

GOING GOLDEN



Ohio Young Birders Club

VOLUME 6 ISSUE 2

Registration Form
Included in this Issue!

*Ohio Young Birders Conference
November 5, 2011
Grange Insurance Audubon Center
Columbus, Ohio*



The Ohio Young Birders Club (OYBC) teamed up with
The Adaptive Adventure Sports Coalition (TAASC)
to go on a "Birding by Kayak" trip.
See Page 11 FOR THE FULL STORY.

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Ohio Young Birders Club (OYBC)

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

Coordinators

Gerry Brevoort
Tim Daniel
Ken Keffer
John Sawvel
Susan Setterlin
Darlene Sillick

Youth Advisory Panel

Clare Jusdanis
Wyatt Miller
Dakota Outcalt
Lukas Padegimas
Jacob Stinnett
Doug Whitman
Sarah Winnicki

The OYBC was founded by

Black Swamp
Bird Observatory

Dedicated to inspiring appreciation, enjoyment, and conservation of birds and their habitats through research, education, and outreach.

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

13551 West State Route 2
Oak Harbor, Ohio 43449
419 898-4070 (voice)
419 898-1363 (fax)

Email: info@ohiolyoungbirders.org

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Special Announcements

Scope Donated to OYBC



A special Thank You! goes out to Linda Fowler of West Chester Ohio, for donating a Bausch & Lomb spotting scope along with a copy of *Advanced Birding* by Kenn Kaufman to the Ohio Young Birders Club.

Linda has been a friend of OYBC as former President of sponsoring organization, Raptor, Inc. Raptor, Inc., www.oxbowinc.org, is a non-profit rehabilitation and rescue center located in Cincinnati,

Ohio. Her love of birds and many hours in the field have shown her the importance of fostering a love of nature to young birders as well. Thank you, Linda!



OYBC Scholarships Available

John F. Gallagher Memorial Scholarship Fund

Ohio Young Birders Club scholarships are available to help young people who are interested in birds to attend summer camps, workshops, classes, training programs, conventions, and other bird-related activities. Funds for these scholarships come from our partners, private donations, and proceeds from special fund raising events. Applicants must be a current OYBC member between the ages of 12 and 18 to be eligible.

visit www.ohiolyoungbirders.org/scholarships.htm for an application form, or call BSBO at 419-898-4070 and we will mail you one.

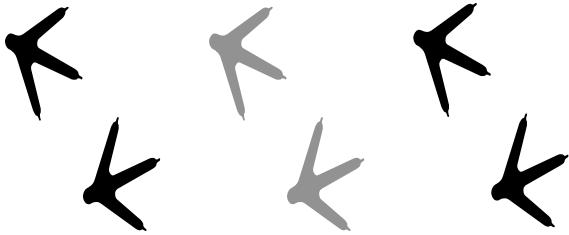
Special Announcements

OYBC BIOBLITZ RECEIVES GRANTS!

Everyone at the Ohio Young Birders Club is supremely grateful for the following grants that helped fund our BioBlitz at the Lakefront Preserve in Port Clinton, Ohio

- ◆ \$1,500 from Harry Stensen Memorial Trust
- ◆ \$350 from the Ottawa County Community Foundation

Watch for a full report on the BioBlitz in the next issue of GOLDEN-WINGS!



THANK YOU, JOHN SAWVEL!!!

My gosh, John, words aren't adequate to express our appreciation for all the personalized care and attention you gave to Central Ohio OYBC on Saturday up at Magee Marsh Wildlife Area! We were so privileged to have you as our guide and resident expert for our amazing field trip! You are so generous with your knowledge and particularly your gift for id-ing vocalizations. Your quiet attention to detail and your gentle method of instruction were a delight to witness, as you worked with the students. They learned so much from you!!

THANK YOU, THANK YOU from us all!! What a gift!!

~ Students & Advisors of OYBC Central Ohio Chapter

GOLDEN-WINGS

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

Gerry Brevoort
Tim Daniel
Kim Kaufman
Alexander Martin
Kayla Parry
Robert Reynard
John Sawvel
Jacob Stinnett
Aaron Tayal
Doug Whitman
Willis Yoder

GOLDEN-WINGS
Design & Layout:
Ken Keffler
Kathy McDonald

GOLDEN-WINGS Editors:
Ken Keffler
Kathy McDonald

The *GOLDEN-WINGS* editor is happy to receive for newsletter consideration your:

- Trip Reports
- Species Profiles
- Articles & Book Reports
- Sketches & Photos

The next deadline for newsletter submissions is September 1, 2011

Email: info@ohiょyoungbirders.org

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

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Cover Photo: Kimm Kaufman

Young Birder Profile. . .Spotlight on Willis Yoder, age 18

GOLDEN-WINGS – In what year did you start birding?

WILLIS YODER – Oh my, that is a good question! I think it was in 2004, but I'm not quite sure.

GW – What or who got you interested in birds?

WY – I was invited to go see the Bald Eagle nest at the Killbuck Wildlife Area. Some of my cousins and friends wanted to see the nest so they took me along. After we saw the nest, I walked further and saw some swamp bird running through the weeds. After that I was hooked!

