

# PENNSYLVANIA BIRDS



Volume 18, No. 1  
Dec 2003 - Feb 2004  
Issued August 2004





# PENNSYLVANIA BIRDS

Journal of the Pennsylvania Society for Ornithology

Volume 18 Number 1 Dec 2003 – Feb 2004

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Photo-Quiz #4 - Inside back cover

**COVER: Varied Thrush (*Ixoreus naevius*).** A casual winter visitor in the east, three were reported in the state during the winter. This bird arrived to a yard in Lower Paxton, Dauphin, 6 December 2003, following the season's first snow. The bird remained for several weeks and was photographed here 4 January 2004 (*Tom Johnson*).

## from the Editor...

With summer winding down, many Pennsylvania birders are completing their survey blocks for the first year of the Second Pennsylvania Breeding Bird Atlas. I encourage anyone who has not signed on to assist with the "Atlas" to do so. It is a wonderful opportunity to study the breeding cycle of your local birds and to contribute to the overall knowledge of the state's avifauna. Instructions on registering for the Second Pennsylvania Breeding Bird Atlas can be found at [www.pabirdatlas.org](http://www.pabirdatlas.org).

In a slight deviation from tradition, this issue contains the PA Birdlists for 2003. In previous years, these state life and annual lists were published near the end of the following year nearly a full year from the time they were submitted. By publishing the lists earlier in the year, those participating birders/listers will have an idea of their current ranking sooner and adjust their current birding activity accordingly.

In addition to our regular features and those specific to the Winter issue (CBC Summary and Winter Raptor

Surveys), this issue contains two articles that show the importance of looking carefully at birds, even in one's backyard, and not always expecting the norm.

We encourage everyone to submit articles to *Pennsylvania Birds*. Notes on bird behavior you witnessed, identification hints, tips for beginning birders, or major works on status and occurrence are all welcome. If you are unsure of your article ideas or have questions on your topic, please contact the editor-in-chief.

### Corrigendum

The previous issue, PA BIRDS (V17, #4), contained incorrect data in the fall migration tables, specifically, data from several counties was mistakenly duplicated. The revised 2003 fall migration tables are available on the P S O website, [www.pabirds.org](http://www.pabirds.org), follow the link to Publications and then the link to the revised fall migration tables.

The two photographs of the Pomarine Jaeger in V17:251 were listed erroneously from Yellow Creek

S.P. Both photos were taken by their respective photographers at Somerset Lake, *Somerset* on 19 September 2003.

The photograph of the *Selasphorus* Hummingbird in V17:298 captioned as taken in Hillstown Twp., *Bucks* is actually the same bird as portrayed on the same page from Williamsport, *Lycoming*. There is no photograph of the *Bucks selasphorus*.

*Nick Pulcinella*  
Editor-in-Chief

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**PENNSYLVANIA BIRDS** (ISSN 0898-8501) is published four times a year by The Pennsylvania Society for Ornithology. Editorial and business offices are located at 2469 Hammertown Road, Narvon, PA 17555-9730. Subscriptions, all in US\$: One year U.S.A. \$28.50, Canada \$40, Foreign \$45. Library rate \$30. Single copies: \$5.50. Checks and money orders in U.S. \$ only should be made payable to **PSO**. Copyright © 2004 by The Pennsylvania Society for Ornithology. **SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT NARVON, PA 17555**  
**POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to **PSO**, 2469 Hammertown Road, Narvon, PA 17555-9726.

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# The Case of the Mystery Sharp-tailed Sparrow

Dave DeReamus

Somewhere along the line, every one of us birders have eventually crossed paths with a bird that we just couldn't positively identify at the time, no matter how long a look we got at it and how many field guides we paged through afterwards. Most times, it ends up being a case of "the bird that got away". Then, there's the more unusual, but possible, situation where we find a bird that's either rare or outside its normal range. Even though we're sure of what we saw, convincing others can be a real challenge. This is where documentation comes in. Any information gathered may help solve our mystery or confirm our identification.

