



# OHIO YOUNG BIRDERS CLUB

SUMMER/FALL 2018

ENCOURAGING, EDUCATING, AND EMPOWERING  
OUR YOUTH CONSERVATION LEADERS

“Of all of the birding groups and functions in Ohio, I put the Ohio Young Birders Club at the top of the list.  
This is the COOLEST thing going on in Ohio birding!”

~ Greg Miller, “The Big Year”



### *Oh, the Places We'll Go!*

OYBC members attended youth birding and family nature camps across the U.S. this summer.  
(See more on camp adventures on pages 11 and 14.)

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## Ohio Young Birders Club (OYBC)

*"Encouraging, Educating, and Empowering Our Youth Conservation Leaders."*

**Statewide Coordinator**  
Laura Guerard

**Chapter Coordinators**  
Maria Dellapina, Central  
Alex Eberts, Statewide  
Michael Hershberger, Holmes-Wayne Co.  
Paul Hershberger, Holmes-Wayne Co.  
Liz McQuaid, Northeast  
Ann Petrushka, Central  
Maura Rawn, Central  
Debbie Riggs, Southwest  
Darlene Sillick, Central  
Mike Sustin, Northeast  
Patty Toneff, Northwest  
Bev Walborn, Northeast  
Alicia Wilhelm, Southwest

The OYBC was founded in 2006 by  
**Black Swamp  
Bird Observatory**  
*Teaming Research With Education To  
Promote Bird Conservation*

We are located at the entrance to  
Magee Marsh Wildlife Area.

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## Hallie Mason Memorial Scholarship for Young Birders



Beloved Ohio birder, Hallie Mason, left us on September 11, 2017, after a brief battle with Glioblastoma. Hallie's grandmother, Glenna Peoples, fostered in her a spirit of independence and a love of nature which years later developed into a passion for birding. In Ohio birding circles, she was well known for her volunteer work at Black Swamp Bird Observatory (BSBO), in the local Amish community as a proficient birder/mentor, and as a former hospice worker. All who knew Hallie appreciated her keen intelligence, caring professionalism, vibrant personality, and her commitment to encouraging and supporting young birders. BSBO was supremely honored to be named the recipient of donations in Hallie's memory. Per her family's wishes, we have created the Hallie Mason Memorial Scholarship Fund for Young Birders. These funds will provide support for young birders in Ohio to attend camps, conferences, and other educational programs that foster their interest in birds and the natural world.

## Theodore A. Parker III Memorial Scholarship

The Theodore "Ted" A. Parker III Memorial Scholarship, sponsored by Victor Emanuel Nature Tours (VENT), provides financial assistance for OYBC members ages 14–18 to attend Camp Chiricahua, VENT's flagship summertime youth birding camp. Camp attendees do not need to be expert birders but should have an interest in natural history study and observation.

VENT youth camps present a rare opportunity for young naturalists to be in the field with their peers and with expert leaders. One scholarship will be awarded each year. Funds for the scholarship are provided by an anonymous donor.

Helena Souffrant attended VENT's Camp Chiricahua in July. Helena received the 2018 Theodore A. Parker III Memorial Scholarship sponsored by VENT. Photo courtesy of Helena.



## John F. Gallagher Memorial Scholarship Fund

This scholarship fund helps students broaden their knowledge of birds and bird conservation and expand their field experiences through conferences, camps, and workshops. Funds for these scholarships come from our partners, private donations, and proceeds from special fundraising events.

Visit [www.ohioyoungbirders.org/scholarships](http://www.ohioyoungbirders.org/scholarships) for more information on scholarship opportunities, application forms, or call BSBO at 419-898-4070, and we will mail you a form.



Young Birders Network

<https://ebird.org/about/resources/for-young-birders>



## Thank You OYBC Supporters!



The 3rd Annual Bobolink area RACE-4-BIRDS (R4B) was held in conjunction with Time & Optics Ltd.'s 6th Annual Optics Fling on June 2, 2018. The proceeds from the birding competition exceeded \$500 and were graciously donated to the OYBC and BSBO to promote birding and help with conservation efforts.



In partnership with Black Swamp Bird Observatory and Time & Optics Ltd., ZEISS Birding is helping to fledge the next generation of birders! Zeiss made a pledge that for each VICTORY SF Binocular that was purchased through Time & Optics Ltd. during the month of May, ZEISS Birding would donate a TERRA ED 8x32 to the Ohio Young Birders Club. Thanks to this very special promotion, the OYBC will be receiving 16 pairs of TERRA binoculars!



Richard Moncrief, Zeiss Senior Segment Manager - Birding and Nature Observation, presents Laura Guerard, BSBO Education Director and OYBC Statewide Coordinator, with donations from the Zeiss sponsored evening social.



ZEISS Birding offered a complimentary Zeiss T-shirt with a donation to the OYBC during The Biggest Week In American Birding. This generous fundraiser raised over \$700 for our club!

## Welcome Alex & Maria!



### Alex Eberts, Statewide Advisor

"Hey everyone! Many of you may know me, but for those who don't, my name is Alex. I'm a 2016 graduate of The Ohio State University where I majored in zoology. Birds have always been my passion, and I have been spending the last two years at BSBO's bird banding station where I am learning the skills it takes to run my own banding station someday. I'm super excited to be helping out with the OYBC, and I'm looking forward to birding with everyone!"



### Maria Dellapina, Central Chapter Co-Advisor

Maria is passionate about conservation and making engagement with the natural world accessible for all. She has education and experience in ecological research and environmental education and finds volunteering with OYBC a great way to mentor the conservation leaders of tomorrow. When not birding, Maria is the

Training and Satellite Manager at Local Matters where she works to create food system change throughout Ohio via food education, access and advocacy. Maria loves birds just as much as she loves cooking and gardening; two things she teaches at her job. Whether it is birding, cooking or gardening, Maria is always looking for easy ways to help people connect, appreciate and protect our common home.

## GOLDEN-WINGS

Many thanks to all those who contributed to the newsletter. Special thanks to:

**Zak Beaver**  
**Raul Castro-Dean**  
**Brian Hershberger**  
**Elizabeth Kanzeg**  
**Travis Kaye**  
**Adriana Losey**  
**Matthew Rice**  
**Anna Rose**  
**Mitchell SanGregory**  
**Katelyn Shelton**  
**Helena Souffrant**  
**Daniel Stutzman**  
**Case Thomas**  
**Hannah Thomas**  
**Mariana & EJ Thomas**  
**Oscar Wilhelmy**

**GOLDEN-WINGS Editor:**  
 Laura Guerard

**GOLDEN-WINGS Editorial Team:** Jasmine Cupp, Ryan Jacob & Karen Zach

The **GOLDEN-WINGS** editors are happy to receive for newsletter consideration your

- ◆ Trip Reports
- ◆ Species Profiles
- ◆ Book Reviews
- ◆ Sketches & Photos
- ◆ Fun Nature Facts

**The next deadline for newsletter submissions is November 15, 2018**

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**Cover Photo:**  
 OYBC members traveled far and wide this summer to attend young birder camps and family camp.