GW – Have you had birding mentors or heroes who helped you?

WY – I sure have! My brother Mike has helped me a lot. Robert Hershberger has been great in helping not only me but lots of other young birders as well. Kim and Kenn Kaufman, Ken Keffer, Bruce Glick, Jacob Bowman...just to name a few who have helped me.

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

WY – Yes. My favorite bird probably is the Barn Owl. It has this cool heart shaped face and makes the funniest sound in the night that startles me at times. Barn Owls make a nest in our nest box every year, so that is why I like them. I have more than one favorite bird though!

GW – Where is your favorite place to bird?

WY – Close to home, the Stark Wilderness Center provides some excellent birding, especially warblers in the spring, and the Magee Marsh Boardwalk is hard to beat.

GW – What bird would you most

like to see, and why?

WY – Warblers. Any bird in the warbler family is fun to watch. It is always fun to try and pick out warblers in a tree filled with leaves, especially when you can hear but not see them.



Willis Yoder watching a Rufous Hummingbird
September 2010

GW – What would you say is your greatest accomplishment in birding thus far?

WY – Going birding with Greg Miller, and seeing a juvenile Ruff at Conneaut Harbor was sweet!

GW – Are you interested in any other natural science areas besides birds?

WY – I love to watch butterflies although I don't study them much. I think it's cool to enjoy God's creation!

GW – Do you have any other interests/hobbies?

WY – Hunting, trapping, fishing just to name a few.

GW – Are any of your friends or family members birders? If not, how do you handle that?

WY – Actually, most of my family enjoys birds, so we have lots of fun together. We visit Magee Marsh together and some other places.

GW – In your experience, what do most people your age think about birding? And if their view of birding isn't totally positive, what can we do to change that?

WY – Some show interest, others don't view birding as a cool thing to do. Some simply don't have an interest in birds; they would rather participate in other activities. For the reluctant ones, a good day at Magee Marsh should have them hooked on birding.

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

WY – Help them get started when very young. Show them exciting things like eagles nests, migratory ducks, or other interesting things in nature that would get a child's attention.

GW – Have you taken any birding trips out of state?

WY – I have never been birding out of state, but I have been to Haiti. We saw 10 – 15 Black-necked Stilts, Cattle Egrets, and Smooth Billed Ani.

GW – What are the pros and cons of birding by bicycle?

WY – Pros: much quieter than a vehicle, so you can hear the birds while traveling.

Cons: You are limited on the distance you can travel.

Young Birder Profile . . . Spotlight on Willis Yoder, age 18

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

WY – The western states to see a Western Kingbird.

GW – Have you attended any birding conventions or conferences, and if so, what were they?

WY – Three Ohio Young Birders Club Conferences at Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge (2007, 2009) and Chestnut Ridge Schoolhouse (2008).

GW – Where do you go to school?

WY – I attended Fryburg Parochial School until I completed eighth grade.

GW – Do you have a job somewhere?

WY – Yes, I work at the Mt. Hope Livestock Auction every Wednesday. Plus I help my father on our farm. I have also guided hunters a couple of times for our neighbor.

GW – What is your dream job, and if your dream job isn't related to birding, do you think

you will still be a birder once you have your dream job? If it is what do you think having the hobby of birding will bring to your career?

WY – My dream job is being an outfitter in the western states. This would give me time to see the Western Kingbird! I could also share my birding knowledge with my clients.

GW – Do you have a favorite book, and if so, what is it?

WY – Yes, *Kingbird Highway*, by Kenn Kaufman.

GW – What is your favorite food?

WY – Pizza.

GW – Do you have any pets, and if so, what are they?

WY – Yes, two dogs, a black lab and an Australian shepherd.

GW – Do you volunteer anywhere?

WY – Not at this time, but **someday I'd like to volunteer** at the local fire department.

GW – Have you taken or taught any birding classes/courses?

WY – No.

GW – Are you involved with any birding projects?

WY – Yes, I helped some with the Ohio Breeding Bird Atlas.

GW – Do you keep a life list, and, if so, how many birds are on it?

WY – Approximately 230 species.

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

WY – Absolutely! Birding with the field trip leaders helped me gain valuable experience and knowledge.

GW – Besides the monthly field trips and annual conference that we schedule, what else can the OYBC offer to our members?

WY – Keep up the good work. You are doing great!



Willis Yoder & Ken Keffer
2010 Lake Erie pelagic

Your Organization Can Become an OYBC Sponsor Today!

Do your part to encourage our youth to learn more about birds and the natural world around them.

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

- \$1,000 – BALD EAGLE LEVEL
- \$750 – PEREGRINE FALCON LEVEL
- \$500 – RED-TAILED HAWK LEVEL
- \$100 – AMERICAN KESTREL LEVEL

visit www.ohiょyoungbirders.org for a sponsorship form
or contact BSBO at 419-898-4070

GOODBYE TO DENDROICA by Kenn Kaufman

For many birders, the American warblers are a very big deal. The concentrations of these birds during spring and fall migration are so remarkable that we often refer to northwestern Ohio as "the Warbler Capital of the World." Indeed, the name of this newsletter, Dendroica, is a reference to warblers: that is the name of the genus in which nearly half of our warbler species have been classified.

