

Organizing and Preserving Information on a Local Environmental Resource



Introduction

The Central Kentucky Wildlife Refuge is a 500-acre preserve in the knob land area bordering a stretch of the North Rolling Fork River near Danville, Kentucky. It includes five main trails (one over a knob), a bluebird trail with a dozen bluebird boxes, four ponds, a bird blind, an education center/pavilion, and an observation gazebo. The Refuge, which celebrated its fortieth anniversary in 2005, was developed as a non-profit organization and is open to all as a protected area for the enjoyment and study of nature. It is a valuable resource for Boyle and surrounding counties and for Centre College faculty and students, serving as an outdoor lab for classes in biology and ecology.

The Refuge's value to the public and to Centre College can be enhanced if scientific and historical information gleaned at or produced by people working at the Refuge can be organized, digitized, and made more accessible to scientists, historians, educators, and the public. That information is currently scattered in several places: the Centre College library, a local bank vault, and in the closets of some Refuge board members. This proposal for a Student Development and Engagement grant outlines a plan for organizing and preserving the materials with the help of a student intern from Centre College.

Project Description

We propose to engage an intern for the remainder of the 2007-08 academic year (beginning approximately November 15, 2007) to complete the following tasks:

- Organize and review the material in the archives.
 - Sort by category and date
 - Identify duplicated materials for possible disposal.
- Prepare suitable material for digitization and/or preservation.
 - Preserve scrapbook materials and transfer them to acid-free paper.
 - Transfer existing species lists to electronic media.

Evaluation and Dissemination

Evaluation will be based on the quality of the completed tasks. The ultimate goal of the project is to have the materials organized and preserved to document the history of the first forty years of the Central Kentucky Wildlife Refuge.

All of the materials produced will be available or referred to on the Refuge website, in the Centre College Library, and/or in the vault of Farmers National Bank.

Personal Statement

Mary Beth Garriott will supervise the intern, a junior biology major who also works in the Centre College Library, with assistance from the co-Education Directors and/or volunteers from the Refuge Board of Directors. Ms. Garriott is a Research Librarian at Centre College. She has served the Centre Library for over 30 years as a Cataloger, Reference Librarian and Library Instruction teacher. She is a member of the American Library Association, Association of College and Research Librarians, Kentucky Library Association and LOEX (Library Orientation Exchange).

Budget

The project request is for \$1,500, a stipend for the intern. The Central Kentucky Wildlife Refuge will pay for any consumable materials required for the project.

Submitted by
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