ILYB 2015 End of the Year Impact Report

Membership

ILYB currently has 55 active members comprised of:

- New Members in 2015 – 18!
- 43 boys (78%) and 12 girls (22%)
- 3 new adult sponsors
- 2 partner organizations
- 1 new adult coordinator

Our members are geographically dispersed as follows:
- 47 in northern IL
- 7 in central IL
- 1 in WI

Field Trips

This year we ran 9 successful field trips in Illinois. Here are just a few highlights from the year

- 9 expertly guided field trips to two states – Iowa and Indiana
- Held joint field trips with both Iowa and Indiana Young Birders
- Joint field trip with Illinois Ornithological Society
- 95 young birder participants (1 more than 2014), 45 unique attendees (32% increase from 2014)
- 11 = average number participants (22% increase from 2014)
- 58%of our participants attended more than one field trip
- 16 fully vetted field trip leaders
- 148 species of birds observed

Newsletters

ILYB published a summer newsletter and are in the process of publishing its winter addition.

Donations

During the calendar year, Illinois Young Birders received 25 donations totally $635. Thanks for your continued support! Without your help, we couldn't offer all of our amazing programs.

Achievements of Our Young Birders

The achievements of our young birders are too many to list, but here are a few of their impressive accomplishments.

- Catherine Gilbert's oil painting of a Northern Pintail won a second place ribbon in the high school division of the Illinois State Junior Duck Stamp Contest.
- Congratulations to Illinois Young Birder, Nick Minor, for winning the Young Environmentalist Award from the Chicago Audubon Society!
- Henry Griffin was featured in the Chicago Tribune for leading bird walks in his home town of Oak Park.
- Zach Haag created his own Young Birder Blog, ZBirding.
  - http://www.zbirding.blogspot.com/
- Aaron Gyllenhaal: Congratulations on your acceptance to Illinois State University!
- Nick Minor: Congratulations on your acceptance to the University of Minnesota!