But that has just changed. In an update published in July 2011, the Committee on Classification and Nomenclature of the American Ornithologists' Union (AOU) has rearranged the warbler family in major ways. On the basis of extensive DNA studies during recent years, we now have a better understanding of the relationships among warblers, and this leads to changes in their sequence on the list and changes in the scientific names for many.

To review how scientific names work: every species has a name made up of two words, usually in Latin or Greek, that serve as its universal identifier. Scientists in any country may have their own name for the species, in their own language, but everyone uses the same scientific name. For the Cape May Warbler, for example, the scientific name has been *Dendroica tigrina*. For the Black-throated Green Warbler, the scientific name has been *Dendroica virens*. In each case, the first word is the genus (plural: genera); the second word is the species.

For those who take note of scientific names, the disappearance of the name Dendroica may be the hardest adjustment. For field purposes, it has been very useful to think of the genus **Dendroica as the most "typical" warblers**, the most colorful, hyperactive, highly patterned ones, and then deal with those other genera that differed somewhat. **Well, we can't do that now, because the genus Dendroica is ceasing to exist.**

Got your red pen ready? Here's a brief summary of the new sequence and the new scientific names for the species of warblers found north of the Mexican border. The spelling of the species name will stay the same, and only the name of the genus will change in these cases. (In other words, for example, Cerulean Warbler will change from *Dendroica cerulea* to *Setophaga cerulea*.)

Genus *Seiurus*:
Ovenbird

Genus *Helmitheros*:
Worm-eating Warbler

Genus *Parkesia*:
Louisiana Waterthrush and Northern Waterthrush (this change was made official last year)

Genus *Vermivora*:
Bachman's, Golden-winged, and Blue-winged warblers

Genus *Mniotilla*:
Black-and-white Warbler

Genus *Protonotaria*:
Prothonotary Warbler

Genus *Limnothlypis*:
Swainson's Warbler

Genus *Oreothlypis*:
Crescent-chested, Tennessee, Orange-crowned, Colima, Lucy's, Nashville, and Virginia's warblers – this change was made official (moving Crescent-chested from genus *Parula*, and the others from genus *Vermivora*) last year, but this sequence of species within the genus is new.

Genus *Oporornis*:
Connecticut Warbler

Genus *Geothlypis*:
now includes Gray-crowned Yellowthroat; **MacGillivray's, Mourning, and Kentucky** warblers; and Common Yellowthroat – in that order. The three in the middle were formerly in *Oporornis*.

Genus *Setophaga*:
Major change here. Formerly this genus included only the American Redstart. Now it includes Hooded Warbler, American Redstart, two species from the genus *Parula*, and everything that used to be in the genus *Dendroica*. The sequence of species is supposed to reflect something about the degree to which these things are related, so check out this new sequence: Hooded, American Redstart, **Kirtland's, Cape May, Cerulean, Northern Parula, Tropical Parula, Magnolia, Bay-breasted, Blackburnian, Yellow, Chestnut-sided, Blackpoll, Black-throated Blue, Palm, Pine, Yellow-rumped,**

Yellow-throated, Prairie, Grace's, Black-throated Gray, Townsend's, Hermit, Golden-cheeked, Black-throated Green.

Genus *Basileuterus*:
Fan-tailed Warbler is moved into this genus, and Rufous-capped and Golden-crowned Warblers are still here, in that order.

Genus *Cardellina*:
Canada Warbler, Wilson's Warbler, Red-faced Warbler. The first two were formerly in the genus *Wilsonia* (with the Hooded Warbler, now moved up the chain); Red-faced Warbler had been the only member of this genus.

Genus *Myioborus*
Painted Redstart and Slate-throated Redstart

Missing in action: Yellow-breasted Chat. **We don't know what it is, but we're pretty sure that it's not a warbler.** Anyone who has seen the chat in action, hooting and cackling and leaping up from the shrubbery, will understand the un-warblerness of this odd bird.

I'm not suggesting that you skip any birding time to write the new scientific names into your field guide. But if you've grown to love the name Dendroica since you started warbler-watching, it's time to start the long process of saying goodbye and getting over it. And if you haven't – well, it's still fascinating to see how our knowledge of these birds continues to develop. Hooded Warbler related to American Redstart! Who would've guessed?

Aside from these changes to the warbler family, only one decision from the AOU this year affects the Ohio bird checklist. **The bird that we've been calling Common Moorhen has been split from the Old World species of that name, and henceforth will be called Common Gallinule** – which is what it was called on this continent before the 1980s! For some people who have been birding a long time, this will be an easy adjustment to make.

~ Kenn Kaufman
Kaufman Field Guides
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THE OHIO YOUNG BIRDERS CONFERENCE IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER!



