of Miami University, and Board member of the National Audubon Society) and an award presentation.

The award presentation was for the Ohio Naturalist Award, an annual award given to an Ohioan who has spent a lifetime of service in the field of natural history -- not necessarily in an academic format (the annual Osborn Award from OBS is for Academic Biologists). I cannot tell you how many years this award has been given, but Brian Armitage of the Ohio Biological Survey could provide details (614/ 457-8787 or [OhioBioSurvInc@aol.com](mailto:OhioBioSurvInc@aol.com)).

At any rate, the important part of this message is that the award this year was

presented to Ralph Ramey, recognizing his help and direction in promoting the Natural Areas laws, years of service as Director at Glen Helen, Director of Miami County Parks, and finally Chief of the Division of Natural Areas and Preserves, ODNR -- plus his multiple books on hiking Ohio trails and his support for many, many Ohio nature-related organizations (not all mentioned, but including Cedar Bog Association, Ohio Prairie Association, Ohio Chapter of the Nature Conservancy).

I was not aware in advance that Ralph was going to be the recipient of this Award, so it was a truly exciting and satisfying experience to see him being so honored. I'm sure many of you will wish to pass along your congratulations to Ralph.

Bob Glotzhober

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## Bog Viewings

From Don Gehlbach, a frequent Friday visitor:  
Just a quick report of our visit to the bog on Friday. (visited on Friday 08 April). We entered without seeing anyone at the reception area at about noon. Our sojourn was eventful as usual. The Marsh Marigolds were plentiful and almost in full bloom. What a sight! Then as we walked next to the creek along the rear boardwalk a River Otter appeared right in front of us. He or she crossed one of the dead logs then quickly burrowed into the creek bank under the log. Wow! We see the most unusual mammals and birds on our visits to the bog. What a wonderful natural area deserving much more notoriety and support.

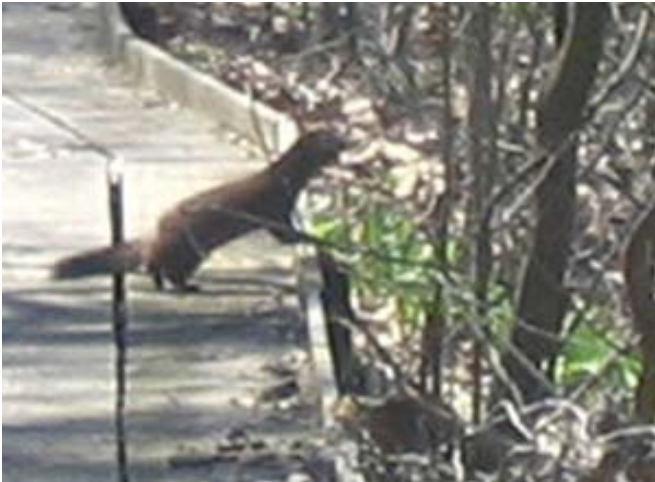
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The marsh marigolds are up, Jack-in-the-pulpits have been sighted as well as trilliums and other spring plants.

In early June, expect the Showy Lady Slipper Orchids to be up and blooming. As with the past two years, plants seem to be blooming about 1½ to 2 weeks earlier than usual.

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Also seen n the boardwalk in early April of this year: a mink!  
Awesome!



 *Mink on the boardwalk. Photo courtesy of Terry Franey of Lexington KY*

## Twenty-five Years of Observations of Ohio's Massasauga Rattlesnakes.

As related by Doug Wynn, Westerville North High School, at the February 26, 2005 Ohio Natural History Conference.  
Summarized by Bob Glotzhober

One of 17 talks at this annual conference hosted by the Ohio Biological Survey; Doug's talk was certainly interesting and carries a lot of information useful to relate to the massasaugas that live at Cedar Bog.

Doug has concentrated mostly on Timber Rattlesnakes in Ohio, but also has worked with Massasauga Rattlesnakes. He first started casual studies of massasauga in 1979. In 1994 he placed his first pit tag in a massasauga. A pit tag is a very small computer chip that acts a transponder. It contains no battery (which keeps it small and inexpensive) but if you have a snake with a pit tag located and are close enough, a signal from a reader will bounce back to the reader and provide an identification number so you then know exactly which individual snake you are examining. The same technology is in use by some folks to permanently mark expensive dogs so their identity can later be proven if they are lost or stolen. The pit tag is placed beneath the skin with little harm to the animal and does not appear to affect its behavior or survivorship.

Combining information directly from his pit-tagged snakes, as well as from the literature, Doug has produced the following general info about Ohio massasaugas. Massasaugas typically appear in spring between April 20 and May 30th. Diet is mostly Meadow Voles, but also includes other snakes, frogs, amphibians and occasional ground nesting birds. Litters appear typically between August 4th and 27th. Females first reproduce at 3 years of age, then reproduce every year. Average litter (born alive) = 7.6 snakes. Recovery of pit tagged snakes by Doug: 30 within 1 year; 18 within 2 years; 4 after 3 years; only one after 4 years. Estimate life expectancy in the wild = 6 years. Longest known captive snake = 19 years. In Missouri, the young have an 80% mortality their first year - although in Ontario this is only 20%. Doug has no data yet on first year mortality in Ohio. Adult mortality is generally considered to be 25%, with various raptors, coons, skunks, coyotes and foxes eating them.

## Skunk Cabbage Walk 2005

On Sunday, February 27th, Terry led his annual Skunk Cabbage Walk through the bog. The photos taken are available on the Cedar Bog website. It was noted that one young visitor was counting the skunk cabbages on the walk. He quit when he surpassed the 500 mark. As someone said, they were everywhere!



 *Skunk Cabbage*



 *Terry doing some of his memorable teaching*



 *Does Skunk Cabbage Smell?*

 *Frost Heave on the chip path*



## Earth Day 2005

Earth Day activities were scheduled for this coming Saturday with a walk through the bog to be led by Terry.

The bog will be open and volunteers will be on hand both at the kiosk as well as in the bog to answer any questions that visitors might have.

Please come and enjoy the day.

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## First Friday in May

Folks who live in the Urbana area - don't forget First Friday on the square in Urbana. The Cedar Bog Association will have a booth at this monthly event in May.

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## The Last Word

Thanks to everyone who contributed to this issue, especially to Terry Franey for his photo of the mink and to Amy Boltz for her photo of Terry. Also, thanks to Sally Engle and Bob Glotzhofer. And, thank you to all the members and friends who have contributed to the Memorial Fund.

As Zara said in her President's Message: "Terry will be sorely missed."

Sláinte & Iwyl, Melanie Pratt, Editor

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