That said, it was the documentation of a sighting that ended up verifying a 3<sup>rd</sup> Pennsylvania state record. Back in November of 1996, Brian and Tiffany Hardiman found a Sharp-tailed Sparrow at Lake Minsi, Northampton County. The next day, the bird was refound and netted, and photographs were taken by Rick Wiltraut and Jason Horn.

Photos are just one of several forms of documentation that can be helpful in making or proving bird identification. Written documentation of a sighting, including anything that you feel is noteworthy during the observation, is another way to record a sighting. A third form is making a drawing or rough sketch of the bird, graphically showing its features. Sound recording is another method of documentation that can be very important in some cases. The newest form of documentation, using a hand-held video camera, can be very effective. Which one is the most important? There are arguments for each of them. Obviously, the more documentation you can get, the better.

One of the big advantages that

photos have is that you don't have to try and put into words exactly what you saw. It is graphically displayed for you. One possible disadvantage of photos is that they can be deceiving since they are very dependent upon lighting and the poses of the bird. Another is that, unless there is another bird near it in the photo, there is no way to determine size. Also, there are many times when photos alone can't show certain things that might be important in confirming a sighting. Take, for example, the bird's behavior. A photo can't show the 'tail-wagging' of an Eastern Phoebe, the 'bobbing' of a Louisiana Waterthrush, or the upward-flicking of a Sandhill Crane's wings. Still, taking a good number of quality photos that capture as many different poses, or angles, of the bird as possible will definitely give you an advantage in making or proving your

identification.

Although primitive by today's 'high-tech' standards, there are cases where taking notes has the upper hand. You can jot down many things like the bird's size, shape, color, and behavior, the location and type of habitat that it's found in, and so on. The other advantage to note-taking is that carrying pencil and paper is much easier than lugging a camera around, especially if you're out for a longer period of time. Once you are home, the notes can be transcribed into a better-organized outline form.

A drawing or rough sketch can also be helpful when a camera isn't available; and a drawing isn't dependent upon lighting for accuracy like photos. No matter how poor an artist you are, you should still be able to portray the important field marks that you detected. Obviously, another 'plus' is that you can use the same pencil and paper for the sketch



Plate 1. Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed Sparrow (*Ammodramus caudactus*). 12 November 1996 Lake Minsi, Northampton (Rick Wiltraut). This angle shows the dark, sharply defined flank streaking.

that you used to jot down the notes, thus killing two birds with one stone (no pun intended).

Sound recordings can be difficult to achieve without using special equipment, but hand-held recorders have been successfully used in many cases. And, in some cases, they can be the most important in verifying a record. A good example of this is the 'look-alike' flycatchers, where a recording of the bird's song or call notes could make or break the identification.

One of the newest, 'high-tech' forms of documentation is using a video camera to record the bird. Obviously, the advantage that this has over photos is that it also shows the bird's behavior, which might include the things mentioned before. In some cases, the song or call of the bird may also be recorded at the same time. In addition, each frozen frame of a video can be studied like an individual photo. Some of the few

disadvantages to videos is acquiring size correlation and keeping the bird in the frame while it is actively moving around, especially when the video is taken through a high-powered scope.

In the case of this Sharp-tailed Sparrow, the photos were the only form of documentation that had been taken, and it was uncertain whether they alone would be enough to confidently identify the bird. It wasn't too long after the bird's discovery that the Sharp-tailed Sparrow had been officially split into two distinct species, the Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow and the Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed Sparrow; and there was a limited amount of information available describing how to separate these two similar-looking species. An article in ABA's "Birding" magazine helped point out most of the differences between the two, but the photos of the Lake Minsi bird showed some characteristics of

both.

Here in Pennsylvania, Nelson's Sharp-taileds are found annually in very small numbers, usually on the grassy islands found in the lower Susquehanna River during the month of October. They breed in the north-central U.S. and Canada and their migration path sometimes sends them through Pennsylvania. The Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed, on the other hand, is strictly a coastal bird, very rarely straying inland. Mainly because the Nelson's was the most likely of the two to be found in Pennsylvania, it was generally agreed that the bird was probably a Nelson's. One of the photos was sent to the Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee (PORC) which eventually determined that Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed could not definitely be ruled out.