Ohio Young Birders Club
BLACK SWAN BIRD OBSERVATORY

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for additional
conference
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by:



5th Annual Ohio Young

Birders Conference

November 5th & 6th, 2011
Hosted by Grange Insurance Audubon Center
and Columbus Audubon
505 Whittier Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

- * Optional Field Trips Saturday & Sunday Mornings
- * Registration Begins Saturday at 10:00 a.m. and
- * Opening Remarks Begin at 10:30 a.m.



Sandhill Crane by
Rachael Butek

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Students Rate \$10 / Adult Rate \$20

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

Registration deadline - October 22nd

Please fill out and return
the registration form
included in this issue of
GOLDEN-WINGS to reserve
your seat for another
GREAT conference!

THE OYBC CONFERENCE SHOWCASES:

**STUDENT PRESENTATIONS
KENN KAUFMAN BIRD I.D. QUIZ
FIELD TRIPS
Lunch
And MUCH MORE!**



KEYNOTE SPEAKER:

Rachael Butek, of Colfax, WI.
Rachael is an amazing artist and birder
and she is the 2010
American Birding Association's
Young Birder of the Year!

OYBC STUDENT ARTWORK

"My family went on two tours when we visited Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. One for gators and another for birds. I found it odd how most people on the gator tour didn't really care about the birds and the people on the bird tour didn't really care about the alligators!"

Kayla Parry



Ask About Becoming
an OYBC Sponsor
419-898-4070
staff@bsbo.org

American Alligator
Kayla Parry, age 13

OYBC TO PARTICIPATE IN MIDWEST BIRDING SYMPOSIUM

The OYBC Hosts Young Birders Day at MBS on Saturday, September 17th!
Join us for activities from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Bird Walk—The Ohio Young Birders Club will lead a field trip beginning at 8:00 a.m. Saturday on the Lakeside grounds. We will meet at the front entrance to the Hotel Lakeside.

The Ohio Young Birders Club will also be hosting Killdeer Korner for Kids from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Help young students make a pair of binoculars, build a bird feeder, and create an owl puppet or mask. We'll also have a waterfowl painting contest and information on competing in the Junior Duck Stamp program.

- Morning Bird Walk Saturday 8 a.m.
- Kids activities all day Saturday
- Meet famous birders from around the country
- Attend workshops and shop the birders' market place

---OYBC Youth Advisory Panel Members Sarah Winnicki and Wyatt Miller will be giving a presentation during the symposium!



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO:

- * Hang out at the BSBO booth and recruit new members
- * Assist with children's activities booth at Killdeer Korner
 - Come support your club!

OYBC STUDENT ARTWORK



Eastern Wood-Pewee
Robert Reynard, age 16



Prothonotary Warbler
Robert Reynard, age 16

OHIO YOUNG BIRDERS CONFERENCE NOVEMBER 5, 2011

5TH ANNUAL


Ohio Young Birders Club
BLACK SWAMP BIRD OBSERVATORY

Ohio Young Birders Club Conference

Ohio Young Birders Conference
November 5, 2011
Grange Insurance Audubon Center,
Columbus, Ohio

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Central Ohio Chapter Big Day by Doug Whitman, age 12

The Ohio Young Birders Club Central Ohio Chapter (OYBC) had a goal: 100 or more species in the space of 24 hours. It was May 14, the height of spring migration, and there was only one spot in Ohio where our goal would be possible: Magee Marsh!

After an early morning drive, the day started out at 9:00 a.m., when we met up with John Sawvel, OYBC Membership Coordinator, at the bird banding demonstration. We got to help Ken Keffer, the Education Director at Black Swamp Bird Observatory, band various species of birds. This didn't help our count terribly. We only counted birds like the Gray-cheeked Thrush, when we let it go, and then it immediately flew to a nearby branch and perched there. In any case, it was still cool to actually hold and examine the birds from mere inches away. All of us got to hold and talk about at least one species of bird.

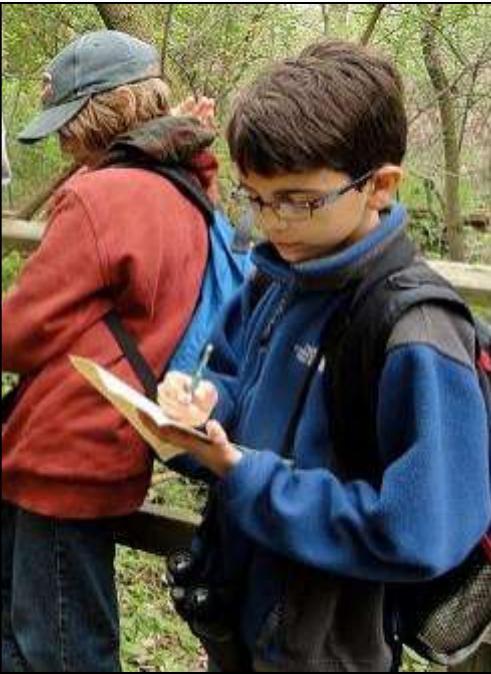
One of the highlights, though, was when a very angry Northern Cardinal decided that she had had enough of Ken and proceeded to continuously bite his finger and squawk. Ken swiftly handed the bird to OYBC member Sam Browning, so Sam could willingly get bit. We weren't too sad to let the cardinal go and move onto something tamer, like thrushes. Ken had a Gray-cheeked Thrush, a Swainson's Thrush, and a Veery. The Swainson's flew away very fast, but we were still able to get a side-by-side comparison of the Gray-cheeked Thrush and Veery, which was cool.