# OYBC BIRD ID PHOTO QUIZ

## Ready to test your Bird ID skills?

Challenge yourself to enhance your ID skills with the monthly OYBC Bird ID Quiz!  
Correct submissions are eligible to win birder swag!  
**\* Must be an OYBC member to be eligible to win a prize.**  
www.ohioyoungbirders.org, or mail in to BSBO c/o: Laura Guerard



Meet Oscar, this month's guest Bird ID Quiz creator. He has currently seen 570 birds in the lower 48 states and holds a world list of 645 species and counting!

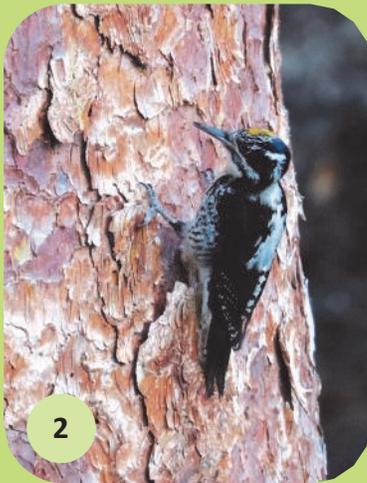
## 2018 SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER BIRD ID QUIZ: "Similar Species"



1



4



2



5



6



3



7

**Directions:**  
Identify each species.

Many bird species have very similar counterparts, and birders must use subtle differences in plumage, proportions, and bill shape to identify them. In some of these cases, like with Carolina and Black-capped Chickadees, birders can almost always use range to identify the species. Although this is a useful shortcut, there are some regions where overlap occurs and we must pay close attention in order to identify the bird. Of course, some similar species have lots of range overlap, and that makes them even trickier! Hopefully this quiz will help you learn a few of these acute ID points, if you don't already know them.

**Bird 1:** Let's start with a question that has long troubled many birders. This shorebird is obviously a dowitcher, but which one? Here's a hint: an excellent field mark in both basic and alternate plumage has to do with the patterning of the underwing (\*cough\* the amount of white \*cough\* \*cough\*). Look at the lesser coverts in the "armpit" area at the base of the wing. This field mark is even more important in basic plumage, when dowitchers are even harder to identify.

**Bird 2:** Among other features, the yellow on the crown of this adult male woodpecker tells us that it is either a Black-backed Woodpecker or an American Three-toed Woodpecker. Although these two species may look similar at first, there is one obvious difference. When I took this photo, I knew that only one species was likely in the area but this is not always reliable. There are many places where both species can be seen simultaneously, so it's best to know the difference.

**Bird 3:** Lesser Scaup, Greater Scaup, or Ring-necked Duck? These waterfowl look alike, but if you know the differences they won't be a problem. On this bird we can pretty easily rule out Ring-necked Duck. That species would have a white eyering, uniformly grayish cheeks (rather than the isolated white oval and brown cheeks we see on this bird), less white at the base of the bill, and slightly different bill and head shape. Now for the more difficult question: Which scaup is this? Look at the head shape and bill shape to find out. The amount of creamy-white at the base of the bill can also be a clue, but the previous features are more reliable.

**Bird 4:** It is easy to tell this is a cormorant, but identifying it to the species level may be trickier. The bill may be the best feature to look at, but head shape, structure, and plumage may also help you.

**Bird 5:** Although some species of grouse are distinctive, many can be difficult to tell apart. This species can nearly always be identified by range, except for in a very small area of overlap. The air sacs on males are very different colors, but they are not always visible. When I photographed this bird I was not in an overlap area and I saw the air sacs, so the identification was easy. But what if I were in an overlap location and I didn't see the sacs? Here's a hint: a birder would have to look at the amount of white on the sides and flanks to identify this grouse.

**Bird 6:** Here we have an adult female ptarmigan. If I revealed the location its identity would be obvious, but there are areas where one cannot rely on location alone. We'll want to look at the overall plumage tone, but there may be another very important field mark to look for.

**Bird 7:** Black and Pigeon Guillemots are very similar but have one easy field mark. Usually it's safe to say that guillemots on the west coast are Pigeon Guillemots, while ones on the east coast are Black Guillemots. However, both species are possible (Pigeon Guillemot is more common) in Alaska. As with many birds in this quiz, the identification of this bird relies on the amount of white we see in the plumage.

August 2018 "Mid-Summer Molt" Quiz Answers: 1. Yellow Warbler, 2. Black-and-white Warbler, 3. American Redstart, 4. Common Yellowthroat, 5. Connecticut Warbler, 6. Ovenbird

# YOUNG BIRDER PROFILE: ELIZABETH KANZEG

**GOLDEN-WINGS (GW)** – What got you interested in birds?

**Elizabeth Kanzeg (EK)** – Even when I was very young, I was interested in all things nature from bats to beetles. I poured over natural history encyclopedias. When I was five or six, I set up a “museum” on my porch of rocks, acorns, and eggshells that I had found in my backyard. In the years to come, my focus narrowed to birds.



**GW** – Do you have a favorite bird and if so, what makes it your favorite?

**EK** – The bright color and sweet whistling calls of the American Goldfinch captivated me when I was young. After some extensive research, my eight-year-old self asked to set up a thistle feeder for the finches in my front yard. I watched them all the time—trying to sort out the different pairs, observing territorial behavior, and learning their song. My mom likes to remind me of the time that she stopped in to see how my piano lesson was faring, only to find me completely ignoring the poor piano teacher, and watching my finches instead.

**GW** – Do you have any other interests/hobbies?

**EK** – Along with birding I enjoy the study of history and languages. I love books, music, and music theory. What really excites me is when these paths of interest intersect!

**GW** – How could we get more young people interested in nature?

**EK** – In my opinion, educating children at a young age about nature is one of the best tools for encouraging later interest. I have been thinking about starting a birding class for younger kids. We could take hikes and read books about birds. As a kid I loved the scavenger-hunt aspect of bird watching, and I would enjoy passing that along to some little ones.

**GW** – Do you think the internet can help foster a community amongst birders?

**EK** – As a bird blogger, I can attest to the power of the internet community among birders. Recently my blog got a shout out from Brave Wilderness, a company that makes nature-themed YouTube videos. My blog got over 300 hits that day! You can visit my blog at <http://birdiesfinchesandferns.blogspot.com>.

**GW** – If you could go any place in the world to see a bird where would you go and what bird would you look for?

**EK** – In the book *My Side of the Mountain*, a boy runs away to live in the Catskill Mountains of New York. He encounters many animals and birds, and even raises a falcon chick. But perhaps Sam’s most exciting adventure involves almost being killed by a Goshawk! I would like to visit this area and see for myself some of the special creatures and places in this book.

