

The Resource

Employee Newsletter of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources

September 2003



DAMEYON SHIPLEY — GRANTING YOUR WISHES

Not everybody could ride herd on more than 300 active grants totaling around \$28 million — but Dameyon Shipley does, and does it quite well.

He came to ODNR three years ago as a grants coordinator for REALM. For the past year, he's been the administrator of the Recreation Services Section, managing grants programs that provide money for local recreation projects and land acquisitions.

Among the grant programs Dameyon and his staff, Lisa Wilson and Param Johar, oversee are:

NatureWorks Grants: Since the passage of the Ohio Parks and Recreation bond issue nearly 10 years ago, more than \$55 million has been awarded to Ohio communities for community-based recreation improvements. Each year, an average of 200 communities apply for funding for projects such as new swimming pools, ball fields, or shelter houses. Projects are competitively judged against other projects in each county.

Land & Water Conservation Fund: For nearly 40 years, ODNR has administered the distribution of federal LWCF grants in Ohio. These grants are used for outdoor recreation development and land acquisition by local communities and ODNR.

Capital Grants: Every two years, when the state's capital budget is approved, the Ohio General Assembly provides

funding for special outdoor recreation projects in specific communities.

"There are very few places in Ohio where we haven't funded something!" Dameyon said.

The kinds of projects financed through these grants are as varied as the communities that seek them. Skate parks, bleachers, basketball and tennis courts, shelters, restrooms, lighting, fencing, landscaping, parking, ponds, playgrounds, walkways, and ball fields are just a sample.

For most grants, Dameyon and staff not only review and score every application, but also make site visits to every proposed project. When all the information is in, he makes recommendations to the chief on which projects should receive funding.

But that's not the end of it. After the grants are awarded, they oversee the progress of each project to ensure the grantees are in compliance with guidelines and projects are completed per the agreement.

In addition, Dameyon and staff are often called upon to help grantees deal with local issues and facilitate the competitive bidding process with legal counsel. "It involves lots of phone calls," he emphasized.

What Dameyon likes best about his job is the end result. "It's wonderful to go out to the communities and see what they got for their money. Maybe they had an old playground with



rusty, broken down equipment — and now they have a new one for the children of the community to enjoy. I'll tell you what, it could be easy to get lost in the paperwork of this job, but when you're out there and see the people get something decent for themselves, it makes your day every time!"

Dameyon Shipley, who previously worked for Lutheran Social Services, was born in Champaign, Illinois; he now lives in Columbus with wife, Melissa, and son, Drey, who is 10 years old. One of his passions is the Buckeyes. He said "I have been blessed enough to have season tickets to the Ohio State football games for the past 10 years. I think I may have missed two games!"

THE PRETTIEST GARDENS

From Laura Roth,
Horticulturist



ANISE HYSSOP
(agastache: say
ag-uh-STASH-ee)



According to Laura Roth, anise hyssop is a “butterfly, bee, and hummingbird magnet!”

This perennial herb has bright purple flowers and, when crushed, leaves that smell like a mix of mint and licorice. It’s a member of the mint family, with the typical square stems, and can grow three feet tall. Laura added, “Agastache is a wholly North American genus — a late summer bloomer that potentially could bloom until October.”

One of the most aromatic plants of the prairie, anise hyssop is good to use in cut flower arrangements, sachets, and potpourris. It’s also used in herbal teas, salads, seasonings, and flavorings for pound cake, butter, and drinks.

The plant has long been popular in folk remedies. “The Cree, Cheyenne, and Lakota used it for medicinal purposes,” Laura said. Its main use was for respiratory disorders — colds, flu, and bronchitis.

Drought-tolerant anise hyssop grows best in full to partial sun, in the middle or back of your flower border. It mixes well with other wildflowers, such as white false indigo and Ohio spiderwort. The plant is easy to grow from seed, and re-seeds itself.