After banding a few more birds, we headed for the famous Magee Marsh Boardwalk. The Boardwalk is awesome!

Take your local nature preserve or park, dip it into a vat of very, very bright paint, and sprinkle in hundreds of birders. You now have an idea of what the Boardwalk

reason we lost sight of it was that it hopped UNDER the boardwalk). And of course, warblers.

By this time we were all hungry, so we ate lunch. Some of the group went down to the beach to eat, where there were many stinky, rotting fish corpses to poke with sticks! There was also a Ruddy Duck, but it was alive.



Aaron Tayal
Diligently keeping the checklist for
the 2011 OYBC Central Ohio
Chapter Big Day in northwest Ohio

looks like on a good day in the middle of spring migration. Everywhere we turned there were colorful warblers. In just the first five minutes on the boardwalk, we saw Yellow, Black-throated Blue, Magnolia, Blackburnian, Prothonotary, Chestnut-sided, and Cape May Warblers, plus a Red-eyed Vireo and other assorted birds like Red-winged Blackbirds and Common Grackles.

The group separated a bit as we worked our way down the boardwalk, but all of us got interesting birds. Some highlights included Green Heron, Scarlet Tanager, Eastern Screech-Owl, Philadelphia Vireo, and a House Wren that was about two inches from our faces. (No joke, the

After that, we went to the Sportsmen's Migratory Bird Center to see Purple Martins and Barn Swallows. While we were there a raptor rehabilitation exhibit was set up where they had various owls, hawks, and falcons. Dang it! We couldn't count them either since they weren't in the wild. They also looked pretty cool though. After we were done with the Sportsmen's Center, the whole group headed to the woodlot behind the Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center. This was a good place to see birds like Blue Jay, Tufted Titmouse, and Black-capped Chickadee; however, it did have a less common birds that were easy to see there. We saw both Great Crested Flycatcher and Wood Thrush which we saw fairly easily. The best thing about the woodlot though, was that there was a very large, very convenient, very climbable vine right off the path. Hehehe.

Once we were done at Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge, we decided to cruise some roads that ran along flooded fields to look for shorebirds. We were well rewarded when we got a few Killdeer, a big flock of Dunlin, and a Trumpeter Swan. Another one of the birders there was kind enough to let us use his scope to get a good view of the Dunlin in full spring plumage, black belly and all.

Central Ohio Chapter Big Day by Doug Whitman, age 12

By this time we were getting very close to our goal. When we visited Metzger Marsh we saw a few new birds, basically birds you would find in a marsh, like American Coot. Then we hit species #100, a Common Moorhen!! It was a great bird for #100, but it was quickly overshadowed by bird #101, when two Sandhill Cranes flew over!!

After that we decided that we had to take a picture of us spelling our "1-0-1", then, just as we took the picture and started to yell 101, something strange happened. Darlene Sillick, one of the OYBC Advisors, began to jump up and down and start yelling. **None of us had any idea what was going on...until Darlene finally** managed to form the words, "YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD!!!" That got our attention, and sure enough, a male was flying over our heads. That brought our count to 102. A picture with us forming 101 was easy. 102? Not so easy. We managed, though barely ("2" is a hard number to form with your body).

By this time, many of us had to be heading home. We all split up, but were happy that we had not only accomplished our goal, but had gone two birds over. And the last two birds weren't any commoners or dull birds either. They were Sandhill Crane, the only species of crane in Ohio, and one of only two species in North America, and Yellow-Headed Blackbird, in Ohio found only in a small area in the northwest corner of the state. Now we have an even bigger goal to beat for next year!



Doug Whitman, age 12, is an active member of the Ohio Young Birders Club. He has participated in numerous field trips and service learning projects. In November 2010 he won an epic door prize at the Ohio Young Birders Conference, and in March 2011 he presented an update on the OYBC Central Ohio Chapter to Columbus Audubon. He has been birding since early 2009 and has a life list of 186 birds. In addition to birding, Doug enjoys soccer, video games, and keeping his cats indoors (away from bird feeders).

CONGRATULATIONS TO OYBC SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT LUKAS PADEGIMAS!

Lukas received a \$250 scholarship from the OYBC's **John Gallagher Memorial Scholarship Fund** to support his internship on a project monitoring shorebirds in Barrow, Alaska. Watch for Lukas's report in an upcoming edition of GOLDEN-WINGS. Lukas will also be giving a presentation on his experiences at the 2011 Ohio Young Birders Conference on November 5th!

Learn more about OYBC scholarships on Page 2 of this issue of GOLDEN-WINGS!