It turned out that the committee's hesitance to initially accept the record as a Nelson's was the correct determination after all. A few years later, Rick Wiltraut was looking at a specimen of a Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed Sparrow and a photo of the Lake Minsi bird. Something didn't look right to him, especially the bill shape and the streaking on the back. He began to wonder if the Lake Minsi bird might actually be a Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed Sparrow. He called several people about his concerns, including me.

Since only one PA record of Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed Sparrow existed, I decided to try and get some expert opinions by using a computer list service called "ID Frontiers" that deals solely with bird identification challenges. I scanned all of the available photos into my computer and sent them out with all of the other details that I recalled about the sighting. The very next day, I got a response from Jim Rising, the author of the guide, "The Sparrows of the United States and Canada". He wrote, "If those pictures were taken along the coast, I don't think that we would hesitate to call the bird a Saltmarsh—and I am pretty confident that that is what it is. The



Plate 2. Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed Sparrow (*Ammodramus caudactus*). 12 November 1996 Lake Minsi, Northampton (Rick Wiltraut). This view shows the discrete streaking across the breast and sides and the sharply defined malar stripe.

bill does look OK to me to be Saltmarsh, although a bit small. Why don't you send the photos to Jon Greenlaw. He knows these birds better than I, especially the coastal ones. I'd be really curious to hear what he thinks, and what others think as well. Please do keep me posted. There is one specimen of a Saltmarsh from western PA, identified by Kenneth Parkes, in the Carnegie Museum, I think. I don't know of any other inland records. Let me know if you know of some. Thanks for sending these, and keep me posted about your decision, if you will."

I quickly got a response from Jon Greenlaw of the Archbold Biological Station in Venus, Florida, stating, "There is little doubt that your bird is a bona fide Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed Sparrow. It is indeed unusual for this species to appear inland away from the coast. In this case, easternmost Pennsylvania near the New Jersey border is not very far from the New Jersey and Delaware Bay coasts. Your photo documentation of Saltmarsh STSP should be archived somewhere for future reference. The usual course is to submit your observations as a report to your state bird records committee and let them verify identification for purposes of converting your report to a state record."

He continued by writing: "All visible plumage and morphological (bill) characters in the photos fall within range of variation of Saltmarsh STSP. The combination of strong contrastiness between orange ochre malars and buffy breast, and strongly developed, relatively discrete streaking across the breast and down the sides and flanks confirm the ID. The dull (versus bright white) scapular streaks help to discount 'n. nelsoni.' The bill length is on the short side, as Jim Rising pointed out, but seems to fall within the range of variation found in Saltmarsh STSP."

He also made some very interesting comments on some of the

questions I had asked him:

1. Yes, nominate Nelson's STSP can be boldly marked below, but it is distinguished by other features, notably strongly-patterned dorsum, little malar-breast contrast, and a small bill.
2. The head profile (rounded versus flattened) has been oversold as a character. The position of crown feathers is subject to the bird's motivational state. There may be an "average" appearance, but that is not helpful for critical ID's of individuals.
3. Throat whiteness is variable in both species and most subspecies. There often is a wash of buffy on the throat of Saltmarsh STs, but in other cases, the throat can be quite white.
- 4 Contrast between breast color and the white abdomen is not useful; it depends much on wear. The buffy color on the breast is bright in fresh-plumaged birds, but very dull and pale in worn birds. Your bird is a fresh-plumaged bird, so you should expect some contrast.
5. The dark markings around the eye is individual variation; no species-specific significance.
6. Discreteness of dark streaking on underparts also will depend to some extent on wear. In fresh-plumaged STs, streaks in Saltmarsh STs typically appear blurred along the edges; this is caused by some pale barb tips. Later, as feathers age and barb tips disappear, the streaks "harden", or become more strongly discrete.
7. Grayish sides of the neck not species-specific in Saltmarsh STs.

Over the next few weeks, I received several other responses from 'top-notch' birders who also verified that the bird was indeed a Saltmarsh. So, thanks to Rick's

inquisitiveness and the photographic documentation, a previously questionable record became a 3<sup>rd</sup> Pennsylvania state record and one of the few inland records for the entire East Coast.