**GW** – Have you attended any birding conventions or conferences?

**EK** – Last year I was asked to emcee the OYBC Annual Conference. I was so impressed with the presentations from the other young birders. I left inspired for sure. I also visited Magee Marsh for the first time, where I met Steve Howell and saw a Canada Warbler.

**GW** – Where do you go to school?

**EK** – I don’t go to a traditional school. My parents educate me at home with the help of some tutors. For me, reading, learning, and exploring have always been part of the daily rhythm of life. Even though I study pretty hard, especially when it comes to Latin and math, I think our flexible schedule has allowed me to pursue birding more than I would if I attended a brick and mortar school.

**GW** – What is your dream job?

**EK** – I plan to study technical writing in college. I like editing and I hope it will be a very flexible career that leaves time to bird and bake and teach my own children at home someday. I would also love to write for, or edit, a bird website or magazine.

**GW** – What is your favorite book and why?

**EK** – Many people dismiss my favorite book, *Watership Down*, as a children’s book because the characters are represented as rabbits. But upon closer inspection, it proves to be much more than a story about bunnies. Dark themes, violence, and deep truths about human nature lurk just beneath the gentle humor and cunning escapades of our rabbit friends.

**GW** – What are your favorite blogs?

**EK** – Ever since I heard her interviewed on public radio, I’ve always loved to read naturalist and author Julie Zickefoose’s blog. It blends posts about her daily life with amazing insight into nature, funny backyard anecdotes, and behind-the-scenes explanations of her amazing artwork. I go hear her speak anytime I get the opportunity.



**GW** – Do you volunteer anywhere?

**EK** – On Wednesday mornings, I help out at a nursing home ministry where kids and teens come to chat with the residents, play simple games, and sing to them. It encourages me to see different generations together!

**GW** – Do you keep a life list of birds?

**EK** – I choose not to keep a list of the birds I see. For me birding has never been about seeing the most or the rarest birds, just about understanding and enjoying the ones around me. That being said, I still get pretty excited when I see a first-time bird!

**GW** – Has becoming a member of OYBC changed birding for you? If so, can you describe or explain how?

**EK** – Tim Daniel, Nina Harfmann and Darlene Sillick work tirelessly to provide us with a great variety of field trips and opportunities to lead and serve. We have led hikes, birded by kayak, and toured the OSU Tetrapods Collection. OYBC even arranges for us to sign up to interview famous birders who come to speak at the Audubon Society. I have conducted two of those interviews and it really stretched me. If you watch the two interviews, you can see how I grew as a birder and a public speaker in the year between them. What a testament to the organization that they aren't just fostering our birding skills, but also our skills in leadership, public speaking, collaboration and so much more. (Watch Elizabeth's interviews here: <https://columbusaudubon.org/conservation-pages/speaker-interviews/>)

Elizabeth with Kenn & Kimberly Kaufman at the 11th Annual Ohio Young Birder Conference in Dayton.



**GOLDEN-WINGS is always on the lookout for Ohio Young Birders Club members to interview! If you are interested in being one of our featured Young Birder Profiles, contact the Ohio Young Birders Club at [info@ohioyoungbirders.org](mailto:info@ohioyoungbirders.org)**

## YOUNG BIRDER CAMPS

### Victor Emanuel Nature Tours (VENT)

Camp Chiricahua • SE Arizona • 12 days • Ages 14-18  
Session I: July 10-21, 2019; Session II: July 17-28, 2019

Camp Cascades • Pacific NW • 12 days • Ages 14-18 • July 27-August 7, 2019

### Cornell Lab of Ornithology

Young Birders Event • Ithaca, NY • 4 days • Ages 15-18 • July 11-14, 2019

### Audubon

Coastal Maine Bird Studies for Teens • Hog Island, ME • 6 days • Ages 14-17  
Session I: June 9-14, 2019; Session II: June 16-21, 2019

Family Camp • Hog Island, ME • 6 days • Ages 8-13 • August 5-10, 2019; August 11-16, 2019

### American Birding Association (ABA)

Camp Colorado • Estes Park, CO • 7 days • Ages 13-18  
Session I: July 27-August 2, 2019; Session II: August 6-12, 2019

Camp Avocet • Lewes, DE • 8 days • Ages 13-18 • July 27-August 3, 2019

Looking for a fun summer camp to learn about nature & birds?

Are you interested in exploring new areas & making lifelong friends?

Check out the summer youth camps on the OYBC website :

<http://www.ohioyoungbirders.org/youth-birding-camps.html>



Illustration by Nathan Martineau, 2013



## Magee Magic by Daniel Stutzman

“The Biggest Week In American Birding” is one of those events you just cannot forget. For anyone who has attended this event, the sheer amount of excitement, even just from thinking about it, cannot be hidden. The birding at Magee Marsh and nearby areas is almost like magic. Often times you must go to the birds, but here the birds come to you. Sometimes, but not always, birds are present in mind-boggling numbers. The amount of birds present can vary daily and because of that, many people like to attend the entire 10-day event, but I usually just get to attend on a weekend. This year I was fortunate to be able to attend on both weekends. The first weekend was an OYBC field trip, which is

always exciting. We took part in the young birders walk at Magee, which was also very exciting. Field guide author Richard Crossley and Golden Eagle expert Dr. Trish Miller also joined in the fun and made the walk very educational. The highlights at Magee were the up-close looks at many different species of birds: a Summer Tanager that not everybody got to see, and an Orange-crowned Warbler I found along the beach before the walk started. We also saw American White Pelicans at Mallard Club Marsh.

The second weekend trip was with our usual group of local birders. I have never before seen so many Cape May Warblers in one day. There must have been dozens, if not hundreds of them. There was a good variety of birds present in high numbers and most were quite low and tame. I watched a Blackburnian Warbler hopping around on the ground and walked to within three feet of a singing Black-and-white Warbler, something I rarely get to see. It seems there are not two years the same, but there’s always something exciting. As for me, I’m planning to visit Magee again next year and I hope to see you there as well.