HEALTH & FITNESS UPDATE

GOAL + ACTION = SUCCESS

In June of last year, **Phil Miller** turned 40 years old and, while playing with his kids, he realized he didn’t have the same old stamina as he used to. Could it be because of the extra weight he’d put on over the years? He decided to do something about it: he set a goal to get his weight down to at least 170 pounds.

“I began riding my bike on the local bike path for 45 minutes every morning,” he said, “which is the best time of day because the only other people out there are the ones serious about exercising!”



Since then, Phil, resource planning manager for the Division of Watercraft, has lost 25 pounds and maintains a svelte 168 pounds — “and I feel so much better,” he enthused.

Nowadays, he runs or bikes three times a week and lifts weights two or three times, and has the strength to compete in 5K runs. As far as diet goes, he said, “I eat a little bit healthier — but the main thing is, I eat less.” Phil also completely cut out pop and instead drinks more water.

CHEW ON THIS

Your body is extremely efficient at capturing and storing excess calories. Whenever your body finds that it has excess calories on hand, it converts them to fat and saves them for a rainy day. It only takes 3,500 excess calories to create one pound of new fat on your body. If you are taking in just 500 extra calories per day, then you are gaining a pound of fat per week (500 calories x 7 days in a week = 3,500 calories/week). Since it is easy to get 500 calories from just one ice cream cone or a few cookies, you can see that weight gain is completely effortless in today’s society. Food is just too easy to find.



From “How Stuff Works” web site (<http://home.howstuffworks.com/diet2.htm>)

GET THE SKINNY ON FITNESS

Get a healthy dose of information on Wednesday, September 10, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Fountain Square’s Health Fair.

Representatives from several local fitness centers and Weight Watchers will be on hand to explain their programs’ benefits. Demonstrations of exercise equipment will thrill you with the possibilities of firming up. Blood pressure and body mass index (weight-to-height ratio) screenings will help you learn your body’s secrets.



In addition, you’ll have a chance to work off some of that sedentary stiffness. Skipping — an activity usually associated with happy children — has become a fun way to exercise. Accordingly, ODNR teams will compete for prizes in a skipping relay. For non-skippers, a walking relay will also be held.

The Health Fair will be held in the cafeteria, the assembly center, and outside. You can get more information or sign up for the relays by contacting **Sybil Bell** in Parks (614-265-6529) or **Cindi Solomon** in Human Resources (614-265-6941).

TIDBITS

HE WILL BE MISSED: Park officer **Rob Sears**, a 23-year veteran at East Fork State Park, passed away while on vacation in Canada.



A graduate of Hocking Technical College, he said his job was never really work because he loved it so much. Rob was active in his community, his church, and the Boy Scouts. A long time resident of Williamsburg, he is survived by wife Linda, and children Ben and Jessica.

ANIMALS LOVE HIM: **Mark Shieldcastle** has been named research project leader at Crane Creek Wildlife Research Station. He oversees wetlands wildlife research programs, including monitoring the health of Ohio's bald eagles, ducks, trumpeter swans, geese, sandhill cranes, beavers, river otters, and other mammals.

A REAL WINNER: Watercraft officer **Adam Prokop** was honored as a Boating Law Enforcement Officer of the Year by the National Association of Boating Law Administrators. He was also named area supervisor of Watercraft's central Ohio field office at Alum Creek. In addition, Prokop was ODNr's Watercraft Officer of the Year 2002.

STUDENT AID: **Marlene Hall**, office assistant with Mineral Resources Management in Uniontown, received a \$250 Les Best Scholarship from OCSEA. She is currently studying business at Malone College in Canton.

PROPOSE A TOAST: The ODNr Toastmasters club, Naturally Speaking, elected new officers for its one-year anniversary: President **Kathy Westrick**, Vice President of Education **Dan Kush**, Vice President of Membership **Sondra Yates**, Vice President of Public Relations **Cindi Solomon**, Treasurer **Tina Ray**, and

Sergeant at Arms **Sybil Bell**. Three members have become Competent Toastmasters by completing their tenth presentation: **Sondra Yates**, **Kathy Westrick**, and **Arley Owens**.

