

This message looks best when viewed in your browser



BSBO: teaming research with education to promote bird conservation.

BSBO Words on Birds: February 2023

[JOIN/RENEW HERE](#)

[DONATE HERE](#)

!!EXCITING ANNOUNCEMENT!!



Biggest Week Registration Opens TOMORROW FEBRUARY 17, at noon (EST)!

Watch your email tomorrow!
The link will go live on the Biggest Week website [HERE](#).

To help ensure a better registration experience, we encourage you to visit the [festival registration page](#) BEFORE registration opens to take advantage of the detailed registration tips provided.

[View the festival summary schedule here!](#)

Welcome New Staff Members!



**Annalise Bokenkamp,
Research Assistant**

Annalise first went birding in Mohican State Park with a high school science teacher who did a unit on ornithology. He inspired her to study biology in college, but she didn't decide to focus on birds until she pursued a graduate degree in Scotland. Some of her fieldwork there included Blue Tit nest box studies and Black-legged Kittiwake monitoring. After having some experience with banding in the UK, Annalise knew it was something that she wanted to continue when she returned to the U.S. Luckily, she made it back to Ohio just in time for BSBO's 2019 spring season and spent the next few years volunteering at the banding station. She's thrilled to be part of the BSBO team and looks forward to learning more about the ins and outs of the marsh.



**Tracy Marr,
Development Assistant**

Tracy is a migrant to Ohio from the east coast. Observing all the hawks in northwest Ohio led to a Lucas County Metroparks program on hawk ID, which led to becoming a BSBO volunteer for more than 20 years. After a 35-year career in public libraries, Tracy retired in 2022, and found a fun new job at BSBO.



BIRDS AT HOME
VIRTUAL LEARNING SERIES

**Don't Miss
More Upcoming
Birds at Home
Presentations!**

Costa Rica: Volcanic Highlands to Lowlands

Presented by: BSBO Education Director Becca Mathews and BSBO Communications Specialist Tyler Ficker

Date: Saturday, February 18

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Presentation takes place on Zoom

Take a break from the doldrums of winter to go on a virtual trip to Costa Rica! Enjoy trip highlights, gorgeous photos, and more from this amazing Costa Rica birding adventure with [Sabrewing Nature Tours!](#)

Our Amazing Ohio Spiders and the Birds That Love (to eat) Them!

Presented by: Dr. Richard Bradley - Associate Professor Emeritus at The Ohio State University, Department of Evolution, Ecology, and Organismal Biology

Date: Tuesday, March 14

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Presentation takes place on Zoom

Rich will discuss the spider fauna of North America, and Ohio, with a focus on the amazing diversity of spiders here, their remarkable behavior, and their ecological importance. There are roughly twice as many species of spiders in Ohio as species of birds. Among them are plenty of tiny, secretive, and nocturnal species. Spider diversity isn't as obvious as bird diversity. Nevertheless, we often encounter them, or their beautiful silken webs, as we wander the countryside searching for birds. Rich will provide some hints-and-tips for appreciating spiders and try to convince you that they are worthy of your attention. Of course, the birds already know this, and spiders are the favorite food of many of our common birds.

**All Birds at Home events are free for BSBO & OYBC members
and just \$5.00 for non-members**

Registration Required

REGISTER HERE



BSBO Bird Migration Profiles

With over three decades of bird banding data collected from the marshes of northwest Ohio, BSBO's Research Department is the leading authority on songbird migration along Lake Erie. Through this robust data set (and thousands of volunteer hours), BSBO has been able to document the approximate timing of migration for numerous species, their sexes, and their ages, traveling through Ohio in spring and fall.

Click [HERE](#) to read through our profiles!

BSBO EDUCATION CENTER UPDATE



If you've been past the bird observatory headquarters at Magee Marsh Wildlife Area, you might have noticed a huge concrete pad and several stacks of lumber!

Although it doesn't look like it now, those piles of lumber will eventually be a fabulous new Education Center, a space for education programs, conferences, and bird research projects!

The generosity of BSBO members and donors helped make the building possible. We're still raising funds to purchase equipment to help us reach its full potential. If you'd like to make a gift to help with these important equipment needs, please click the button below.



Click to [edit Email Preferences](#) or [Unsubscribe from this list](#).
Black Swamp Bird Observatory
13551 W. State Route 2
Oak Harbor, OH 43449 - United States