



Ohio Young Birders Club

BLACK SWAMP BIRD OBSERVATORY

Northeast Chapter

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Naturalist, Rocky River Nature Center



Ohio Young Birders Club

A program developed by the Black Swamp Bird Observatory (BSBO) in 2006 to encourage, educate, and empower our youth conservation leaders.





Five regional chapters

**The Northeast Chapter was formed in January 2014
with an Open House Event at Rocky River Nature
Center**

For students ages 12-18

Empowering Leaders

Young Birders State Conference

All presentations given by students

November 8, 2014

The Wilderness Center, Wilmot, Ohio



State Conference, 2013 Toledo Zoo

OYBC Newsletter

GOLDEN-WINGS

GOT OWLS? BY MATT KAPPLER, AGE 14

Winter time is here and sadly there is no stopping that, but on the bright side this season change opens up for a whole new range of winter species for birders! There is one species though, that has made a special appearance and has got all birders heads turned 180°! It's the well-known Harry Potter bird, the Snowy Owl.

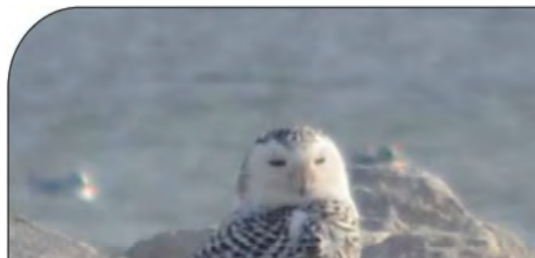
The Snowy Owl (*Bubo scandiacus*) will often show up in Ohio for winter, but 2013 has started out to be a great year for sightings. These irruptions often termed "big flights" are generally seen every four years. The last large influx of Snowys was the winter of 2011-2012. Usually there are two causes for an irruption like this; the birds' food supply in the tundra crashes, or they have very successful hatches with lots of new birds. Luckily this year, experts believe it was a good nesting year, particularly in the Eastern Arctic, as many of the sightings have been centered on the Eastern US. Adult Snowy Owls are a snowy white, while the younger birds have black lines on them. As they grow the dark feathers turn white. Snowy owls are usually seen on the ground or perched on rocks. Since there aren't any trees in the tundra, Snowy Owls are not used to them, and generally won't perch in trees. During their stay in the US, they will feed on gulls, ducks, rats, mice, and rabbits.

After the large irruption in the Cleveland area (10 sightings as of mid-December 2013), WKYC-3 did a news story. I contacted videographer Carl "Big Daddy" Bachtel, who observed and also wrote a story on the Snowy Owls for the station. Carl shared with me much information and told me that if you are interested in viewing these beautiful birds, be sure to view them from a distance because they are often the younger birds and are very stressed as well as tired from travelling long distances. These magnificent birds need their space so they can rest and feed. Once it begins to warm up in the spring, these birds will return north to begin the cycle all over again. We welcome them to our area!

"It's not what you look at that matters, it's what you see"

-Henry David Thoreau

"Take a beginner birding. You never know when you could be making someone's day, nurturing the beginnings of a fulfilling hobby, fostering a budding conservationist, or even encouraging an eventual career."
~ Sarah Winnicki,
former OYBC student member



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GOLDEN-WINGS

Includes:

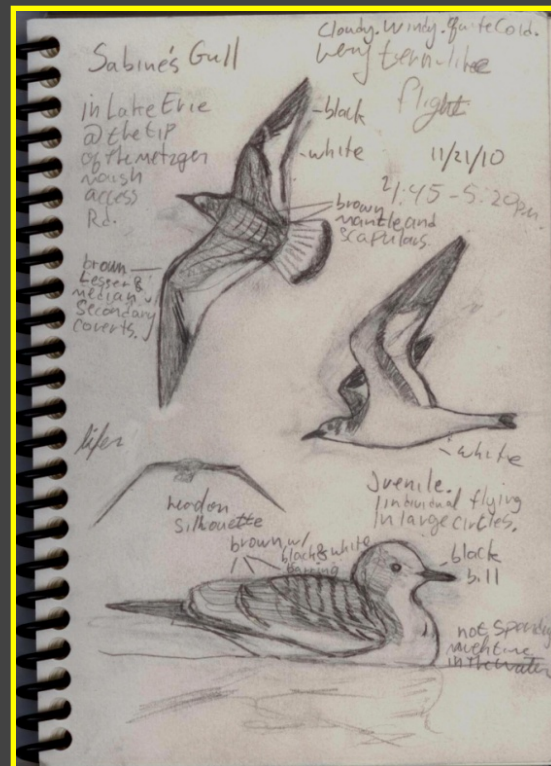
Young Birder Interviews

Species Accounts

Trip Reports

Artwork & Photos

Book Reviews



Field Trips – Lake Erie Birding



Trumbull County



Magee Marsh Spring Migration



Woodcock Walk



Conservation & Research Opportunities



Conservation & Research Opportunities



The image shows a screenshot of the eBird website. At the top left is the eBird logo. To its right is a close-up photograph of a bird's head. Below the logo and image is a navigation bar with links: Home, About eBird, Submit Observations, View and Explore Data, and My eBird. Below the navigation bar are links for Sign In and Register as a New User, and a language selection menu for English, Español, and Français. The main content area is titled 'About eBird' and features a central box with the heading 'Global tools for birders, critical data for science' and a bulleted list of features. To the right of this box is a sidebar titled 'About eBird' with a list of links. At the bottom left is an 'Overview' section, and at the bottom center is a 'Register here!' button.

eBird

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About eBird

Global tools for birders, critical data for science

- Record the birds you see
- Keep track of your bird lists
- Explore dynamic maps and graphs
- Share your sightings and join the eBird community
- Contribute to science and conservation

Overview
A real-time, online checklist program, eBird has revolutionized the way that the birding community reports and accesses information.

[Register here!](#)

About eBird

- [Why should I eBird?](#)
- [What is My eBird?](#)
- [What data are accurate?](#)
- [How can I make my checklist more valuable?](#)
- [Improving your eBird reporting skills](#)
- [How will scientists use your eBird eBird?](#)
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Service Projects



Shared Interests in Natural History



Northeast
Chapter



Ohio Young
Birders Club



**Cleveland
Metroparks**



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