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# Wintering Juncos

Gene and Joanne Wilhelm

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How many birders take their common wintering avian friends for granted? Please let us explain.

Monday 1 December 2003 came in like a lamb in Slippery Rock Borough with gentle southwestern winds, mild temperatures, clear skies, and no bird feeding station activity. Tuesday 2 December was a repeat of Monday, although the wind shifted to the west and gradually increased in velocity throughout the afternoon. By that evening the usual wintering flock of 15 Dark-eyed Juncos (*Junco hyemalis*) were eating atop and around the cinder block feeding station about 50 feet north of the porch at the edge of a dense spruce woodlot. The wind intensified through the night.

Early Wednesday morning 3 December started with a fierce western wind measured at 40-45 mph. by the TV Weather Channel, thickening cirrostratus clouds and our junco flock gaining three new members. Our family has learned that these 'snow birds' are excellent feathered barometers of approaching bad weather (usually within 24 hours), accurately indicating a change from a high to a low pressure in the atmosphere with its accompanying precipitation.

Our first scanning of the cinder block feeding station by eye, a daily routine since the juncos first arrived in October, registered three new red-backed birds among the flock, all with their tails towards us. Our immediate gut reaction was that "they must be Fox Sparrows." However, quickly grabbing and looking through our conveniently located 9 x 35 wide angle Bausch & Lomb and 8 x 24 Leitz Trinovid binoculars, we were startled to be viewing 3 Oregon Juncos (*Junco hyemalis thurberi*), 1 adult male and 2 adult females. Never in our 33 years of birding in western Pennsylvania had we observed more than 1 adult male Oregon Junco averaging every 10 years. Basic family rules of backyard birding played their important roles here: check every bird in the flock, study each new bird for as long as it takes for confirmed identification, and mentally or physically record all diagnostic field marks. Unfortunately, ideal photographic proof

this time was out of the question due to distance (50 feet), size of the birds (small), flock behavior (skittish), two layers of glass doors, and noise on the family's part in trying to open doors or windows for such photographs. Crude sketches would have to suffice.

Two well known Pennsylvania ornithologists state that only the adult male Oregon Junco is readably distinguished in the field from other subspecies that may occur here (McWilliams & Brauning, 2000:420). However, we believe that there are enough diagnostic field marks of the adult female Oregon to clearly separate her from other Dark-eyed Junco subspecies. The same avian experts say that there are fewer historical than recent records of the Oregon Junco probably because there were fewer birders and bird feeding stations years ago rather than because of a more recent eastern movement of the subspecies (McWilliams & Brauning: 2000:420). This statement is probably true but there also seems to be a strong correlation between winter weather patterns and the appearance of this offbeat subspecies in Pennsylvania. The only times Oregon Juncos (all male adults until 2003) have been recorded in Butler County, Pennsylvania, were when the north jet stream dipped southeast out of the Rockies, extended east to the Ohio-Mississippi Rivers Watershed, then followed the Ohio River drainage system northeast through Pennsylvania (*PA Birds*, 1-17). This identical weather pattern occurred the first week of December 2003 and deserves further scientific investigation.

In Pennsylvania the subspecies composition of the junco population is complex. Most of the wintering birds are typical of the northern population, the Slate-colored Junco (*Junco hyemalis hyemalis*). Leberman mentions in *The Birds of the Ligonier Valley* that as much as 20% of Pennsylvania's migrating or wintering junco populations are a rather variable array of intermediates between the Slate-colored and the Oregon coloration (Leberman, 1976:60). These birds come either from areas where these

two subspecies meet and interbreed or from an area in the Canadian Rocky Mountains where a more or less stable population of intermediate juncos has been described as subspecies *Junco hyemalis cismontanus* (Leberman, 1976:60). Readers should consult the excellent plate illustrating these confusing junco color differences (Leberman, 1976: 61). In fact, a closer field examination of wintering Pennsylvania juncos may have the entire array of subspecies in one flock. Thus far, in the 2003-2004 Slippery Rock Borough winter season, brown adult female and gray adult male Slate-colored, adult female and male Canadian Rocky, and adult female and male Oregon Juncos have been identified.

