

ILYB 2013 End of the Year Impact Report

Membership

ILYB currently has 32 active members comprised of:

- New Members in 2013 – 15!
- 26 boys (81%) and 6 girls (19%)
- 14 new adult sponsors
- 4 partner organizations

Our members are geographically dispersed as follows:

- 23 in NE IL
- 6 in NC IL
- 3 in C/WC IL
- 0 in Southern IL

Regional Coordinators

In an effort to increase membership and participation in other areas of the state, we enlisted the help of two new regional adult coordinators, one of whom started her own chapter.

- Jennifer Kuroda in NC IL – 6 members
- Ben Murphy in Central IL – 2 new members

Field Trips

This fall we ran several field trips in Central Illinois, increasing our presence there.

We also had our first official Rockford trip to Nygren Wetlands this fall led by Barbara Williams.

- 13 field trips and one educational event
- Held our first joint field trip with another young birders organization, IN Young Birders
- Joint field trips with partner organizations – 2 x IOS, 1 x NCIOS, 2 x COS
- 71 young birder participants, 23 unique attendees
- 5 = average number participants
- 78% of our participants attended more than one field trip
- 16 fully vetted field trip leaders

Newsletters

Jeff Reiter produced two fantastic newsletters - Spring and Fall – chock full of incredible articles, art work, and photography – all created by our young birders.

Other Achievements

- Held our first annual face-to-face meeting on April 6, 2013
- Established guidelines for chapter creation

- Drafted an organizational Code of Conduct
- Sponsored Nick Minor to attend the 2013 AOU meeting, hosted by the Field Museum.

Donations

Jeff Reiter recently donated \$500 to Illinois Young Birders through a work donation program. Thanks Jeff! ILYB used the money to buy additional copies of DeVore/Bailey's *Birds of Illinois*, which is provided to all new members.

Matthew Cvetas donated \$50 to Illinois Young Birders for a talk he gave to Ft. Dearborn Audubon about Birding resources on the Internet.

Achievements of Our Young Birders

In 2013, our young birders were the subject of numerous newspaper and online articles and featured on television. The achievements of our young birders are too many to list, but here are a few of their impressive accomplishments.

- Henry Griffin, Nick Minor and Aaron Gyllenhaal created their own Young Birder Blogs.
 - <http://ilmigration.blogspot.com/>
 - <http://scienceofbirds.blogspot.com/>
 - <http://birdingbynumber.blogspot.com/>
 - <http://worldbirding.travellerspoint.com/>
- Nick Minor produced a daily, I repeat daily, spring and fall migration report and published it to both his blog and IBET.
- Aaron Gyllenhaal broke a 24 year old Cook County Big Year Record.
- As of September, Colin Dobson had seen at least 315 species in the state. The big year record is 334.
- Jake Cvetas saw his 300th species in Illinois.
- Ethan Gyllenhaal competed in the World Series of Birding, raising more than \$500 for the New Jersey Audubon.
- Nathan Goldberg was admitted to Cornell University.
- Both Ethan and Aaron Gyllenhaal led Field Trips for Chicago Ornithological Society.
- Jack McCabe banded Ospreys this past summer.
- Catherine Gilbert won a Scholastic Gold Key and two Silver Keys for her artwork.
- Ethan Ellis, Jake Bartecki, Eddie Kasper and Brett Kasper showed off their considerable artistic and photographic talents at the "Birds of Lake/Cook Counties Benefit Invitational Art & Photography Exhibit."