It was chilly, rainy, and downright miserable weather the morning we had our birdwalk but that didn’t seem to dampen the spirits of either the warblers or the OYBC’ers. We began our walk at the east end of the boardwalk and birded the edge of the parking lot before continuing onto the estuary trail. We were joined on our walk by highly acclaimed birders Steve N.G. Howell and Kenn Kaufman. Both of the adults in our group fascinated the younger birders from their

*What makes my time with the Ohio Young Birders so special is enjoying the awed expressions of the students every time they see or learn something new.*

discussions about the migration of Blue Jays to pointing out the fine nuances between the male and female warblers. We saw vireos, sparrows, and a colorful variety of warblers such as the Cape May

Warbler and the male Blackburnian Warbler. The young birders spotted the top of a nestling Great Horned Owl’s head at the start of the estuary trail and towards the end of our walk we found a gorgeous Canada Warbler. The flashy male skulking in the shrubs by the water was a lifer for many of the birders. By that time, the lazy drizzle that had been going on all morning turned to a steady

downpour and we quickly made our way back to the parking lot. We may have been chased back to shelter by the uncooperative weather but we did manage to see 72 species in just under three hours!  
- Anna Rose

This year marked my first ever visit to Magee Marsh, and I loved every second of it! The wet weather didn’t dampen my mood one bit while I watched tiny, immaculate warblers land so near to me that I could have reached out and touched them. I saw many dazzling birds, but a few of my favorite finds were a Canada Warbler, a Northern Parula, and a Blackpoll Warbler. The bold and beautiful birds even impressed my mom, who is not a birder, and she asked me to give her a little lesson about warblers over Mother’s Day brunch. I especially enjoyed walking the boardwalk with fellow young birders. What a pleasure to be surrounded by teens who appreciate birds as much as I do!

Along with the excellent birding, the Biggest Week In American Birding provided many learning opportunities. I attended Kenn Kaufman’s Learning to Appreciate and Identify Flycatchers workshop, where he de-mystified the *Epidonax* family. Ashli Gorbet, BSBO’s Banding Projects Manager, explained the different waves of migration in her spotlight presentation Neotropic Waves of Spring Migration. And the members of the OYBC got some in-the-field experience with Steve N.G. Howell, who warned us never to dismiss a bird as “just a cowbird.” I’m so glad I was able to connect with and learn from birders of all ages. Thank you to all the dedicated adults who work hard to pass on the birding legacy to us, and to the parents who support our weird hobby. I can’t wait for next year! - Elizabeth Kanzeg



Left: Special guests Kenn Kaufman and Steve N.G. Howell. Above: Horned Grebe by Anna Rose. Right: Darlene Sillick captures Laura Guerard enjoying time with the OYBC.



# BIGGEST WEEK HIGHLIGHTS

Saturday, May 5th was the date of our Magee Marsh trip with the OYBC Holmes County Chapter. We started birding at the east end of the boardwalk. A Cape May Warbler was spotted for bird #1. As we proceeded, a Yellow-throated Warbler was flitting in a tree very close for real good looks. On up we had a Black-and-white Warbler and a Pied-billed Grebe in the channel to the left calling its eerie hooting, wailing call.

As we proceeded, Tennessee, Nashville, and Chestnut-sided Warblers were spotted. We had to hurry because the OYBC had a walk scheduled with Richard Crossley along the parking lot and the Estuary Trail - a very interesting walk with a lot learned. He really stresses identification by size and shape. I got 20 species of warblers for the day. I think some of the others had a few we didn't, like Blue-winged and Prothonotary Warblers.

After Magee, we went to Howard Marsh, the new wildlife area a little west of Metzger Marsh. Black-necked Stilts were reported there earlier, but we didn't get to see them. We got Black-bellied Plover, American Golden Plover, Pectoral Sandpiper, Dunlin, Caspian Tern, and Bonaparte's Gull.

Next in line was Metzger Marsh where we got a few more warblers. I got my Blackpoll Warbler there in a small tree lot. A Lincoln's Sparrow was spotted at the entrance to the dike and as we were walking back a Blue-headed Vireo was spotted in a little tree to the south.

After this we went to Mallard Club Marsh, west of Metzger. As we walked back, it was very wet and not everyone had boots which made for some wet feet. But the wet walk rewarded us with really good looks at four American White Pelicans flying overhead. Virginia Rail and Sora were soon heard calling. We waited a while and the Sora flew up straight ahead of us. As we were waiting to see the Virginia Rail, we heard the second one calling. A little later they were seen through the weeds. We got really good looks at the Virginia Rail. One of the guys heard the American Bittern calling, so we were all really quiet and soon we all had the chance to hear it. After that, we headed home. Our van had a total of 142 species. We had a really good day with a few lifers for most of the boys.

In closing, I want to express my appreciation to the OYBC and the Black Swamp Bird Observatory for providing leadership and the opportunity to go birding with professionals.

Wishing good birding to everyone!

Sincerely,  
Brian Hershberger  
Baltic, OH



Left: Friendship captured by Anna Rose. Above: Tyler McClain helps Alex Burke spot a warbler. Top Right: OYBC leaders and members are joined by special guests Dr. Tricia Miller, Richard Crossley, and Mike Lanzone. Bottom Right: BSBO's Outreach Director, Jason Guerard, shares a young Garter Snake with walk participants.



We began to comb through the edge of the parking lot since the weather was unpredictable. This was when my doubts about the birds and the weather were left to rest. Instead of the cold, shivering and hidden birds I imagined, they hopped from branch to branch, flit from bush to bush, practically setting a show for us. The birders of our group, young and old alike, whipped out their cameras and binoculars. Some of the younger birders hopped about, their eyes bright. What was this bird? How about that one? We answered with gusto, working our birding skills to the best of our abilities. I even saw birds I wasn't sure about, but then I could turn to the more experienced birders. Most of them were low to the ground, feet, or even inches away from us, foraging and singing. Maybe the cold weather was a blessing. The cold had brought the insects down to the natural floor, and the wind made the trees harder to perch in. The balance between the birds and the people was so magical, it seemed too good to be true, but this beautiful, mutual trust was as real as day. We all marveled at these tiny warblers, who travelled long distances to be here.

The experience that day was of no compare. The warblers seemed to be curious, checking you out inches away from your face, while you watched and maybe even talked to them in a soft voice. They would seem to listen, as we would listen to them sing their songs. The balance was again, magical. I will never forget it. - Katelyn Shelton

It was a chilly day in March when my family, my mentor Darlene and I set up the boxes. The Big Walnut Trail, which I fondly nicknamed “The Loop,” was right down the street of my house, right behind my neighborhood. It settled between the houses and the Walnut River. The center of the Loop was mostly a mixture of meadow and shrubs, and on the west side, which was bordered by the river, was a beautiful deciduous forest. It was a good place for a variety of birds. Now, despite this variety the Loop usually gets, the Eastern Bluebird had never been a resident there. Sure, they would pass through maybe twice a year, but they never stayed.

The bluebird trail and its boxes, however, changed that. Not only did I introduce Eastern Bluebirds to the Loop, but I was pleasantly surprised with Carolina Chickadees in my trap box that I had put in my backyard. Almost immediately after I saw them going in and out of the box, my father and I ran to the store to purchase a hole reducer so that the House Sparrows wouldn't be a problem. The chickadees continued bringing



mouthfuls of moss and strips of bark. About two weeks later, they had eggs. I was so happy!