On 3 December careful observation of the wintering junco flock detected diagnostic differences between 3 confusing brown adult female Slate-colored and the 2 adult female Oregon: the former had light brown-gray crown, gray hood and sides, and light brown flanks; the latter had a much darker sooty crown and hood, reddish back, pinkish brown sides and flanks. When the two adult male subspecies were side by side, the slightly smaller size of the Oregon was noticeable as were the four strikingly vivid colors of the Oregon: black hood, red back, pinkish brown sides and flanks, and white belly vs. the uniform dark gray hood, back, sides and flanks, and white belly of the Slate-colored Junco. Simply stated, the male Oregon had sharp color contrasts between its head and body; the male Slate-colored did not. Also, a final feeding behavioral trait between the subspecies was the aggressive chasing of all three Oregon Juncos by the Slate-colored Juncos. In fact, the three transient 'outsiders' had a most difficult time getting any food from our feeding station and would be repeatedly challenged and chased by members of the 'winter resident' Slate-colored Junco flock until finally the outsiders would fly away to escape the harassment and try again later.

Our family is familiar with the Oregon, Pink-sided, Slate-colored and Gray-headed subspecies of the Dark-eyed Junco wintering together in the Silver City

area of southwest New Mexico. There is much more mixed flock harmony there probably because the birds travel together and gradually iron out feeding competition differences over time in one stable place. By traveling 50 miles southwest of Silver City in winter, it is possible to add the Red-backed population of the Dark-eyed Junco and another species, the Yellow-eyed Junco, in the border mountains of Arizona and New Mexico.

Nevertheless, studying juncos wherever they occur is highly recommended, especially in Pennsylvania where they are such worthwhile identification challenges.

By the way, Slippery Rock Borough had 6 inches of snow on 4 December 2003 and the 3 Oregon Juncos were not recorded that day or since then. Only the daily winter flock of 15 Slate-colored Juncos remain as of this writing.

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## Photo Quiz Answer #3

Rick Wiltraut



A woodpecker, but what kind? This bird shows obvious strong barring on the sides, which is a good field mark for both Black-backed and Three-toed Woodpeckers. Upon closer examination, one can see dense cross barring down the middle of the back. This female Three-toed Woodpecker of the elusive eastern race *bacatus* was photographed along Riddell Road in Ottawa, PQ in January, 2001.

Like the Black-backed Woodpecker, Three-toeds have been known to wander south of their breeding areas. It's a species that has the potential for turning up in Pennsylvania, especially in coniferous areas of the northern-tier and adjacent counties.

Boreal species that wander south have shown up at sites along the Great Lakes, so Presque Isle might also be a good place to look for this species (there was a sighting there in December, 1974). The closest area to Pennsylvania where this species breeds is in the central Adirondack Mountains of New York, approximately 175 miles due north of the border. There have been four reported sightings of Three-toed Woodpeckers in the state between October 28 and April 3, although none were documented. Swamps, blowdowns, and burned areas with standing dead trees should be good areas to look for this elusive species.

# BOOK REVIEW

Gene Wilhelm

## **SUSQUEHANNA RIVER BIRDING AND WILDLIFE TRAIL.**

Illustrated with 42 color photographs, 39 county color maps depicting over 200 bird and wildlife sites, trails and scenic drives, 10 color paintings by John James Audubon including 2 Marsh Wrens at their nest on the cover, 2 inserts and a foldout color map of the Susquehanna Watershed with its Birding and Wildlife Watching Sites. Developed by Audubon Pennsylvania, published by Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Harrisburg, PA, 83 pp., 6 x 9, printed on recycled paper. \$9.00 with special rates for State Parks and Audubon chapters. Order from Audubon Pennsylvania, 100 Wildwood Way, Harrisburg, PA 17110.

