



OHIO YOUNG BIRDERS CLUB

WINTER 2016-2017

CELEBRATING 10 YEARS
OF 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"



The OYBC held the 10th Annual OYBC Conference on November 5th at the Toledo Zoo & Aquarium. It was hard to miss the stunning architecture all around, and the theater venue provided the perfect atmosphere. Over 100 participants arrived early to take part in behind-the-scenes tours of the aviary and aquarium. At the heart of the conference were the stunning presentations by top-notch young birders and bird ID quiz assistants that inspired an audience filled with OYBC members, mentors, and supporters. Our Keynote, Phil Chaon, was one of the founding members of the OYBC; it was he who suggested the idea of an annual conference back in 2006. The most important message of the day was that everyone was encouraged to follow where their own path may lead and to embrace what they feel passionate about! See more on page 10.

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Ohio Young Birders Club (OYBC)

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

Coordinators

Tim Daniel, OYBC Central
Laura Guerard, BSBO
Nina Harfmann, OYBC Central
Michael Hershberger, OYBC
Holmes County
Kim Kaufman, BSBO
Liz McQuaid, OYBC NE
Debbie Riggs, OYBC SW
Liz Rising, OYBC SW
Mike Sustin, OYBC NE
Patty Toneff, OYBC NW
Bev Walborn, OYBC NE

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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Oak Harbor, Ohio 43449
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Email:
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www.bsbo.org

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OYBC Scholarships Available

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.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: February 22, 2017

Visit www.ohioyoungbirders.org/theodore-a-parker-iii-memorial-scholarship.html

for an application form,
or call BSBO at 419-898-4070 and we will mail you a form.

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.

Applicants must be current OYBC members between
the ages of 12 and 18 to be eligible.

Visit www.ohioyoungbirders.org/john-f-gallagher-memorial-scholarship

for an application form,
or call BSBO at 419-898-4070 and we will mail you a form.

Black Swamp Bird Observatory partners with Cornell Lab of Ornithology
to present the

Young Birders Network

The Black Swamp Bird Observatory and Cornell Lab of Ornithology have joined forces in creating a national network for young birders! The Young Birders Network (YBN) aims to provide resources and networking opportunities to students as well as adults involved in supporting student birding activities. Though the network is primarily geared for ages 12-18, younger birders and college students alike may also find relevant resources.

The website offers a comprehensive listing of clubs, opportunities, and other information relevant to young birders. You can find information about local clubs, summer jobs and events, college and career ideas, online discussion groups, and so much more.

Check out ebird.org/content/ybn/

OYBC BIRD ID PHOTO QUIZ

Ready to test your Bird ID skills?

Challenge yourself and 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**

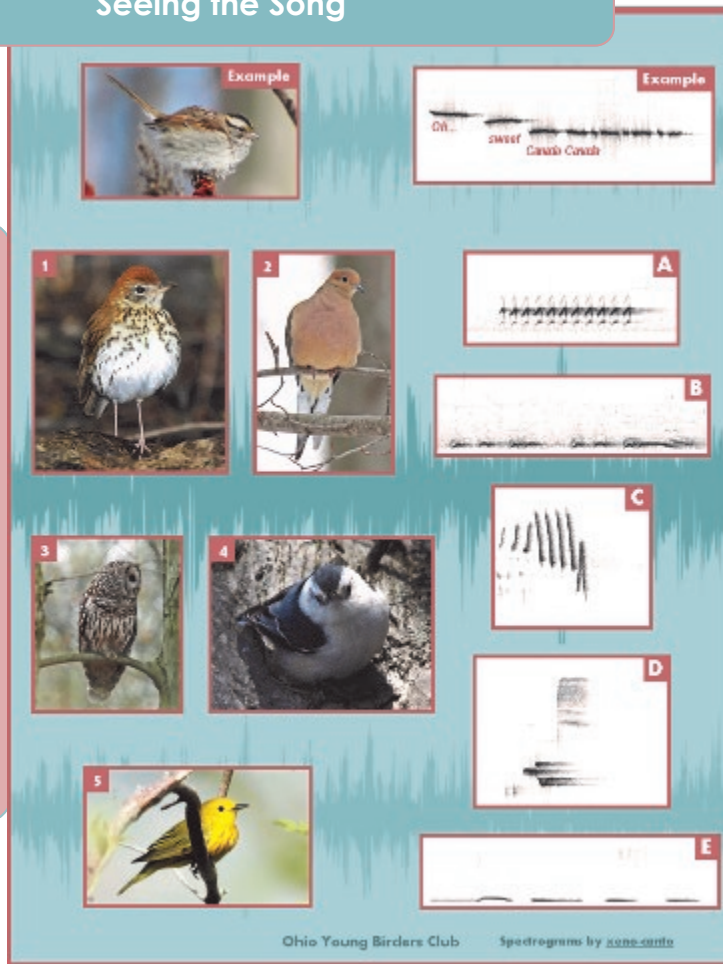
www.ohioyoungbirders.org or mail-in to BSBO c/o: Laura Guerard

2017 JANUARY/FEBRUARY BIRD ID QUIZ: "Seeing the Song"

Directions:

Identify each of the numbered birds and match them to the lettered spectrogram representing their song.

[Hint: The spectrograms used are the most common song/call of the birds pictured.]



Spectrograms are computer-generated images of a bird's song. With frequency (pitch) shown vertically and time shown horizontally (starting from the left), each solid mark on the graph represents a note or phrase in a song and its duration. When looking at the spectrograms in this quiz, try humming or whistling each note. Notes high on the graph are higher in pitch, notes low on the graph are lower in pitch. Drawn-out notes are sung longer, notes that are short and close together are sung quicker.

Using the "Example" of the White-throated Sparrow's *Oh-sweet-Canada-Canada* song, you can see on the spectrogram that there are 4 distinct notes to the song, that the pitch falls between each note, that there isn't much rising or falling in pitch on each note (meaning a clear, steady whistle), and that the notes are relatively long.

Spectrograms may be confusing at first glance, but they are a great way to see what's actually happening when a bird sings. Using spectrograms not only helps you learn the parts of a bird's song, but can also better your appreciation for the complexity and dynamics of the avian vocal range.

GOLDEN-WINGS

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

Kimmy Birrer

Jethro Geiser

James Hershberger

Jesse Hershberger

Nate Koszycki

Adriana Losey

Ethan Rising

Mitchell SanGregory

Katelyn Shelton

GOLDEN-WINGS Editor:

Laura Guerard

GOLDEN-WINGS

Proofreaders: Ryan Jacob & Lauren McCafferty

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

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

The next deadline for newsletter submissions is April 1, 2016

Email:

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Cover Photo:

Group photo at the 10th Annual Ohio Young Birders Conference hosted by Toledo Zoo & Aquarium.

YOUNG BIRDER PROFILE: KATELYN SHELTON, AGE 14

GOLDEN-WINGS (GW) – What got you interested in birds, and in what year did you start birding?