At the time, all of my boxes down at the Loop were empty. But as the temperatures warmed and the weather became more optimistic, a flock of about seven Tree Swallows showed up. Right away they took to box three, the males sparring in mid-air and the females peeking inside the box. Some even landed on the ground to get small twigs; most of them were small, that is. One male grabbed such a large stick it was poking through the hole of the box, and it twitched and shook as he tried to fit it inside. He was successful in the end; good for him!



After the swallows had their excitement with box three, they all took off for box four. There, the same process was underway; or so I thought. It wasn't until my next nest check that I realized what had really been going on. Wasps. There were about fifteen of them. I jumped back in surprise when I opened it for I had been expecting a nest underway. I tried pushing them out with a stick, but there were so many, they either did a U-turn back into the box or, in some cases, charged at me. It was spooky, I admit. I knew I wasn't going to get far with the method I was using. I reasoned that the wasps wanted a safe, enclosed space, so I decided to leave the box open and take a walk. By the time I got back, they had all disappeared. Now I could put a thin layer of Vaseline on the walls to keep them away.

After that incident, I put Vaseline on all the boxes; some had small numbers of them inside as well, but I treated all of them as a precaution. And it worked. Soon, the Tree Swallows were going in and out of the recently infested box. I was so proud of myself, battling the scary wasps for the birds.

It was around 8:30 a.m. when I saw the Eastern Bluebirds for the first time. I froze in my tracks when I saw the male, a brilliant blue puff ball in a bush. He gave me a quick, wary look, then flew down the trail and took a corner. He had seemingly disappeared. I continued walking, and from a safe distance, concealed by brush, I spotted him again in a leafless tree near the nest box. I took out my binoculars and watched. After a few moments of the male hunting close to my box, the female darted into view, disappearing into the nesting box. This was all I needed to see, and jumped for joy. I practically skipped home, my smile stretching from ear to ear. I had accomplished bringing Eastern Bluebirds to the Loop!



Now, the Eastern Bluebird nest and Tree Swallow nests are under way, while a Carolina Chickadee snuggles into hers and keeps her eggs warm and toasty. The bluebird trail had enriched my birding experience, and enriched the habitat around my neighborhood. In fact, the trail made me more adventurous, exploring the areas around my house to know what birds are where. In that process, I found a Cooper's Hawk nest, a Red-bellied Woodpecker cavity, two American Robin nests, and one Mourning Dove nest. All of these nests were highly active, and I am now able to observe the different nesting behaviors of the different species, which is truly beautiful. And I can owe all of it to my bluebird trail.

## Bird Banding With Bob Scott By Case Thomas

On June 16th the OYBC Southeast Chapter went to Bob Scott's house for a bird banding demonstration. Bob had already set up the equipment so we went to the nets shortly after arriving. When we found birds, Bob would put them in bags. When we got back to the equipment for banding the birds, Bob would band the birds, and set them free. Sometimes after Bob put the birds into the bags, he would give them to us to carry back to the bird banders. Bob would also let us release the birds sometimes. We banded Wood Thrushes, Indigo Buntings, Kentucky Warblers, and Ovenbirds. I thought it was fun to see the birds really up-close. I really enjoyed it myself and would like to do it again sometime.

Right: Photos by Case Thomas of the bird banding demonstration.



## The Audubon Camp in Maine Experience: Through the Eyes of Mitchell SanGregory

"...we hopped into the car to go to the dock where the *Snow Goose III* was waiting for us. At this time, a flurry of emotions were floating around in my head. Some were excited, others were sad, because I also hadn't wanted to leave my parents. We got in the boat, but something caught my eye. About 1,000 feet or so off the dock was a black bird about the size of a small duck with white wingbars floating in the water. I was perplexed as to what this was, so I asked. It turned out to be a Black Guillemot. I was so excited about my first guillemot that it surprised me when the captain said that they're no big deal. Black Guillemots really seem underrated."

"The next day was *the* day. Once we woke up, we had breakfast, and on relatively rough seas, we were off to see the puffins...After nearly an hour long boat ride, the island was within sight. We circled the island once and we immediately saw Atlantic Puffins swimming about. Then we landed...we were lead to the bird blinds to observe the puffins up close. The blind that I was in was appropriately called "Heaven." A Common Tern was nesting just feet from me. A few minutes in, I saw something bigger

than a puffin with a somewhat guillemot-like shape fly by. It was a Razorbill. There were three Razorbills flying around in total. But this one kept flying around me and almost landing. But every time right before he'd land he'd change his mind and fly away. After that, the first puffins appeared. They landed about 100 feet away from my blind! The puffins seemed to be saying "psst... take my picture".

"This was such an incredibly special adventure for me. I got to see Atlantic Puffins. I learned so much and not just about birds. I was able to sniff a Wilson's Storm-petrel. I learned that I could do well away from home and make a bond with my fellow bird lovers."



Above: Black Guillemot  
Left: nesting Common Tern  
Below: Razorbill  
Photos by Mitchell SanGregory



Atlantic Puffins by Mitchell SanGregory



Over spring break I had the rare opportunity to bird Southern Florida with two of the country's top birders, Dave and Tammy McQuade. My four days there were non-stop birding, and thanks to the McQuades' skills and knowledge we swept every Florida specialty. I had only been to Florida once before on a non-birding vacation, so I had about 20 potential lifers at the start of this trip.

I met Dave and Tammy in November 2017 at the Rio Grande Valley Birding Festival, where we saw Audubon's Orioles, an Aplomado Falcon, and even the rare Tamaulipas Crows together. We've been in touch ever since, and not long after the festival they invited me to come birding with them in their home state. Florida is home to many species of birds that can be found nowhere else in the ABA region. These specialties were my main targets, but I had a few others.

I arrived in Fort Myers late Friday night, tired from a stressful week at school but excited for the days of birding to come. When we arrived at the house, Dave and I listened for the resident Screech-Owl and the continuing Chuck-will's-widow. Both of these species are somewhat crepuscular (most active around dawn or dusk), so 11:00 p.m. wasn't the best time to listen for them. We didn't hear them, but Dave was confident we'd get them another day.