THEY STAMP OUT WILDFIRES:

Nine ODNr employees were members of the first Ohio Inter-agency Fire Crew who helped suppress forest fires in Gila National Forest, New Mexico. Crew members include: **Gary Vollrath**, **Rodney Neff**, **Joshua Shepherd**, **Ronald Collins**, **Ryan Hancock**, **Clayton Acord**, **Jeffrey Clarke**, **Pat Williams**, and **Cory Kerr**. The second crew, consisting of **Charlie Lee** and **Rich Cappell**, recently returned from the Red Point fire in the Black Hills Region of South Dakota. All are with the Division of Forestry.

MILESTONES

Transfers

Carl Miller, Navigational Aid Coord., from CCC to Watercraft
Cheryl Nnadi, Human Resources Manager, from CCC to Watercraft
Linda Elliott, Account Clerk, from Parks to Watercraft/Portsmouth
Jason Snyder, Officer, Wildlife, from Van Wert Co. to Miami Co.
Jeremy Twigg, Area Technician, from CCC to Wildlife/Urbana
Bette Boyles, Office Assistant, from CCC to Wildlife #4
William Thomas, Area Technician, from CCC to Wildlife #1/Deer Creek
James Batey, Admin. Asst. 2, from CCC to Wildlife #4/Fish Mgmt.
Steve Bates, AA3, from MRM to Human Resources

New Hires

Kevin Dixon, Public Information Officer, Wildlife
Elizabeth Reeb, Exec. Secy, MRM
Watercraft Officers:
Lynn Dunbar, Alum Creek
Dwayne Butts, Buckeye Lake

Andrew Foos, Wapakoneta
Cory Hartman, Wapakoneta
Scott Stauffer, Ashtabula
Eric Christian, Maumee Bay
Ben Howard, Cambridge
Adam Kahelin, Akron

Retirements

Ramon Hinchliffe, Investigator, Wildlife #3/Law Enforcement, 38+ years
Francis Gura, Jr., Officer, Wildlife #4, 27+ years
Mark Reed, Area Supervisor, Watercraft/Cambridge, 25 years
Julie Jasiota, Design Specialist, MRM/Salem, disability, 19+ years

Promotions

Jason McClarren, from Chemist 3 to Chemical Lab Supervisor 1, MRM/Cambridge
Jeff Tyson, Fisheries Biologist 2 to Fisheries Biology Supervisor, Wildlife/Sandusky
Marilyn Hinderer, from Officer Specialist to Area Supervisor 2, Watercraft/Springfield
John Bird, from Officer Specialist to Area Supervisor 2, Watercraft/Cambridge
Michael Westrick, from NRA1 to Regional Manager, Watercraft #2
Adam Prokop, from Officer Specialist to Area Supervisor 2, Watercraft/Alum Creek
Brenda Sams, from Area Supervisor 2 to Regional Manager, Watercraft #1
Wildlife Officer Cadets promoted to Officer 1
Darin Abbott, Wildlife #4
Jared Abele, Wildlife #5
Jerrod Allison, Wildlife #1
Leighland Arehart, Wildlife #1
Brian Bury, Sandusky Co.
Jeremy Carter, Wildlife #3
Wade Dunlap, Wildlife #3
Matthew Hoehn, Cuyahoga Co.
Ryan Kennedy, Hardin Co.
Kirk Kiefer, Hancock Co.

David Lane, Wildlife #4
 Daniel Perko, Wildlife #4
 Jason Porinchok, Putnam Co.
 Troy Reimund, Defiance Co.
 Brad St. Clair, Van Wert Co.
 Thomas Van Cleve, Allen Co.
 Michele Welsh, Wildlife #5
 Jeffrey Wenning, Wildlife #5
*Established-Term Watercraft Officers
 promoted to Full-Time*
 Lance Hopkins, East Fork
 Eric Christian, Ashtabula
 Dave Bresko, Newton Falls
 Cory Cover, Cleveland