Katelyn Shelton (KS) – I was always interested in animals since I was little. As I got older, I began to pick up the camera and take pictures of what visited my backyard every day: birds. The more I enjoyed this, the more I wanted to know, “What exactly am I taking pictures of?” I think it was early 2015 when I started to actually bird. It was in 2016 that I found out about OYBC.

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

KS – Well, I don’t have any birding heroes, but I certainly have wonderful mentors! Tim Daniel and Nina Harfmann are the leaders of my chapter, and they have given me wonderful tips and great inspiration.

GW – Do you have a favorite bird? If so, what makes it your favorite?

KS – I have a lot of favorites, but I’d have to say that it would either be a Red-eyed Vireo, Osprey, or Hairy Woodpecker. Red-eyed Vireos are just so beautiful and I love how they sing in our woods all day long. Ospreys are just majestic to me, and their appetite for fish is interesting. Lastly, Hairy Woodpeckers have such bold personalities. I love to watch the pair visit our suet feeders.

GW – Where is your favorite place to bird?

KS – Besides my backyard, I really enjoy birding in a field near my house. It backs up to a forest and a river so I see a nice variety of birds. If I could travel by car, I would probably go to the Hoover Dam where I could see waterfowl and other birds that aren’t at my home.



GW – What bird would you most like to see, and why?

KS – I would most like to see a Blackburnian Warbler. They have such a vibrant color combination and I would love to witness its beauty in the wild.

GW – So far what would you say is your greatest accomplishment in birding?

KS – Well, I really enjoyed seeing my first Red-breasted Nuthatch, but I think seeing an

Anna’s Hummingbird would be my greatest accomplishment so far. I know I was very lucky to see her, being a rare little hummer in our state.

(Right: Anna’s Hummingbird, early December in Miami County.)

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

KS – I really enjoy seeing mammals, lizards, salamanders, turtles, and fish. Pretty much anything living! I’ve always been interested in the natural world.

GW – Do you have any other interests or hobbies?

KS – I love to kayak and I’m a flute player in my school’s band. I also love to camp and listen for owls while I’m curled up in my sleeping bag. Hiking on trails or off-road is really fun too. Another thing is that I like to travel.

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

KS – Sure, some of them get interested, but I don’t think any of them consider themselves birders. This can be frustrating at times, when no one really understands what’s so great about birds. A lot of them don’t have the patience to wait around for a bird or stop to listen. This is aggravating, especially when I think it may be a bird I’ve never seen before. To deal with it, I take lots of pictures and show them to friends and family. They like the photos! Another way was to join OYBC, where I could meet people with the same interests as me. It really turned out!

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?

KS – Most the time, if I tell a friend at school about an exciting bird I saw or complain that raccoons broke my suet feeder once again, they either shrug or laugh a little. It’s probably because they don’t know what a Red-breasted Nuthatch is or the thought of seeing a bird doesn’t thrill them. I’m not sure if we can change that; people will be people and that’s ok. I can’t change what they think is exciting. I just wish I would get a little more feedback.



Katelyn with one of her favorite birds, the Red-eyed Vireo.

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

KS – Field trips. Kids my age love them. I know it might not be on teachers’ minds, but throw a few lessons into the trip and we’ll really enjoy it.

GW – Do you think the internet can help foster a community of young birders? How?

KS – I believe that the internet can help foster a community of young birders because so many young people spend their time on electronic devices. Social media is a great way for lots of people to see what you can offer them. Some kids don’t have access to nature like we do.

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

KS – I’d like to go to Eurasia to look for a Common Kingfisher. It’d be lovely to see a tiny kingfisher shining like a jewel alight on a flower!

GW – Have you attended any birding conventions or conferences? Which ones?

KS – I attended OYBC’s 10th Annual Conference and I have been to the American Birding Expo. They were both very fun and informational. I saved up and got a pair of binoculars at the Expo. At the conference, I participated in the Kaufman Bird ID Quiz with the guidance of my new friends Adriana and Anna. How fun!

GW – Where do you go to school?

KS – I go to Groveport Madison Middle School South (GMMSS). I know, it’s a mouthful, isn’t it? My school is pretty decent, not too small, not too big. I wish we had recess though. It has a nice habitat of trees and fields, along with a small creek. I saw my first Blue-gray Gnatcatcher there.

GW – What is your dream job?

KS – I’m not sure, definitely something that is related to the outdoors or birds! I would like to work out in the field, actually in contact with birds or in nature. No plain rooms with a desk please!

GW – If your dream job isn’t related to birding, do you think you will still be a birder once you have your dream job?

KS – Absolutely! It would be a very relaxing and wonderful hobby. My backyard would probably be filled with feeders and I’ll still be very active in the outdoors!

GW – What is your favorite book, and what makes it your favorite?

KS – Oh boy, this is a hard one! I have lots of favorite books. I read a lot of Warriors books and other fantasy/fictional animal books. I love to read from an animal’s point of view.

(Photo Credit: Anna’s Hummingbird by Katelyn Shelton, Katelyn by Adriana Losey)

...YOUNG BIRDER PROFILE CONTINUED

GW – What is your favorite movie, and why is it your favorite?

KS – Again! Wow, hard decisions! I really enjoy the movie "The Black Stallion." Black, the horse, is so powerful and I love the way the boy and horse bonded.

GW – What's your favorite place to eat?

KS – Honestly, my favorite place to eat is at home. There's nothing better than eating in comfort and looking out a window, or watching a movie.

GW – What are your favorite websites?

KS – I really enjoy Instagram. I first thought it would be full of things I wasn't into (like most websites) but it turns out, there's a lot of photography! I love it, a great place for that sort of thing.

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

KS – Yes, I have two dogs. The first one is a female Weimaraner named Rosey. The second one is a male schnauzer mix named Gibson.

GW – Do you volunteer anywhere?

KS – I volunteered at the Grange Audubon Center in Columbus, and so far I've been there to clean and care for turtles and their tanks. Once, while cleaning a softshell's tank, she escaped and I found her near the door of the building. Feeding the snappers is fun too.

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

KS – I do keep a life list, and so far, I have 128 different bird species on it, and the number is only growing!

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

KS – Most definitely. I've met so many new, kind people with the same interests as me. I also have had many new opportunities to be closer to birds, physically and mentally. It was the best thing that happened to me.

GOLDEN-WINGS is always on the look out 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



2017 YOUNG BIRDER CAMPS

Victor Emanuel Nature Tours (VENT)

Camp Chiricahua • SE Arizona • 12 days • Ages 14-18 • June 20-July 1

Camp Cascades • Pacific NW • 12 days • Ages 14-18 • July 29-August 9

Cornell Lab of Ornithology

Young Birders Event • Ithaca, NY • 4 days • Ages 15-18 • July 6-9

Audubon

Coastal Maine Bird Studies for Teens • Hog Island, ME • 6 days • Ages 14-17
Session I: June 11-16, Session II: June 18-23

Family Camp • Hog Island, ME • 6 days • Ages 8-13
Session I: August 6-11, Session II: August 13-18

American Birding Association (ABA)

Camp Colorado • Estes Park, CO • 7 days • Ages 13-18
Session I: July 16-22, Session II: July 25-31

Camp Avocet • Lewes, DE • 7 days • Ages 13-18 • July 30-August 5

For more information about camps and how to register, go to ohioyoungbirders.org

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

Are you interested in exploring new areas & making life-long friends?