The next morning we were up before dawn and on our way to Sanibel Island with Eary Warren. Eary is a phenomenal birder from Lee County and a fun person to be around. It was also good to be birding with him because, like the McQuades, he knows the county like the back of his hand. We started at J.N. Ding Darling NWR, where I added several new year birds. After that we made a quick stop by the beach to get some Snowy Plovers, another new bird for the year. Next up was San Carlos Bay and Bunche Beach, where we hoped to see Mangrove Cuckoo and a variety of shorebirds. It didn't take long to find the cuckoo, which we heard and saw just seconds after pulling up. I was thrilled to get crushing views of this bird, as south Florida is the only place in the ABA where it can be found. Even in Florida they are uncommon and can be very tricky to find. The Mangrove Cuckoo resembles a Yellow-billed Cuckoo, but has an entirely black upper mandible, black edging to the upper tail (yellow-billed has white edging), a buffy wash on the breast and belly, and a slightly shorter wingspan (due to the fact that yellow-billed migrates long distances and mangrove is non-migratory). The growing crowd of birders scared the cuckoo back into the mangroves, so we moved on to Bunche Beach, a world-renowned shorebird destination. We were not disappointed and saw a dozen species of shorebirds, highlighted by Piping Plovers, Red Knots, and excellent side-by-side comparisons of various peeps. We scanned the flats until a Merlin scared the shorebirds away, so we decided to move on.



Dave and Tammy were speaking at an Audubon event later in the afternoon, so Eary and I dropped them off before heading to Harns Marsh. The marsh was relatively dry, but we managed to pick up some Limpkins, Gray-headed Swamphens, and Swallow-tailed Kites before we headed off to a feeding station nearby. Our main target was the beautiful Painted Bunting, a charismatic bird of the Southeast. It took a little waiting, but eventually we saw two male and two female buntings. Many people think the male is prettier, but to me the lime green female is just as gorgeous. We would've spent longer with the buntings, but we had other birds to see. Our next stop was Cape Coral, a vast area home to Burrowing Owls and Florida Scrub-Jays. We were successful here, too, and had close encounters with both species. The owl was kind enough to pose for photos, and we found a pair of jays foraging in the shade nearby.

At this point Eary had to go, so he dropped me off with Dave and Tammy at the local Monk Parakeet roost. After that we successfully found a Nanday Parakeet, but decided that introduced species weren't worth any more of our time. We chose to go for Red-cockaded Woodpecker and Brown-headed Nuthatches in Collier County at a place called Picayune Strand State Forest.

Top: Pine Warbler, Above: Snowy Plover by Oscar W.

We birded Picayune with Yve Morrel, 2017 big-year champion, who I had met on a California pelagic last summer. It was good to bird with Yve in her local patch, and she helped me get great views of the endangered woodpecker as well as the nuthatches. After that we birded Collier County some more with Yve before heading home and celebrating a long but successful day of birding. As we were pulling in the driveway, we heard an Eastern Screech-Owl, my 118th species observed that day.



On Sunday, we went to Babcock-Webb WMA first thing, hoping to see a Bachman's Sparrow. The best strategy was to drive slowly through the forest, listening for the song. Eventually we pulled over with some other birders to sort through a flock of migrants. There was a Red-cockaded Woodpecker mixed in, but the real excitement came when we heard the sparrow sing from further back in the woods. We took a side trail and successfully located the sparrow singing from a low bush. Seeing this elusive sparrow was a great way to start the day.

The next part of the plan was to drive across the state and spend two days birding on the east coast. The birding on Florida's east coast is similar to the west coast, but a few key species are much easier to find in the southeast. To break up the drive we stopped at the Sem-Chi Rice Mill, the only reliable place to find Yellow-headed Blackbirds in the state. When we arrived, there were hundreds of blackbirds feeding on spilled grain next to the silos. A quick scan produced several Yellow-headed

Blackbirds, mostly females and immature males. It was nice to get close views of this unique species.

The rest of the drive passed quickly, and before I knew it we were at Wakodahatchee Wetlands. Here we found nesting Wood Storks and my lifer Purple Gallinule, both only a few feet away. A quick stop at Loxahatchee NWR yielded another lifer, a gorgeous female Snail Kite that flew right up to me. Another new bird was a Common Myna sifting through trash at a fast food parking lot. We had been efficient in planning our birding for the day, so we had time to bird the Everglades at sunset. There we were lucky enough to hear several King Rails (my 200th bird for the year) and see a Barn Owl fly over in the dark.

The next morning was full of various parakeets, other introduced species, and White-crowned Pigeons. In the afternoon, we were able to track down some White-winged Parakeets, and even a pair of Short-tailed Hawks. Other exciting sightings included a White-tailed Kite, Swainson's Hawk, and Western Kingbird, all very good birds for the state. The day ended with a group of Cave Swallows near our hotel.

My last day in Florida began in the Everglades, just before sunrise. With a thick fog, we were treated to a beautiful sunrise and a feeling like we were walking in the clouds. We were hoping to hear a Black Rail (another crepuscular species), but instead we were treated to King Rails and a very large, dense flock of White Ibis. It was hard to leave the beautiful scenery of the Everglades, but the next bird up was a strong motivation—the Shiny Cowbird. This is, by far, the rarest of the three ABA cowbirds, and it is restricted to extreme southern Florida. Dave and Tammy knew a bird guide who had the cowbirds in his back yard, so we headed there. Thanks to the guide's generosity, we enjoyed this rarity at close range as it fed in his backyard—and even got to see all three cowbird species on the same feeder. This was a great way to get my last lifer of the trip, and my 534th bird in the lower 48 states.

Many thanks to all who made this trip possible and good birding!



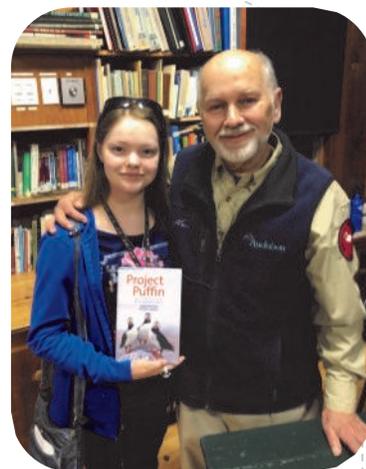
Left: Red-cockaded Woodpecker,  
Above: Shiny Cowbird by Oscar W.

## Coastal Maine Bird Studies By Hannah Thomas

On June 11, I left to go to Maine for the Coastal Maine Bird Studies for Teens camp on Hog Island, Maine. I had a great time there! Everyone was so nice and I learned a lot of new things. It was definitely worth the two plane flights that I had to take to get there. We did many different activities, had many nice speakers, and saw many different birds.

To start, the activities we did were run by people who were willing to tell us all about what they were doing. We took hikes and boat rides where we saw many species of birds. We learned about bird banding and about prepping bird skins, both of which people do as ways to study birds. We even learned about doing art from Jennifer (the Artist-in-Residence) and about marine life from Heather (one of our counselors). I learned a lot from all our counselors and even from the other campers. It was great being able to do so many fun activities.

Next, there were the speakers. They were all very helpful. At the end of each day, a different speaker would come and talk about a new topic. On the first day, Steve talked about the history of the Islands and Project Puffin. We also had the option to buy one of his Project Puffin books and have it signed. On the second day, the instructors talked about their degree and how they got interested in birds. On the third day, Eric talked about the solar panels. Then Iain talked about bird migration and the effects of climate change on birds. On the fourth day, Zack talked about the Audubon Community Science Programs. All of the talks were informative and helpful.