May BIG DAY Species List Complied by Aaron Tayal

Pied-billed Grebe
Double-crested Cormorant
Great Blue Heron
Great Egret
Green Heron
Turkey Vulture
Trumpeter Swan
Mute Swan
Canada Goose
Wood Duck
Mallard
Ruddy Duck
Bald Eagle
Red-tailed Hawk
American Kestrel
Common Moorhen
American Coot
Sandhill Crane
Killdeer
Least Sandpiper
Dunlin
American Woodcock
Ring-billed Gull
Herring Gull

Common Tern
Rock Dove
Mourning Dove
Black-billed Cuckoo
Eastern Screech-Owl
Red-bellied Woodpecker
Downy Woodpecker
Hairy Woodpecker
Northern Flicker
Eastern Wood-Pewee
Willow Flycatcher
Least Flycatcher
Great Crested Flycatcher
Eastern Kingbird
Warbling Vireo
Philadelphia Vireo
Red-eyed Vireo
Blue Jay
American Crow
Horned Lark
Purple Martin
Tree Swallow
Barn Swallow
Black-capped Chickadee
Carolina Chickadee
Tufted Titmouse
White-breasted Nuthatch

House Wren
Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
Veery
Grey-cheeked Thrush
Swainson's Thrush
Wood Thrush
American Robin
Gray Catbird
European Starling
Cedar Waxwing
Tennessee Warbler
Nashville Warbler
Northern Parula
Yellow Warbler
Chestnut-sided Warbler
Magnolia Warbler
Cape May Warbler
Black-throated Blue Warbler
Yellow-rumped Warbler
Black-throated Green Warbler
Blackburnian Warbler
Pine Warbler
Palm Warbler
Bay-breasted Warbler
Blackpoll Warbler
Black-and-white Warbler

American Redstart
Prothonotary Warbler
Ovenbird
Mourning Warbler
Common Yellowthroat
Hooded Warbler
Wilson's Warbler
Canada Warbler
Scarlet Tanager
Northern Cardinal
Rose-breasted Grosbeak
Indigo Bunting
Eastern Towhee
Song Sparrow
White-throated Sparrow
White-crowned Sparrow
Red-winged Blackbird
Yellow-headed Blackbird
Common Grackle
Brown-headed Cowbird
Baltimore Oriole
Purple Finch
House Finch
American Goldfinch
House Sparrow

OYBC Spring Fling at Columbus by Jacob Stinnett age 14

Beep! Beep! Beep! When I heard the alarm going off at 6:30 AM I dreaded getting up. By the time we got to Green Lawn Cemetery I was only about half awake.

We started walking, with quite a few yawns in between, and immediately male Downy and Red-bellied Woodpeckers were spotted at the feeders. As we perused around the "pit" we found many Ruby-crowned Kinglets and a warbler. Overhead soared a Cooper's Hawk, so the activity in the brush ceased. Darlene Silllick and Joe Meara lost the warbler, but it got our spirits up. Canada Geese had made nests on top of the mausoleums and were defensive of their territory. By the bridge a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker was clinging to a branch high in a very large tree. It was not until after five minutes of looking that it moved and most of us saw it.

Ken Keffer and the students decided it would be fun to trick the adults, so with Tim Daniel's iPod we went on top of the bridge and played a Hooded Warbler recording. This soon got out of hand when someone decided to play a Hooded Merganser. We simply blamed the unfortunate noise on Tim's stomach content: fiber bars.

After seeing many birds at Green Lawn Cemetery everyone found a car and rode down the road to the Grange Insurance Audubon Center (GIAC). There we ate lunch and got a tour from Josh Cherubini, Facilities Manager. We learned about the ways that the GIAC saves money on heating and cooling by the positioning of their windows and roof and about the way rain gardens work to filter water before it goes into the river. As we were about to leave, I spotted an Osprey flying away from its perch with possibly the remains of a perch in its talons.

Our next stop for the day was at Hoover Reservoir where we met up with bird-lover Charlie Bombaci. He took us down the boardwalk and showed another osprey nest, not the last of the day though. On the far side of the lake there was a flock of Double-crested Cormorants which were very cool to see, as one of them flew right by the boardwalk. We then headed to Area N and began a long trek through the woods. The forest was thick with bedstraw and I was unfortunate enough to be the canvas of everyone's "artwork," as they called it.

When everyone got to the water's edge, Charlie heard a Prothonotary Warbler and we got quiet really fast. It was on the other side of the stream, but with its bright yellow plumage it was not hard for us to find. We were about to leave when the fishermen

beside us caught a catfish. They were about to throw it back when Ken asked if we could see it first. Ken grabbed it and gave it to me. As I held it next to my face and made fishy faces, its tail whacked me in the back of the head, startled me and I dropped it. The fish lay writhing on the forest floor and Ken picked it up and threw it back into the water. On our way out of the forest, John Sawvel found a Yellow-rumped Warbler. It was beautiful, especially from behind.

As we arrived at our next destination, the last of the day, it began to sprinkle a little, but it was not bad in the trees. Dick Tuttle had scopes set up at the #4 Osprey nest at Alum Creek. Dick told us about how he helped to build these nesting platforms. We got some good pictures, but just as Dick was finishing his speech the rain began to come down harder. We packed up and headed home.

It was a great event. Many of our life lists grew quite a bit that day.

My favorite birds to see were the Yellow-rumped Warbler, the Double-crested Cormorant, and the Red-headed Woodpecker.