Check out the summer youth camps on the OYBC website and/or the Young Birders Network:

ohioyoungbirders.org

ebird.org/content/ybn



Illustration by Nathan Martineau, 2013

2016 BIG SITS AND BIG DAY REPORTS

What's a "Big Sit"?

We hang out in a 15 foot diameter circle and try to identify the birds that we see and hear. This year, the NE Chapter held the first OYBC BIG DAY fundraiser and it was a smashing success. Like a walkathon, people can donate to the OYBC by pledging an amount for every species seen during the event. Everyone is welcome to join us and help count birds!

2016 RESULTS

**Over \$1,200
Raised!**

Central Chapter
Sunday, October 9th
BIG SIT total: 31 species

Northeast Chapter
Sunday, October 9th
BIG DAY total: 57 species

Holmes County Chapter
Saturday, October 8th
BIG SIT total: 60 species

Southwest Chapter
Sunday, September 25th
BIG SIT total: 36 species



Top: Chipping Sparrow at the Central Ohio Chapter Big Sit, photo by Adriana Losey. Bottom: This Ovenbird was the "superstar" of the SW Chapter Big Sit, photo by Kimmy Birrer.



Holmes County OYBC Big Sit Species List

Gray-cheeked Thrush
Swainson's Thrush
Great Blue Heron
Owl sp.
Killdeer
Mourning Dove
Northern Cardinal
Song Sparrow
Mockingbird
Blue Jay
Eastern Towhee
Red-bellied Woodpecker
Canada Goose
Tufted Titmouse
American Goldfinch
American Crow
Carolina Chickadee
Eastern Phoebe
Turkey Vulture
Cooper's Hawk
American Robin
White-breasted Nuthatch
Black Vulture
Yellow-rumped Warbler
Red-tailed Hawk
Eastern Bluebird
House Finch
European Starling
Carolina Wren
Northern Flicker
American Kestrel
House Sparrow
Downy Woodpecker
Chimney Swift
Rock Pigeon
Peregrine Falcon
Wood Duck
Red-winged Blackbird
Brown-headed Cowbird
Cedar Waxwing
White-crowned Sparrow
Ring-billed Gull
Northern Harrier
Gray Catbird
White-throated Sparrow
Red-breasted Nuthatch
Sharp-shinned Hawk
Double-crested
Cormorant
Bald Eagle
House Wren
Purple Finch
Orange-crowned Warbler
Pileated Woodpecker
Red-shouldered Hawk
Field Sparrow
Tree Swallow
Hairy Woodpecker
Palm Warbler
Merlin
Chipping Sparrow



...BIG SIT CONTINUED

Holmes County OYBC Big Sit Summary by James Hershberger

On October 8, 2016, the day of the Holmes County Chapter Big Sit, the morning started out overcast with a few sprinkles, gradually giving way to sunny skies in the afternoon. The wind was from the north, which brought through good numbers of migrating raptors.

We were at our usual spot at Emery Yoder's place. Our circle is situated in an open field near an overgrown fencerow that connects two woodlots. A small patch of prairie plants borders the fence row on the opposite side. Emery's backyard bird feeders are visible from the circle. Our view to the northeast is out over a large valley, which gives us lots of open sky to scan.

This year we did not hear any owls in the morning, but we heard a few thrushes calling as they migrated overhead. The birds started waking up around 7:00 am. As daylight broke, the species added up fast, and by 8:00 am we had 33 species. By 9:00 am we had 43 species, and by 10:00 am we had 53. After that, new ones were hard to get and we ended up with 60 species – two less than our previous two years' totals of 62 species. The last bird was a Chipping Sparrow at 3:32 pm.

A good raptor movement was the highlight of the day. We saw Bald Eagles (4), Red-shouldered Hawk (2), Sharp-shinned Hawk (7), Northern Harrier (1), American Kestrel (6), Merlin (2), Peregrine Falcon (2), and Black Vulture (6). Other highlights were Orange-crowned Warbler, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Purple Finch, and several Tree Swallows.

We had an enjoyable day of birding, snacking, and fellowship.

Each year, OYBC members seek pledges and donations for our annual BIG SIT fundraiser to help support the OYBC! 100% of the proceeds from the BIG SIT/BIG DAY benefit OYBC programs. Each dollar that is donated will help educate young people about the joy of birds and the importance of being good stewards of natural resources.

Thank You to all of our donors, your support makes a huge difference!