Finally, there were all the birds that we got to see. I got to see a lot of new birds during camp. I didn't know what birds to expect to see other than terns, gulls, and puffins. There were all different kinds of birds both on and around the islands. Eastern Egg Rock is where we saw the puffins and were attacked by the aggressive terns. In total, I saw 37 different kinds of birds; 11 of them I had never seen before.

Overall, I think that the Hog Island Camp is a wonderful camp. I had loads of fun and made lots of friends. I learned a lot more than I thought I would in those five days. I am very thankful that I was able to attend the Hog Island camp. It is truly an amazing camp, and I would suggest it to anyone who loves nature.

Top Right: Hannah with Dr. Steve Kress, Executive Director of the Seabird Restoration Program and Vice President for Bird Conservation of the National Audubon Society. Bottom Left: Atlantic Puffin on Eastern Egg Rock by Hannah T.

## Great Lakes Young Birder Camp By Travis Kaye



The Great Lakes Young Birder Camp is a great opportunity for one to experience good birding while also learning a great amount about birds, nature career paths, and making young birder friends. At camp you get to experience banding, educational presentations, and of course birding. Personally, I had a great time at this camp. It was very cool to meet other young birders from Michigan and make connections with them. Before the camp I didn't know very many young birders in Michigan and now I know a lot of young birders in Michigan. My favorite experience was going up to Grayling, Michigan and seeing the Kirtland's Warbler; a bird that mainly breeds in Michigan. We got great views and that was amazing. Another great experience was going to Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge and seeing Black Terns flying right above me. The Black Tern was a bird I had been

trying to see for a while and finally seeing them was unbelievable. I also really liked the bird banding experience. It was so amazing seeing birds in the hand so close and even getting the opportunity to release them. I would definitely recommend this to any young birder in the Great Lakes area. Group photo courtesy of Travis Kaye (middle row, fourth from the left).



Great Parks and Susan Kathleen Black Foundation  
Art Workshop  
in Cincinnati, Ohio

Anna Rose was invited to attend a prestigious workshop for teens after her artwork portfolio was noticed at the 2017 Ohio Young Birders Annual Conference. The class was led by expert instructor Wanda Mumm who spent time with participants creating great studies and techniques. "Thanks so much for letting me know about the Great Parks Art Workshop event! I got to attend on Saturday and it was amazing! I learned brand new sketching and oil techniques I'd never been shown before!" -Anna Rose

Above and right: Anna's sketches from the class.



Kirtland's Warbler  
by Oscar Wilhelmy

Avian Trivia

*Why have relatively few avian fossils been discovered?*

*What type of bird is a Nightingale?*

*Which birds are the least capable of walking?*

*Which bird is known as "the eagle of the Antarctic?"*

*(Answers at the bottom of page 9. Source: 10,001 Titillating Tidbits of Avian Trivia by Frank S. Todd)*

Trivia Answers: Birds have no teeth, and their hollow bones are fragile. Only teeth and solid bones undergo fossilization; a thrush; When ashore, a loon rests its weight entirely on its breast and "frog-leaps" for a limited distance, kicking its legs out backwards. Swifts and hummingbirds are also essentially incapable of walking; The skua. While related to gulls, the extremely aggressive predatory birds are behaviorally much more like raptors.

## Flamingos and Penguins at the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium

By Zak Beaver, age 14

On August 19, 2018, the Central Ohio Chapter of the Ohio Young Birders Club went on a birding trip to the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium. One of our stops was the flamingo exhibit, where we got to go behind the scenes and pet baby flamingos. We learned that flamingos typically live 30 - 40 years. However, the oldest one ever recorded is 82. They usually grow to 3.3 - 4.6 feet tall and weigh 3.3 - 9 pounds. At the zoo flamingos are fed two different types of pellets giving them all their nutrition. In the wild flamingos would eat shrimp, algae, and crustaceans which gives them their pink colored feathers.

For our next stop we went to the Humboldt Penguin exhibit. We learned that these penguins are warm weather penguins from South America. In captivity their average life span is 20 years, however few would reach this age in the wild. They like their water temperature at 55 - 60 degrees. Each pair mate for life and have matching colored wing bands. Sadly, the Humboldt Penguin is endangered with their numbers in a steady decline in recent years. There are only 2,500 - 12,000 left in the world today.



Central Chapter group photo at the Columbus Zoo.

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## OYBC Behind the Scenes Tour of the Columbus Zoo - Australia

By Matthew Rice, age 12

At the behind-the-scenes tour of the Columbus Zoo, one of the areas we visited was Australia. There were lots of Australian birds for us to see. Both of the bird species we saw live in the forests of Australia. The bird exhibits we saw have 12 hours of light, and 12 hours of dark.

The first bird was the Kookaburra. It is the largest member of the Kingfisher family, and it kills prey by smacking it on a log. It does this to lizards and snakes. They are separated from the other birds, because they are aggressive and might kill them. The Kookaburra we saw wasn't super active, but we did get to hear it call. There were three or four of the Kookaburra in the exhibit, and one of them was missing an eye.

Next we went to the Rainbow Lorikeet exhibit. One interesting fact about the Rainbow Lorikeet is that they don't have a good sense of smell. They mostly eat apples and bananas. They are hand fed their food 21 days every month. They are very noisy birds! Some of the lone Lorikeets are sent from other zoos, to join the flock at our zoo.

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## The North American Aviary at the Columbus Zoo

by Raul Castro-Dean, age 12

On August 19<sup>th</sup>, the Central Ohio Chapter of the Ohio Young Birders Club went on a field trip to the Columbus Zoo. We went on a behind-the-scenes tour of several of the aviaries to learn more about how the birds are cared for.

I really liked the North American aviary, which had Indigo Bunting, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Scarlet and Summer Tanagers, and orioles as well as other species. I learned that most of the individual birds in the aviary have some sort of injury and could not be released into the wild on their own. The species in the aviary are migratory birds that would not normally be found in Ohio in the winter, so I was surprised to learn that most of the birds remain outdoors year-round. They don't have a problem with the cold, so long as they have a good food supply and evergreen shrubs where they can shelter. But they do have the option to go inside if they want to.

Thanks to the staff of the Columbus Zoo and to our group leaders for organizing a great trip.



Central Chapter Youth Advisory Board (YAB) Members: Adriana, Anna, and Katelyn. The YAB assist with trip planning including the August outing to the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium.