Special thanks to: Joe Meara for taking us around Green Lawn Cemetery and sticking with us the rest of the day; Charlie Bombaci for taking us around the Hoover Reservoir and showing some of us our first warblers; Josh Cherubini for taking us on a tour of the GIAC; and Dick Tuttle for teaching us so much about Osprey, their nesting habits, and how to erect an Osprey platform.



Jacob Stinnett with a Chestnut-sided Warbler on International Migratory Bird Day at Magee Marsh

Spring Fling Bird List Compiled by Aaron Tayal

1. Double-crested Cormorant
2. Great Blue Heron
3. Turkey Vulture
4. Canada Goose
5. Mallard
6. Wood Duck
7. Osprey
8. Bald Eagle
- 9. Cooper's Hawk**
10. American Kestrel
11. American Coot
12. Spotted Sandpiper
13. Ring-billed Gull
14. Caspian Tern
15. Mourning Dove
16. Chimney Swift
17. Belted Kingfisher
18. Red-headed Woodpecker
19. Red-bellied Woodpecker
20. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
21. Downy Woodpecker
22. Pileated Woodpecker
23. Eastern Kingbird
24. White-eyed Vireo
25. Blue Jay
26. American Crow
27. Tree Swallow
28. Northern Rough-winged Swallow
29. Barn Swallow
30. Carolina Chickadee
31. Tufted Titmouse
32. Red-breasted Nuthatch
33. White-breasted Nuthatch
34. Ruby-crowned Kinglet
35. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
36. Hermit Thrush
37. American Robin
38. Brown Thrasher
39. European Starling
40. Northern Parula
41. Yellow-rumped Warbler
42. Black-throated Green Warbler
43. Black-and-White Warbler
44. Prothonotary Warbler
45. Northern Cardinal
46. Eastern Towhee
47. Chipping Sparrow
48. Field Sparrow
49. Song Sparrow
50. White-throated Sparrow
51. Red-winged Blackbird
52. Common Grackle
53. Brown-headed Cowbird

Check out www.columbusaudubon.org
and www.ohiolyoungbirders.org
for more photos of this trip!

Birding by Kayak by Alexander Martin, age 16

When you think about it, kayaking and birding seem to be an odd couple. After all, kayaking is a water sport, while the birders tend to stay well away from an element that could turn their birdwatching equipment into a soggy (or shorted-out) mess. But the Twin Lakes in Powell, Ohio, are home to many species of water-loving birds, and the best way to get up close and personal with these creatures is to approach them from the water, rather than from the land. So in early June, the Ohio Young Birders Club (OYBC) teamed up with The Adaptive Adventure Sports Coalition (TAASC) to go on a "Birding by Kayak" trip. Over 40 students, parents, and volunteers participated. Altogether the experience was great fun, and we got to see a fair number of different species of birds. Among the birds we spotted were a Baltimore Oriole, a Prothonotary Warbler, and a Blue-gray Gnatcatcher.

The day started off rainy, the leftovers of a storm that had been churning the entire night before. Undeterred, the young birders headed out on the kayaks around 8:30 a.m. Although the rain had abated by this time, and was little more than a drizzle, the sky was still gray and cloudy, and not particularly welcoming. The gray soon cleared up, however, and the rest of the day was more or less bright and sunny.

We started off from the TAASC Adventure Center and set out in our kayaks. As we passed under the bridge connecting the two lakes, we were saddened to see that nests of the Northern Rough-winged Swallows had been flooded, due to high water levels. Other birds, however, had had more success and, in the first cove we entered, we were able to observe a pair of Blue-gray Gnatcatchers nesting in a dead branch overhanging the water. After spending a few minutes there, we headed to the next cove where we spotted a Prothonotary Warbler. We had seen the more common Yellow Warbler a few times, but the Prothonotary Warbler was an exciting find. At the next inlet, we observed Prothonotary Warbler again, but this time we were in for a bigger surprise. As we left the inlet, we spotted an Osprey sitting on a dead tree with a fish in its talons. As it flew away, fish flapping from folded talons, we were awed by the power and grandeur of this water bird.

The biggest difference between birding on land and birding by kayak is the ability of the birder to keep his or her binoculars trained on the bird. On land, this means that the birder must have a steady hand and have two feet firmly on the ground. In a kayak, however, it's not easy to have either one. There's no firm ground to put feet on, and a kayaking birder's hands are rarely steady, having to juggle both binoculars and a large paddle. I figured this all out in the next area of the lake that we visited. Two Baltimore Orioles were spotted, nesting in a tall sycamore tree, concealed by the leaves. To try to get a better view, I pulled my kayak under the tree. Staring directly up into a tree, through binoculars, while in a kayak, I discovered, is not a good idea. Dizziness soon set in and the kayak began to wobble. Although I survived un-drenched and with the paddle still in the boat

(mostly), it was a rather disconcerting experience, and probably not something every birder wants to deal with.