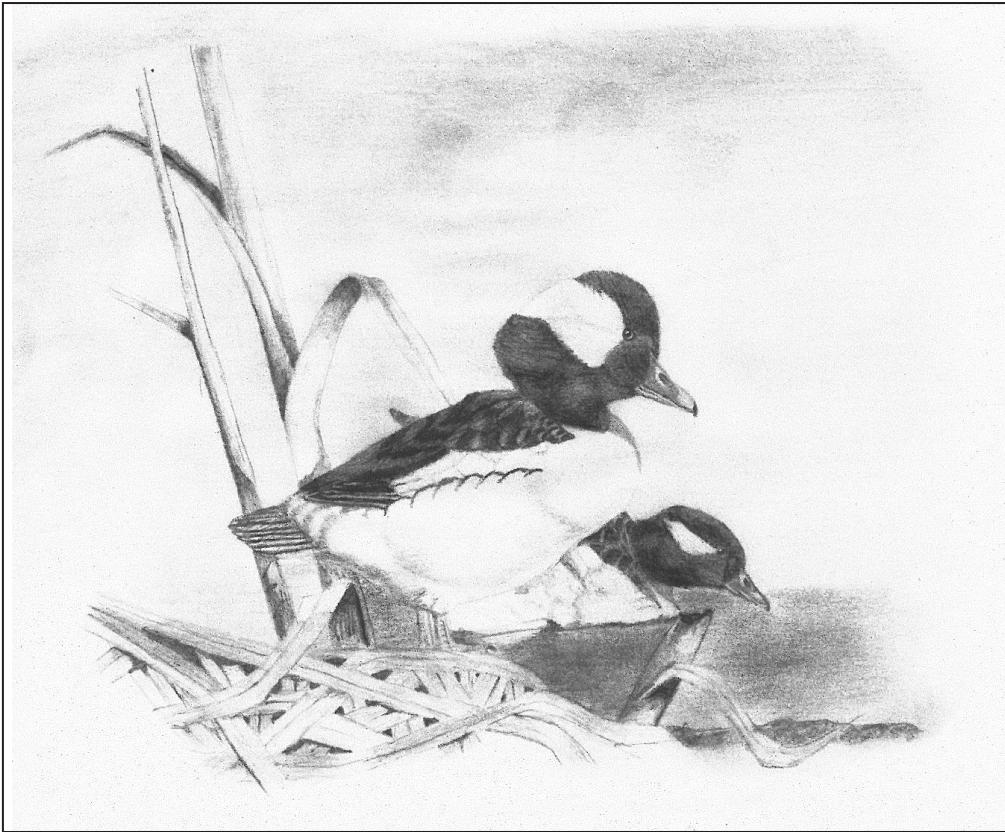
Field Trip Notes

Lake Erie and Medina Raptor Center Field Trip Notes by Jethro Geiser, age 12

On Saturday, November 12th, twelve boys from the Holmes County OYBC Chapter and our leader left at 5:30 AM to travel to Lake Erie. On the way there, we saw several deer, a Bald Eagle, and some other birds. When we got to Huron Pier, we saw a big pile of gravel covered with gulls. Most of them were Ring-billed Gulls, a few Herring Gulls, and a Lesser Black-backed Gull. We then went on the pier where we saw a Common Loon, Double-crested Cormorants, Horned Grebes, lots of gulls, and some duck hunters. Next, we went to Lorain Harbor where we saw twelve Tundra Swans flying, a Cattle Egret, a lot of Red-breasted Mergansers, some Horned Grebes, Mallards, and gulls.

After birding for a while, the group took a lunch break at Burger King (or maybe it should be called "Birder King"). We traveled to the Oberlin Reservoir next, where we saw many gulls, Ruddy Ducks, Gadwalls, Hooded and Common Mergansers, Pied-billed Grebes, and Canada Geese. Overall it was a good birding day with a total of 37 species.

Our next stop was the Medina Raptor Center where we first saw a Sharp-shinned Hawk that had just arrived. We saw a Ruby-throated Hummingbird with an injured shoulder that could only fly in circles. We also saw a Red-bellied Woodpecker that could only fly backwards for a while. Other interesting birds were a 20 year old Great Blue Heron that was partially blind, a white (leucistic) Red-tailed Hawk, four Peregrine Falcons (one had arthritis), a Bald Eagle, and several owls. The staff told us stories about the birds and how they fed them. It was a good day with the birds.



Buffleheads

Artwork by Jesse
Hershberger

Green Heron

Photo by Adriana
Losey

"You can know the name of a bird in all the languages of the world, but when you're finished, you'll know absolutely nothing whatever about the bird...So let's look at the bird and see what it is doing — that's what counts. I learned very early the difference between knowing the name of something and knowing something."

Richard Feynman

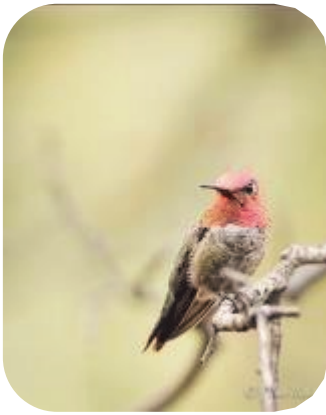


Do you have bird or nature-themed artwork, photography, a creative poem, or story that you would like featured in GOLDEN-WINGS? If so, we'd love to share it with the OYBC community!

Call, email, or send a letter to share your ideas for field trips, content for the newsletter, or any other thoughts or concerns that you have!

BSBO, 13551 West State Route 2, Oak Harbor, Ohio 43449
info@ohioyoungbirders.org (419) 898-4070 ext.203

CAMP CHIRICAHUA BY ETHAN RISING, AGE 15



Lemmon is the Yellow-eyed Junco. These birds hopped around our campsite all day, and were tame to a fault. When we ate lunch, these birds acted like House Sparrows and cleaned up after us, picking up scraps of food and walking on picnic tables.

The dawn chorus on Mt. Lemmon was loud and long-lasting. My favorite song was the Greater Pewee, but the songs of Painted Redstart and Red-Faced Warbler were really interesting too. Later we went to some private feeders and saw Magnificent and Anna's Hummingbirds, as well as several Mexican Jays. The feeders are owned by a lady named Jo who is over 90 years old and has let VENT explore her property for years. Many species at the feeders were very cooperative, including Pygmy Nuthatch, Black-headed Grosbeak, and Hepatic Tanager.

Our next stop was Cave Creek Ranch near Portal, AZ. Cave Creek Ranch is in the Chiricahua Mountains, a bird-rich region. It's the only place where we saw Blue-throated Hummingbird, one of two places we saw Thick-billed Kingbird, and the only location where we got Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher and Elegant Trogon.

Normally, Camp Chiricahua takes place in August – prime time for migrating hummingbirds. Because camp was early last year, we missed some rare hummingbird chases, but still ended with 9 resident species. I would rather go earlier in the year because the owls were much easier to find. We ended with 8 species of owls (including Barn Owl)! The only owl that we missed was Flammulated Owl; the only heard-only owl was Great Horned Owl. Cave Creek Ranch is an excellent location for owls. We had great looks at Spotted Owls and Whiskered Screech-Owls, and we saw Elf Owl every day at Cave Creek Ranch. During our nighttime reptile trips around Portal, all the campers had excellent looks at Barn Owls.

Cave Creek Ranch is made up of one main house and several small ranches, where we stayed. During our second night there, some campers and I were talking when suddenly we heard a tap on the window. We looked over to see another camper pointing out an Elf Owl, sitting on the *railing* on the deck. A close encounter of the bird kind!

Cave Creek Ranch also provided some great desert habitat, which gave us Crissal and Bendire's Thrashers. However, birders would argue that the most important part of the property is the riparian habitat. These creekside woods are perfect for a couple species, including the sought-after Elegant Trogon.

One day we focused only on riparian birds. In the morning, we set out for Montezuma Quail (which we missed). We were walking next to a river and all of a sudden we heard this squeaky sound—a Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher! It's really uncanny how similar it is to that wheezing sound a dog toy makes when you step on it. We were driving to a known trogon nest when another birder flagged us down, saying he had just heard one. We headed in that direction and it showed briefly 3 times but none of the campers got binocular views, much less photos. We decided to keep driving to the original nest.

The most recent young birder camp I attended was Victor Emanuel Nature Tours (VENT) Camp Chiricahua. Camp Chiricahua provides young birders from across the country with a fantastic opportunity to explore the flora and fauna of southern Arizona.

On our first two nights, we camped on Mt. Lemmon, an awesome hotspot. Even though a thunderstorm made it cold (which you wouldn't expect in Arizona), we still saw some incredible birds. The easiest bird to see up on Mt.

We got to the pull-off and after 15 minutes of walking we realized that we were lost. We decided to keep going just to see if we could make our way to the spot, somehow. As we were walking, a trogon called in front of us. What an amazing coincidence! The bird showed for several minutes and let us all get great views.

We decided to call it a day and head back for dinner. That's when a camper from the van behind us spotted two Montezuma Quail! We pulled a U-turn and got good views of a male and a female Montezuma Quail—FINALLY! The girl who found them was at #399 on her life list. We all agreed that a self-found Montezuma Quail made for a great 400th bird.