ANNIVERSARIES

5 Years

Scott Hull, Project Leader, Wildlife/
 Olentangy Research
 Chris Dwyer, Biologist, Wildlife/
 Crane Creek
 Laurie Cleaver, Office Assistant,
 Wildlife/Crane Creek
 Matt Fisher, Investigator, Wildlife/
 Lake Erie
 Dustin Thompson, Technician,
 Wildlife/London
 Michelle Dawson, Records
 Specialist, Watercraft
 Janet Steele, Electronic Design
 Specialist, Watercraft
 Cynthia Petit, Account Clerk,
 Watercraft/Maumee Bay

10 Years

Ed Hylton, Registration Agent,
 Watercraft
 Rob Lucas, Admin. Assistant,
 Watercraft

15 Years

Dave Scott, Assistant Administrator,
 Wildlife
 Jean Middlebrooks, Custodial
 Worker, Wildlife #1
 Teresa Beckley, Registration Agent,
 Watercraft
 Tina Blackwell, Registration Agent,
 Watercraft

Saundra Cochran, Programmer
 Specialist, Watercraft
 Toni Keller, Account Clerk,
 Watercraft/Springfield
 Chuck Stiver, Officer Specialist,
 Watercraft/Cleveland
 Linda Elliott, Account Clerk,
 Watercraft/Portsmouth
 Karen Muench, Area Supervisor,
 Watercraft/East Fork

20 Years

Michael Kavage, Inspector, MRM/
 Cambridge
 Robert Lasley, Environmental
 Specialist, MRM
 Charles Martin, Inspector, MRM/
 Jackson
 George Mychkovsky, Geologist,
 MRM
 Phyllis Turner, Office Asst., MRM
 Jenny Phillips, Registration Agent
 Supv., Watercraft
 Joyce Schramm, Admin. Assistant,
 Watercraft
 Sam DeWalt, Investigator,
 Watercraft/Sandusky
 Mike Taylor, LE Special Ops.
 Supervisor, Wildlife
 Darrell Rinker, Technician, Wildlife/
 Hebron
 Martin Baer, Officer, Wildlife #2
 Kenneth Flick, Fish Mgmt. Unit
 Leader, Wildlife #3
 Gary Manley, Investigator, Wildlife/
 Lake Erie

25 Years

Ron Kersten, Fish Mgmt. Unit
 Leader, Wildlife #1
 William Smith, Carpenter,
 Wildlife #1
 Thomas "Brad" Burwell, Environ-
 mental Supv., MRM/New
 Philadelphia
 Lana Crabtree, Secretary, MRM
 Theresa Crosby, Personnel Officer,
 Watercraft
 Beverly Huggins, Records Specialist,
 Watercraft
 Debbie McKee, Admin. Assistant,
 Watercraft

Cordie Turner, Registration Agent,
 Watercraft
 Jim Mayhugh, Investigator,
 Watercraft/Alum Creek
 Dorothy Blevins, Secretary,
 Watercraft/Springfield
 Scott Jones, Officer Specialist,
 Watercraft/Springfield
 Denise Eubanks, Secretary,
 Watercraft/Cambridge
 Eloise Hostetler, Account Clerk,
 Watercraft/Akron
 Bill Staiger, Area Supervisor,
 Watercraft/Akron
 Kathy Kresak, Secretary, Watercraft/
 Cleveland
 Patricia Linden, Secretary,
 Watercraft/Sandusky
 Travens Johnson, Officer Specialist,
 Watercraft/East Fork
 Gary Isbell, Exec. Admin., Fish
 Mgmt. & Research, Wildlife
 Dana Schmidt, Hatchery Supt.,
 Wildlife/Kincaid
 Jim Stafford, Hatchery Supt.,
 Wildlife/Hebron
 William Thomas, Area Technician,
 Wildlife #1
 Mary Jo Mangas, Business Serv.
 Officer, Wildlife #2
 Dick Schorr, NRA, REALM
 Chris Swires, Storekeeper, REALM
30 Years
 Larry Simonetti, Regional Manager,
 Watercraft/Akron
35 Years
 Levi Jenkins, Officer, Wildlife #1

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