When we got back to shore after two and a half hours of birding on the water, we attempted to assemble our kayaks in an orderly manner on the water, so that we could have a group picture taken. This was harder than we thought. With the current and wind fighting against us, we eventually ended up in an amorphous blob of kayaks. After disembarking from

the kayaks, we banded a few Tree Swallow nestlings from the bird boxes that had been set up in the area. A television crew was also along, documenting our exploration for *Wild Ohio TV*, and they filmed OYBC Advisor Darlene Sillick banding the baby birds.

The day ended with a picnic lunch and a game of hacky-sack. Although I've been both birding and kayaking separately before, I never realized how much fun the two could be together.

Alexander Martin, 16
Columbus Ohio

Help recruit new OYBC members by inviting friends along on the next field trip!

Ohio Young Birders Club Upcoming Events

To register for any of these events, or for more information, please contact the BSBO at 419-898-4070.

A Day on South Bass Island

with the Snake Lady

Saturday, August 20, 9:30 AM—3:30 PM

Meet at Put-In-Bay Ferry parking lot

Cost: to be determined

Join us in conducting hands on research of the Lake Erie Water Snake with researcher Kristin Stanford! OYBC students from around the state will have a fun day of birding on the island during and after the snake adventure. We will be looking for herons, gulls, egrets, and many other birds that use this island.

*AS SEEN ON DIRTY JOBS spend the day with
Snake Lady Kristin Stanford*

Midwest Birding Symposium

Saturday, September 17, 8:00 AM—4:00 PM

Lakeside, OH

<https://www.birdwatchersdigest.com/mwb2011/main.php>

The OYBC will be at MBS for a morning field trip seeking out fall migrants at birding hotspots around Lakeside. Then OYBC members will be helping at Killdeer Korner, assisting with activities for young birders including build a bird feeder, making binoculars, and a waterfowl art contest to help prepare for participating in the Junior Duck Stamp competition!

OYBC Youth Advisory Panel members Sarah Winnicki and **Wyatt Miller** will present "BIRDING WITH YOUR FAMILY: Tips to Get the Whole Family Out Birding!" at the conference.

Support your fellow young birders & represent OYBC at this regional conservation conference!

Big Sit for Conservation

Saturday, October 15, 7:30 AM—4:30 PM

Port Clinton Lakefront Preserve

Help support the Ohio Young Birders Club by participating in the annual Big Sit for Conservation. Like a walkathon, people can donate to the OYBC by pledging an amount for every species seen during the event. The catch with a Big Sit is *we stay in the same place all day long*. This year's Big Sit will take place at the Port Clinton Lakefront Preserve. Last year, OYBC's awesome crew sat for 9 hours at the Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge, counted 62 bird species, and raised \$3,100 to benefit their club and migratory bird stopover habitat on the Middle Bass Island Preserve.

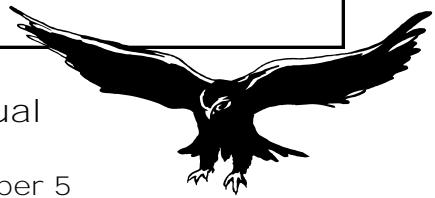
OYBC 5th Annual Conference

Saturday, November 5

Grange Audubon Center & Columbus Audubon

The annual OYBC Conference is a revolutionary event. In addition to student presentations, the event includes a field trip, door prizes, and a bird quiz led by noted author Kenn Kaufman. The OYBC conference is a great way to meet young birders from all over, and to see what unique opportunities the OYBC can provide!

---Having something you'd like to give a presentation on? We still have room for speakers at this year's conference!



Christmas Bird Count

December 14—January 5

Many locations throughout Ohio and the US! Participating in this national count has become a tradition for OYBC students, families, birders and scientists alike. Citizen science events like this are great fun and provide valuable research data, so bundle up and get outside for the birds.

OYBC members are invited to participate in the Fremont CBC but there are other counts all around the state!

Do YOU have an great idea for an **OYBC field trip? If so, we'd love to** hear about it! Contact Ken Keffer - kenkeffer@bsbo.org John Sawvel - johnsawvel@bsbo.org Or, call BSBO at (419) 898-4070 to share your ideas for field trips, content for the newsletter, or any other thoughts, concerns, or great ideas you have for the OYBC..

Thanks!

The OYBC Shout Out Page

WELCOME TO ALL OF THE
NEW OYBC MEMBERS & ADULT SUPPORTERS

STUDENT MEMBERS ADULT MEMBERS

Marek Brandedberry
Grace Dannemiller
Charlie Mamlin
Elijah Martineau
May Martineau
Nathan Martineau
Jimmy Pittman
Kristina Polk
Ivan Troyer
Lauren Vargo
Michael Vargo
Cameron Watkins
Trevor Zook

Gabe Giffin
Cindi Martineau
Daniel Vargo
Mike Zook

Encourage your
friends to become
OYBC members!

Remember to
submit materials for the
next GOLDEN-WINGS
Newsletter!

FOLLOW THE OHIO YOUNG BIRDERS CLUB ON
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www.twitter.com/oybc

- Connect with young birders from around the world
- Learn about exciting opportunities like summer camps and volunteer programs specific to young birders
- Share your photos, artwork, poems, stories, and more!

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