After Cave Creek Ranch, we birded our way around the southeast corner of Arizona, mainly chasing rarities. We went in search of Rufous-capped Warbler (code 3), which we finally found after a long, uphill hike. This was our first successful rarity chase of Camp Chiricahua. Later that day we looked for Lesser Nighthawk, which we did find, and prepared for a very long hike the next day.

That hike was for Tufted Flycatcher. We had a nest site we planned to stake out, and we stayed there for around 3 hours looking for the bird. It turned out we were too late – the pair of Tufted Flycatchers had already raised a chick and could have been anywhere. We ended up not seeing any Tufted Flycatchers, but we were awarded some beautiful scenery on our hike through Ramsey Canyon. We also got to watch an active Northern Pygmy-owl nest, with one bird in it and another outside it. Once we got back to the van, we were surprised to see a male Scott's Oriole checking himself out in the mirror.



For the second half of that day, we were going to California Gulch. California Gulch is famous for two reasons: Five-striped Sparrow and Buff-collared Nightjar. We got there late in the day so our light was limited. We began our search for Five-striped Sparrow (code 3). After a short walk we heard one singing and tracked it down. We ate sandwiches for dinner and waited till dusk for Buff-collared Nightjars. After much waiting, we still hadn't heard anything. It was totally dark before we heard our first nightjar. Normally I don't count heard-only birds, but I was ready to make an exception. Suddenly another birder pulled up next to us and pointed out a place where we might actually see them. We walked over to the area, where we could hear them calling constantly. Michael O'Brien, our leader, shined his flashlight on the trees and out in the open sat a Buff-collared Nightjar (code 3)!

Birds like Whip-poor-will or Buff-collared Nightjar are more like flycatchers; they wait on a branch for a large insect or moth to fly by and then dart out to get it, often flying back to the same branch. This is a behavior that I had never seen before, and it was incredible to see.

Camp Chiricahua was by far the most taxing of the young birder camps that I have been to, but it was my favorite. I would highly recommend it. Another great thing about Camp Chiricahua is the plethora of other wildlife. We had 18 species of mammals, 4 amphibians, 16 reptiles, 43 butterflies, 9 dragonflies, as well as tons of other creatures. It's so incredible that the Ohio Young Birders Club has the Theodore A. Parker Memorial Scholarship. This scholarship, sponsored by VENT, allows one Ohio Young Birder to attend a VENT camp with camp fees *and* plane tickets covered. Don't miss out on such a unique and generous opportunity. The OYBC is an amazing resource for all and I would like to thank them for the amazing opportunity they granted me. (Photos by Ethan Rising)

10TH ANNUAL OYBC CONFERENCE



KEYNOTE PRESENTATION

Conference Speakers:

Nate Koszycki—The Life of an Adolescent Birder
Adriana Losey—My Backyard in the Middle of Nowhere
Tyler McClain—Audubon Camp in Maine, Hog Island
Ethan Rising—VENT Camp Chiricahua
Anna Rose—The Cornell Lab Young Birders Event

Phil Chaon

"Zugunruhe:
A Life in Pursuit of Birds"

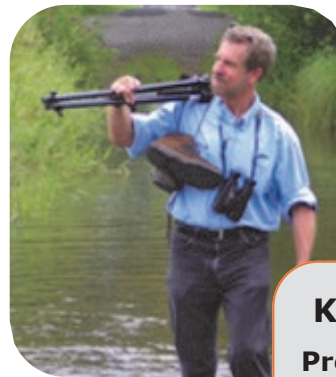


Special Guest Speaker:

Ariel Fournier

Master of Ceremony:

Doug Whitman



Kaufman Bird ID Quiz

Presented by: Kenn Kaufman

Bird ID Assistants:

Jules Christensen,
Jethro Geiser,
and Presley Riggs



AT THE TOLEDO ZOO & AQUARIUM



Left to Right: Auriel, Jules, Ethan, Doug, Phil, Tyler, Pres, Anna, Jethro, Nate, Adriana

Conference Highlights

- It was hard to miss the stunning architecture all around. It was fascinating to learn about the history of the buildings and how some were built as an effort to put people back to work after the Great Depression.
- The behind-the-scenes tour of the aviary was extremely popular! Participants saw how the staff creates meals for the various species to ensure that the specific nutritional needs of each bird are met—especially since many of the birds are tropical.
- Two of the founding OYBC members held a Q & A with the audience, allowing for younger members to learn from their experiences in birding, education, and their professional careers that incorporate conservation and nature appreciation.
- Fabulous door prizes included a framed duck stamp print signed by the artist, bird feeders, bird guides and novels signed by the authors, optics accessories, and birding gear.
- Raffle drawings for a set of Kaufman Field Guides, Leica Trinovid HD binoculars, and a Vortex Diamondback spotting scope raised over \$1,000 that will benefit the OYBC John F. Gallagher Memorial Scholarship Fund.
- One lucky young birder won a FREE pair of Celestron Nature DX binoculars!

Thank You to Our Conference Sponsors!



... CONFERENCE CONTINUED

Adriana's Bird Observatory

"This past year my parents built me a 'Bird Observatory.' It is about 12 feet above the ground and 8x8x8 ft. I was able to pick out my favorite colors for the walls, the floor, and the decorations. It is nice and toasty so, I plan to use it a lot this winter." -AL



OYBC Southwest Chapter members.

Photo by Debbie Riggs

Sunday Field Trip

Participants enjoyed a birdwalk and banding demo at the Magee Marsh Wildlife Area. Snow Buntings were one of the highlights during the morning walk. Below Ryan Jacob, BSBO Staff Naturalist, shows molt on a White-throated Sparrow during a banding demo.



Photo of Snow Buntings

by Adriana Losey

It's not always easy. Let me tell you that. Being a varsity hockey player and an aspiring ornithologist is not something you see every day in the average 16-year-old. Growing up with peers who don't necessarily understand birding creates a challenge when trying to be a birder at this age.

All young birders vary. Some are all-out bird fanatics who chase any rare bird within a fifty-mile radius. Some prefer to be in large birding clubs and social settings to share their experiences. Others keep to themselves, enjoying birding on their own and creating personal experiences. In school, some may be very athletic, others more involved in their studies, or even into technological interests.

Personally, I can go a few ways. In the field, I love to be on my own at times, collecting data from my local patch and keeping record of what I've been seeing. But I also enjoy leading and speaking to groups, while sharing and gaining knowledge with and from other birders. In school, I would say I am more on the athletic side, yet not as social as most other school athletes. I go to my fair share of football and basketball games, but other than that, my life is devoted to studying bird identification and preparing for hockey.

Regardless of these things, most of us young birders share a common obstacle that can prevent us from enjoying our passion: a fear of being persecuted because of our love for birds. As we all know, the vast majority of adolescents and children are not birders. Stereotypically, birding is pursued by more mature generations. Being surrounded by friends and others my age who may think birding is "nerdy" is something that many birders my age think about daily.