# THE OYBC SHOUT-OUT PAGE

## WELCOME TO ALL OF THE NEW OYBC MEMBERS & ADULT SUPPORTERS!

as of August 31, 2018

### STUDENT MEMBERS

Anastiya Costello  
Jessica Decker  
Caleb Enold  
Kurt Garver  
Addie Houser  
Nicholas Lustrì  
Victoria Lustrì  
Oliver Pawuk  
Anya Poe  
Riley Stephens  
Keith M. Yoder

### ADULT SUPPORTERS

Julie Decker  
Maria Dellapina  
Parker Garver  
Lola Pawuk  
Meena Poe  
Andrew Poe  
Edward Powers  
Merrelyn Powers  
Cynthia Yoakum



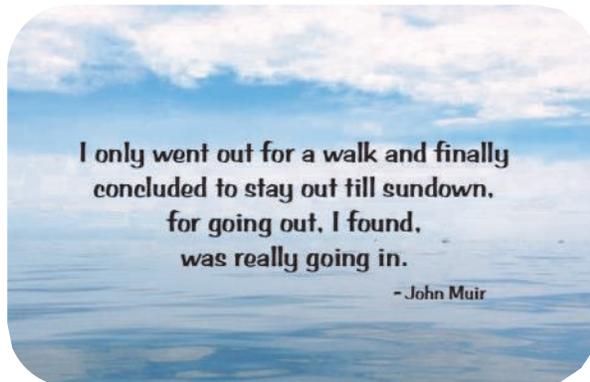
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to become  
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to support this  
great club!**

## Thank You to all of our OYBC SPONSORS!

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Victor Emanuel Nature Tours (VENT)  
Zeiss



Katelyn and Adriana  
in Estes Park, CO  
for ABA's Camp Colorado



I only went out for a walk and finally  
concluded to stay out till sundown,  
for going out, I found,  
was really going in.

- John Muir

## Golden-Wings Publication Schedule 2018-2019

Winter 2019	Submission Due Date: November 15, 2018
Spring 2019	Submission Due Date: March 1, 2019
Summer/Fall 2019	Submission Due Date: August 1, 2019

Please email or mail submissions to:

BSBO, 13551 West State Route 2, Oak Harbor, OH 43449  
info@ohioyoungbirders.org, subject line: "Golden-Wings Submission"

*We would like to see your name here!*

Support the Ohio Young Birders Club  
at one of the following levels:

- \_\_\_ \$1,000 - BALD EAGLE
- \_\_\_ \$750 - PEREGRINE FALCON
- \_\_\_ \$500 - RED-TAILED HAWK
- \_\_\_ \$250 - MERLIN
- \_\_\_ \$100 - AMERICAN KESTREL

# OHIO YOUNG BIRDERS CLUB UPCOMING EVENTS

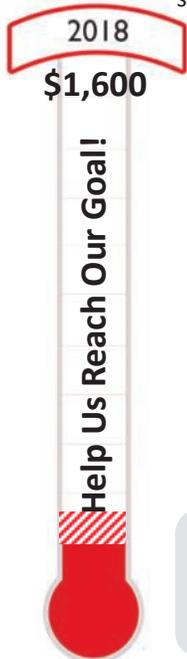


*\*OYBC field trips listed on the events calendar are open to all OYBC student members. Additional field trip information is available at [www.ohioyoungbirders.org](http://www.ohioyoungbirders.org). To register for any of these events, or for more information, please contact BSBO at 419-898-4070.*



## ANNUAL OYBC BIG SIT & BIG DAY FUNDRAISER

Help your local chapter get pledges & donations for our annual fundraiser! Our goal in 2018 is to raise \$1,600 to help fund statewide trips and participation in conservation projects and regional young birder conferences!



NE CHAPTER  
Emerald Necklace Big Day  
Saturday, October 6, 2018

CENTRAL CHAPTER  
Big Day  
Saturday, October 20, 2018



NW CHAPTER  
Big Sit  
Sunday, October 28, 2018

SW CHAPTER  
Big Sit  
October 2018 TBD

HOLMES-WAYNE CO. CHAPTER  
Big Sit  
Saturday, October 13, 2018

A pledge form is included on page 17. You may copy this form to seek donations from friends and family in support of the OYBC! For more information or to pledge online, please visit the Annual BIG SIT/BIG DAY fundraiser page at <http://www.ohioyoungbirders.org/annual-big-sit-fundraiser-for-oybc.html>

## 12th ANNUAL OHIO YOUNG BIRDERS CONFERENCE Saturday, November 3, 2018

The revolutionary OYBC Conference provides a unique opportunity for student members to address an audience of their peers with professional presentations on birding and/or conservation topics of their choosing. In addition to the student presentations, the OYBC Annual Conference includes fabulous raffle prizes, lunch, optic raffles, and a bird ID quiz led by noted author Kenn Kaufman with assistance from OYBC members. The OYBC Conference is a great way to meet young birders from all over, and to see what unique opportunities the OYBC can provide!

***This is an event for the whole family!***

You do not have to be a member to attend, and adults are encouraged to attend too!

**SAVE  
The  
DATE**

Hosted by:



(505 W Whittier St, Columbus, OH 43215)



Keynote Speaker: Sarah Winnicke

Sarah is a birder, science communication enthusiast, and scientist interested in understanding the growth and development of baby birds. Sarah was a member of the OYBC from 2007-2012 before she headed to Denison University to study Biology and History. She is currently finishing her Master's degree at Kansas State University.

Save the Date graphic designed by Vexels.com



**Ohio Young Birders Club**  
FOUNDED IN 2006 BY BLACK SWAMP BIRD OBSERVATORY

# Ohio Young Birders Club

*Encouraging, Educating, and Empowering  
our future conservation leaders.*

## Annual "BIG SIT/BIG DAY" Fundraiser



### Show Your Support For Nature Education

100% of the proceeds benefit OYBC programs, field trips and conservation projects.  
*Your support makes a huge difference!*

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like to support the education efforts of the Ohio Young Birders Club by making the following tax-deductible pledge per species for the OYBC Big Sit/Big Day:

PLEDGE PER BIRD SPECIES:							
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### 3 Easy Ways to Donate:

- 1) You can donate online using PayPal or a credit card a **www.ohioyoungbirders.org**
- 2) You can charge your donation to your credit card by calling 419-898-4070.
- 3) You can donate by check, please make payable to Black Swamp Bird Observatory with OYBC Big Sit/Big Day in memo field.

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**If Student, Date of Birth:** \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, I want to conserve trees and expense; sign me up for electronic delivery of all of OYBC's communications.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Donation Amount - Yes I would like to make a donation to help support OYBC

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Membership Dues (calendar year)

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total Amount Enclosed  
(Please make checks payable to BSBO)

- \_\_\_ \$ 10 - Student
- \_\_\_ \$ 20 - Supporting Adult
- \_\_\_ \$ 100 to \$1000 - Sponsorship Level

How did you hear about us? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you interested in volunteering? How? \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to: Black Swamp Bird Observatory, 13551 W. State Route 2, Oak Harbor, OH 43449**