



Window Photography



Red-breasted nuthatch and wren again
visit Dorothy Thetford



Last Word

Owls don't have eyeballs. Rather, they're more like eye tubes. They're elongated and held in place by "sclerotic rings," a bony structure in the skull. Because of this, owls can't really move or roll their eyes. That's why they have heightened mobility in their necks, but we'll get to that later.

Because the eyes are forward-facing, owls have binocular vision similar to humans, meaning they can see an object with both eyes at the same time. This gives owls a great ability to judge height, weight and distance. However while humans have a 180-degree field of view with about 140 degrees of it being binocular, owls only have a 110-degree field of view with about 70 degrees of binocular vision. But what they lack in binocular vision they make up for in extraordinary night vision and far-sightedness.

However, because they are far-sighted, they can't see objects up close. When they catch prey, they use filoplumes — small hair-like feathers on their beaks and feet — to feel out their food.

Finally, owls have not one, not two, but three eyelids: one is for blinking, one is for sleeping, and one is for keeping those precious peepers clean.

www.mnn.com/earth-matters/animals/stories/5-owl-facts-that-will-amaze-you



Photo, Barn owl by [goingslo](#)/Flickr

Send your idea for Last Word to: wanda.odum@gmail.com

*Thank
you*

Please take a little time each month to thank a contributor. Without them there could be no Naturalist News. As always, my sincere thanks to each of you!



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Downey—w odum

Monthly Chapter Meetings

9:30 a.m. preceded by a social time at 9:00 a.m. on the third Thursday of each month. Chapter meetings are open to the public.

No speaker—Annual Awards meeting

Next meeting will be February 16, 2017

701 Kimberly Drive, Denton, TX 76208

Elections /Technical Building

Denton County Admin Complex

Board Meetings

The Board meets each second Thursday of the month at 9:30 a.m. The Board last met February 9, 2017. Next monthly Board meeting is March 9, 2017.

Board meetings are open to members.