In this piece, I have provided my own personal experiences as a young birder who has struggled at times to pursue my passion while in the classroom. I have also given tips for young birders out there to not only help you survive through school or sports with your birding, but to excel in a greater knowledge of your passion.

Personal Experiences

I started birding at age 6, and really started to express my passion for birds to my acquaintances around 2nd grade, when I would bring all different types of field guides to school. I would always keep a few inside my desk, and I remember getting yelled at by the teacher for having them out when they were going over homework or teaching a lesson.

At that point in my life as a birder, I didn't think too much of hiding it, because no one really cared at that young of an age. I started to feel conscious of my birding around 7th grade, when everybody started to assume that it was abnormal for a kid like me to be a birder. However, not many of my peers confronted me about being a hardcore birder, and I was fortunate to not be ostracized directly because of hockey. I was generally accepted because of the high-intensity, rough-edged sport that I play. Although I was on good terms with my junior high acquaintances, things changed a bit after graduation from my former school.

After graduating from grade school, I started my high school career at St. John's Jesuit High School, where I continue to attend today as a junior. With incredible teachers, faculty, and students, the school continues to create "men for others" on a daily basis. Although I was thrilled and thankful to attend a prestigious high school, establishing myself as a birder to new people in a new environment was a whole different animal as a freshman. It was incredibly intimidating to be around students five times my size, and it was a struggle to be an open birder at the start of high school. The days of carrying a field guide to class were over, and I kept my birding to myself for a good portion of the year.

My school allows their students to use iPads for studying and taking notes. On my iPad, I have several different birding apps and field guides that I regularly use at lunch or free period. However, I was always very secretive when reading or taking notes on birds, and would turn off my iPad whenever another student would walk by, just to make sure they didn't think I was "nerdy." I would also carry around a monocular, just in case there was an interesting bird at a distance. This too, I would conceal and make sure was out of sight.

Another situation that I faced was that, like most young birders, I could not yet drive. So if there was a rarity within traveling distance, many young birders like me could miss out on opportunities to see something that could be once in a lifetime. This happens to me quite often. This past May, I missed a Curlew Sandpiper, an oriental shorebird species, close to Oak Openings Metropark in Northwest Ohio during the Biggest Week in American Birding. Let's just say that I was not happy. At all.

...THE LIFE OF AN ADOLESCENT BIRDER CONTINUED

A good portion of young birders are also highly active with sports. I've been playing hockey since I was very young – about age five – and although it is a passion that I have developed in and have loved ever since my beginning, it can be very time-consuming and expensive. Up to three days a week of practice and a couple of games every weekend would really keep me busy, and many times had to take precedent over birding, because of its costliness to play on the high-level teams.

There have been many instances where I have had to miss birding trips because of hockey tournaments. It was always quite hard to have to miss out on an opportunity to go birding and possibly extend my life list, but hockey wasn't always in the way of my birding. In fact, playing travel hockey has given me more opportunities than it has taken from me. Playing with these teams has allowed me to travel to places with a new variety of birds that I wouldn't see on a local birding trip. I've played in many places in Canada, such as Toronto, that have allowed me to observe the local birds in a new environment. Other hockey tournaments in America have given me the opportunity to travel to places like Chicago, New York, Northern Michigan, and Pennsylvania, allowing me to bird and extend my life list while still focusing on hockey.

After playing travel hockey my freshman year, I tried out for my school's hockey team as a sophomore and made the varsity team. During this time, I started to grow in confidence; along with this confidence boost, I started to show others my skills as a birder. One time after practice, one of my teammates shouted to my coach, "Hey coach, Koszycki's a bird watcher!" "I doubt it; so what is your favorite bird?" replied my coach. I responded, "Cerulean Warbler." There was an awkward silence for a few seconds – my coach had no clue what the heck a Cerulean Warbler was.



"Wow, I have no clue what that is... You must be a birder!" I then went on to explain how I regularly lead bird walks throughout the Toledo, Ohio area, through the Black Swamp Bird Observatory, Biggest Week in American Birding, and Toledo Naturalists' Association, and my coach enjoyed the fact that I do something most people my age don't do as a varsity hockey player. I've been lucky enough to have great teammates over the years that appreciate what I do as a birder. Of course, there are always times when they jokingly bring up birding to get under my skin, but it is never meant to instigate anything negative. One travel team I play for calls me by the name of "Captain Bird-watcher," and I don't mind it one bit.

Many birders like me also use social media for multiple purposes in our lives, and it was never easy to be a bird enthusiast online with my non-birding acquaintances. Media outlets such as Twitter, Instagram, and Snapchat are quite popular among teens my age, but most posts are nothing related to what most young birders prefer to be a part of. In my experiences, most posts from my friends are related to hockey, so trying to spread the awareness of birds and how critical they are to others my age through social media is not always an easy task. Regardless of the media you use, it all comes down to confidence in your abilities.

Personally, my Twitter is for birding purposes only, but I have been more open to showing some birding accomplishments to non-birders through Instagram (such as a photo of me helping lead a walk). Facebook is another tool that has allowed me to reach out to other fellow birders to learn and express many new and creative ideas; I enjoy the superb, informative posts from many well-known ornithologists. Snapchat is a great tool as well for reaching out to my generation. With Snapchat, you take a picture or video from your mobile device and share it with others without having to use an in-depth caption of the experience. I find it to be the best way of showing birding to others my age through technology, in which the picture or video doesn't always need a full paragraph to explain the meaning. For example, many non-birders think that all we do is go outside and look up at the sky for birds, but by taking an interesting picture of your setting (like a marsh, prairie, or woodland) while birding may give a new perspective on where you pursue your passion, and may even spark an interest within them to join you in your birding endeavors.

These experiences that I have faced through the years have made me become a better student, hockey player, and predominantly, a better birder and person. Because of the support from loyal friends, parents, coaches, and birding mentors Kenn and Kimberly Kaufman, my confidence as a young birder is higher than I thought possible. Now, the iPad that I would immediately shut down whenever researching birds in the presence of a fellow student is at full brightness, with a Chestnut-sided Warbler as its wallpaper. The monocular that I would conceal is now a full pair of binoculars that are always out whenever class goes outside. When confronted with a sarcastic question about a bird, instead of an embarrassed, shy answer, I give a fully confident answer with an explanation. Without pulling through the adversity and peer pressure, I would not have advanced in my birding skills, and would not have made the valuable connections that make me the birder I am today.

Tips for Young Birders

Don't let them get to you. Like I have said, young birders among others who don't understand birding face many challenges. There may be times when the opposition may try to put you down for being a birder at this age, but I cannot express this enough: stay true to yourself and to your passion. Stick with close friends who will always have your back in any situation. Remain close with your families, teachers, and birding friends. If the confrontations with others get out of hand, there is no shame in going to one of these people for help.

Know your subject. Whether you are an avid young birder who takes every aspect of your passion seriously, or someone who just likes to casually observe the birds around you, learn everything you can about your passion. The challenge is what makes birding so exhilarating, and learning any detail you can about a bird can give you enough experience to help you go deeper into the world of birding. It may even help you gain confidence in tough situations around non-birding friends. For example, if you're socializing with a group of friends and see a bird at a distance, show your friends the bird and give a confident identification. Tell them a few interesting facts about the individual or offer some tips on how to identify one on their own. Who knows – that one Blue Jay that you showed your friend might have sparked the interest of a new fellow birder.

Ask questions and give answers. Regardless of your knowledge in bird identification or other aspects of your passion, never be afraid to ask questions, because the questions you ask will benefit you in the long run. Many of my questions have been answered by my birding mentor, Kenn Kaufman. He gives me superb advice on bird identification, future career options, and teaches me valuable lessons that I will carry out not just in the field, but in other aspects of life as well. Also, if you are one who has great knowledge of birds and may have somewhat of an advantage when identifying a bird, share your knowledge with others and help them become better birders. Because what is the point of having the gift of being a great birder if the information you fathom is not shared with people who share the same goal? (Don't be a Bostick!)

True passion will counteract negativity. If you are one who may be bullied by others because of the fact that you are a birder, remember: school or athletic teams won't last forever. When you get to the age of looking for colleges or career options, the past opinions of those who offended you will be irrelevant. When you are searching for a goal that you truly will want to accomplish, the negativity expressed by those who used to oppress you will be silenced by your work ethic. If you truly love what you do in birding and put your deepest focus into being the best you can be, then you will surely be successful. I have been lucky enough to know what I want to pursue in life (ornithology) from a very young age. If I would've let the opinions of others impede my pursuit of birding, then I would not be where I am today. Of course, there is still a long way for me to go as a birder, because there is always room for improvement. So keep this in mind, and if you struggle with finding a career in birding, consider the words of the wise man, Confucius: "If you choose a job that you love, then you will never work a day in your life."

Young birders, unite! Bird conservation is something that we must uphold in our world, and one way to keep the movement afloat is to spread the word to the younger generations. Start school clubs or join young birders groups, such as the phenomenal Ohio Young Birders Club, which helps promote the passion of birding to the children and teens of Ohio while expressing the vital importance of the conservation of our native birds. These clubs are great for those who don't have many birding friends in their local communities, and are a great way for learning and sharing personal experience and ideas from one young birder to the next.

Everyone has their own story with birding and their own way of expressing it to others. Some may be similar to mine, and some may be completely different. Regardless of the issues and tips expressed, I hope that everyone who read this enjoys their passions to the highest degree. I do not wish anyone my age to be oppressed by the opinions of others, and lose their passion because of the persecution of those who do not recognize the wonders that birds have to offer. As my dear friend and birding mentor Kimberly Kaufman describes birding between peoples: we may all have our differences in things such as politics, religion, or other complicated issues, but unlike our differences, we are all united by birding. Birding keeps us together regardless of age, gender, or background. When together in the field, we are much more alike than different. - NK



We'd Love to Hear from You!

Contact Us - info@ohioyoungbirders.org
or call BSBO at (419) 898-4070
to share your ideas for field trips, content for the newsletter or great ideas!

TURKEY VULTURES BY KIMMY BIRRER

After an early, relatively unsuccessful morning of driving around searching for Kirtland's Warblers in the jack pines of Northern Michigan, I was more than ready to finally see something after hearing nothing but chickadees calling. I recalled being told of some particular birds nesting in a barn. I found the old building and parked the Jeep on the sandy road. An old moose skull stared at me from above the door, as though warning me not to enter.

Undeterred, I opened the barn door and slid into the darkness. I walked slowly around the dimly lit room, carefully stepping around old boards and archaic farm equipment – listening for evidence of life. Near the back of the barn I saw movement, and soon a low hiss followed. I pulled out my flashlight to illuminate something rarely seen: two young Turkey Vultures still covered with fluffy, white down, several weeks away from fledging.

They were terrified. They eyed me and awkwardly stepped up and down. The hissing continued and one raised its wings at me in defense. I sat about 15 feet away from them and took a couple of photos. Not wanting to stress them further, I took my leave. Although I never did find the sought-after Kirtland's warbler, that day holds one of my best birding memories.

I celebrate vultures. And it turns out that many others celebrate them as well. Since 2009, International Vulture Awareness Day has been held annually on September 6th to raise awareness of vultures around the world. I never could have predicted what that day would bring to me this year.

I am an avid equestrian and have many friends who know of my birding avocation. While on a trail ride, my friend Cindi saw a vulture that appeared to be injured. She called me. I came out as soon as I could and searched for the vulture in a cow field. An adult took flight from a low-hanging branch near the edge of the field, soared high and then circled. I walked that way and soon found something clumsily moving across the ground. It was a juvenile turkey vulture that was incapable of flying.

I found the landowner to help me catch the poor bird. We cornered him, and after trying to run through the fence, I had him wrapped in a towel. He stared at us wide and open-mouthed. In defense, he vomited some foul-smelling stomach contents on me. I forgave him. We placed him in a box and I drove him to Milford, Ohio to RAPTOR, Inc., a rehab center specifically for birds of prey. It turned out he had a deformed wing but was otherwise healthy because his parents had continued to feed him. He never would have been able to fly, so he was euthanized. I am still saddened by this, but such is natural selection. I'm glad that (as far as I know) his deformity was not human-caused and that he did not suffer.

Vultures provide an invaluable service to us. They eat only dead meat, meaning that they do not hunt and kill. Much of their food may be diseased or infected in some way, but their stomach acid is capable of killing bacteria and viruses – such as rabies – that would kill anything else that tried to eat it. Despite the service they provide us in cleaning up dead and diseased animals, they are very much underappreciated. People do not realize how necessary they are, nor do they find them as beautiful as other birds.



While vultures have always seemed to be such a familiar face to me, their numbers are not secure. International Vulture Awareness Day has sought to rid vultures of that stigma and to encourage people to advocate for their survival. It was founded because many of these scavengers around the world are declining, particularly in Africa and Asia where they may not be able to rebound. This is largely due to eating poisoned carcasses of poached wildlife or drug-infused cattle. Vultures have extremely strong stomachs, but they are not invincible to these human-made substances. Thankfully, in the United States we have alternative drugs for cattle and most poisonous drugs are banned. We also do not face near as desperate a poaching problem as the countries of Africa.

These great birds need all the support they can get. So the next time you see a vulture circling high above or cleaning up a dead animal from the side of the road, give it a "Thank You!" They are providing us all a great service. Sometimes I don't think we are worthy of such great animals.

(Photo of young Turkey Vultures by Kimmy Birrer)



BIRD BANDING AT BLAUSEY UNIT BY MITCHELL SAN GREGORY, AGE 13

It was a cool, dark morning on September 4th. I was in the middle of a pleasant dream when my alarm clock blared: *BOOP BOOP BOOP BOOP!!!* I got up, turned it off, and realized it was only 5:00 in the morning! But I was forgetting that hundreds of cute little shorebirds would soon be in my midst – or more like in my hands. Literally.

So, I drowsily gathered my birding gear and headed off with my Dad to a pre-designated rest area along State Route 2 to meet my fellow young birders. On the way, I tried to focus my birding senses... without falling asleep, that is. Once we got to the rest area, I noticed a promising sign: Wood Ducks. They were in the dozens, flying in pairs out of a nearby stream.



These shorebirds are extremely fluffy. The experience of holding a bird like a sandpiper is un-beatable. They are very, very calm (although one tried to bite my thumb).

My Dad and I had carpooled with another birder from the rest area to the mudflat known as Blausey Unit. The fog on the way was hanging like a sheath in which Barn Swallows flew. About a mile away from the mudflat was another promising sign: two or three little sandpipers were strutting around in somebody's yard!

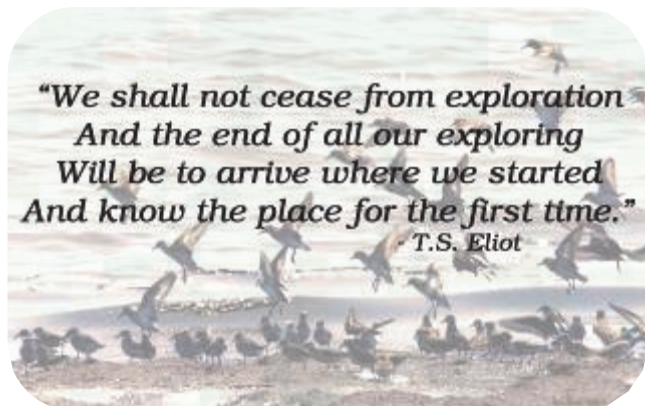
The Blausey Unit is federally owned and managed by the Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge, so we were really lucky to be granted access. Our main objective was to watch and assist with banding the birdies. When we arrived at the mudflat, I excitedly hopped out of the car and immediately noticed the shorebirds. Soras were scurrying in the reeds and there were birds all over the place!

I then noticed a little table with hooks that were holding up some small cloth bags. I had accidentally brushed into one and it peeped. I thought, "Wait, bags don't peep!" That's when I realized the bags had birds in them. Then the man who was banding the birds, Mr. Tom Bartlett, opened one of the bags; before long he had one very cute Least Sandpiper sitting calmly in his hand. He banded the bird, weighed it, measured the length of its wing, measured its beak length, tried to determine its sex, and then let the bird go. We banded Killdeer, Lesser Yellowlegs, Short-billed Dowitchers, Semipalmated Plovers, Semipalmated Sandpipers, and Least Sandpipers. In all, more than 32 birds were tagged (while we were there) and released happily.

After banding, we went to a place called Willow Point. My Dad and I know this place as a fishing spot, but we had no clue that there was a section jam-packed with shorebirds. We really had to worm our way through the grasses to get to a small sliver of land loaded with sandpipers. There were at least five different species all together in a big group.

On the way to Willow Point, I spotted a Savannah Sparrow flailing around in a corner in the road. We stopped the car to see if we could help it. But the little guy was not hurt; he was just taking a dirt bath! Right when our car-pool driver hopped out of the car, the sparrow fluttered away.

Altogether, I got to add 11 new birds to my life list. It was an AMAZING experience!!! I can't wait for our next trip!



*"We shall not cease from exploration
And the end of all our exploring
Will be to arrive where we started
And know the place for the first time."
T.S. Eliot*



Tom Bartlett with a Least Sandpiper before it was banded. Photo by Mitchell SanGregory

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

WINTERING OWLS & HAWKS FIELD TRIP WITH BSBO

OYBC STATEWIDE FIELD TRIP

Saturday, January 11, 2017

TIME: 1 PM - Dusk

Killdeer Plains Wildlife Area

Meet at KPWA Headquarters

19100 County Highway 115

Harpster, OH 43323

RSVP as an "OYBC Member" by calling
419-898-4070

or email jasonguerard@bsbo.org

Weather date: Sunday the 12th

THE BIGGEST WEEK IN AMERICAN BIRDING

May 5-14, 2017

YOUNG BIRDER WALK: BIRDING THE FAMOUS MAGEE MARSH

Date: Saturday, May 6th and Saturday, May 13th

Time: 9:00 AM - 12 Noon

Location: Meet at the east end of the Magee
Marsh Parking Lot

Fee: FREE **Please bring your lunch!

Each year, the OYBC offers a young birders walk at Magee and it's always a blast! Join young birders from all over the state and the country and meet some really cool field trip leaders, too! No need to be a member, and young birders of all ages are welcome!

OPTICS FLING

Friday, June 2nd and Saturday the 3rd, 2017

Time & Optics

Millersburg, Ohio

SAVE THE DATE!!!

11th Annual Ohio Young Birders Conference

Saturday, November 4, 2017

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!



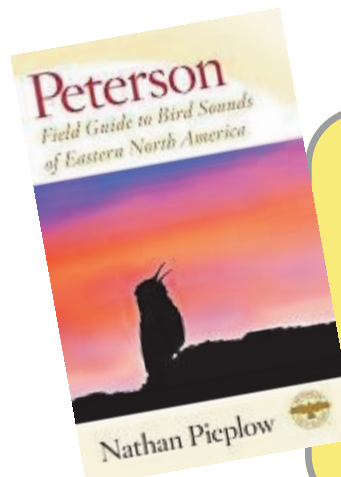
OYBC Members run into each other while searching for the Ivory Gull.



SAVE THE DATE!

ANNUAL OYBC BIG SIT FUNDRAISER during the first & second weekend in October

Help your local chapter get pledges & donations for our annual BIG SIT fundraiser to help support the OYBC!
For more information, check out
ohioyoungbirders.org



HOT OFF THE PRESS!

The winner of the 2017 January/February Bird ID Quiz (see page 3) will receive a copy of the newest guide in the Peterson series.
Email or mail in your submission today!

WELCOME TO ALL OF THE NEW OYBC MEMBERS & ADULT SUPPORTERS

as of January 1, 2017

STUDENT MEMBERS

Kimmy Birrer
Andrew Hershberger
Elizabeth Kanzeg
Mervin Miller
Charlotte Parsons
Malcom Saas
Mitchell SanGregory
Quinn Seurkamp
Katelyn Shelton
Jack Sierputowski
Oscar Wilhelmy

ADULT SUPPORTERS

John Blodgett
Paul Jacyk
Albert SanGregory
Alicia Wilhelmy



Encourage your
friends & family
to become
OYBC members
to support this
great club!



Photo by Adriana Losey

Do YOU have a great idea for an OYBC field trip?

If so, we'd love to hear about it!

Contact Us - info@ohioyoungbirders.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.

Thank You!

Thank you to all of our OYBC SPONSORS!

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- ___ \$750 - PEREGRINE FALCON
- ___ \$500 - RED-TAILED HAWK
- ___ \$250 - MERLIN
- ___ \$100 - AMERICAN KESTREL



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Organization: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

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, Ohio 43449