### **Introduction**

This is a wonderful book not only because it was sorely needed but also because it graphically illustrates that excellent cooperative teamwork can produce a superb end product. First of all, there was an advisory committee consisting of seventeen county, corporate and state elements (p. 79) that organized and guided the publication process. Second, the project was placed in the good hands of a competent staff, directed by Marci Mowery of the Audubon Pennsylvania office, and assisted by six other well-qualified team members. And third, project funding was shared by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service through its Wildlife Conservation and Restoration Program Grant R-6 and jointly administered by the Pennsylvania Game Commission and the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission through their own Wildlife Conservation and Restoration program. The guide itself was financed in part by a grant from the Growing Greener Fund under the administration of the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Bureau of Recreation and Conservation (p. 79).

### **The Guide**

Every piece of space in the guide is utilized effectively and even artistically. For example, a fold of the front cover is the Key to Site Icons (37) while the outline of the Table of Contents barely covers one-third of p. 4. Listed contents are: Bird and Wildlife Watching Ethics, Audubon Pennsylvania, Audubon in Pennsylvania, IBA Program and Sites, Seasonality of

Pennsylvania Birds, County Sites, Pennsylvania Breeding Bird Atlas, Pennsylvania Bird List, Pennsylvania Mammal List, Important Mammal Area Program, County Convention and Visitors Bureau, Advisory Committee, Funding Agencies and Index.

The 39 counties with their 200 sites constitute the bulk of the guide (pp. 14-71). Each of the counties has a cartographically attractive and easily interpreted color map. Each site on the map is labeled with a letter and a number in alphabetical and numerical sequence (e.g., A1), followed by two or three short paragraphs describing the known fauna and flora and giving precise directions to the site. Next is a graph illustrating the best months for viewing wildlife, followed by icons depicting site information and ending with a contact name, address, telephone number and web site, if one is available.

The 42 color photographs and 10 John James Audubon prints from his *Birds of America* add an artistic environment to the guide and by themselves are worth the reasonable price of the book. Audubon prints include the Marsh Wren, Pileated Woodpecker, White-winged Crossbill, Canada Warbler, White-headed Eagle (Bald Eagle), Great Blue Heron, Cerulean Warbler (Blue-Green Warbler), Wood Thrush, and Northern Flying Squirrel. Frankly, I was impressed with the excellent color reproductions of both photographs and paintings, on recycled paper no less, and the insert foldout color map of the Susquehanna Watershed. The latter marks all county sites (by red dots) on one side and has an index of the sites on the other side shared with an Audubon painting of a 'White-headed Eagle' (Bald Eagle).

Nevertheless, I do have a few positive questions and suggestions about the book. In fact, when I first saw the title, I thought it referred to the Susquehanna River itself and an adjacent trail system. Of course, I quickly discovered otherwise upon reading the 'welcome' on p. 3. Question: Why not title the guide '*Susquehanna Watershed: Birding and Wildlife Sites?*' The text on p. 3 in part states: "While the listing included in this publication is extensive, it is not comprehensive of all locations where you could view birds. First, it focuses primarily on the Susquehanna Watershed, which encompasses approximately one-half of the state." I was further confused by the words "This map" in paragraph one and

again in paragraph two on p. 3 as if a map should be on the opposite page. Question: Is the map referred to the insert foldout color map lodged between pp. 42-43? If so, then the insert map needs to switch positions with the other insert title— User Survey— that is located between pp. 2-3. However, a far worse problem occurs on p. 5 under Audubon in Pennsylvania. The guide states: "Twenty-two chapters of the National Audubon Society can be found in Pennsylvania." That number is correct but the published list adds up to only twenty-one chapters. Absent from the list is the Bartramian Audubon Society that encompasses almost all of four counties (Butler, Lawrence, Mercer and Venango) and is centered in Slippery Rock. Question: Why were two Children's Pages added to the insert foldout color map? I see neither rhyme nor reason for them in this context except, perhaps, to fill vacant space. I recommend discarding them and placing both inserts at the rear of the guide. The first insert consisting of a detachable, mail-in User Survey and four business cards are two good ideas but why not let the beautiful inside front cover photograph of scores of Snow Geese in flight (p. 2) logically guide the reader to the official 'welcome' on p. 3 without any pauses or barriers? Finally, the Pennsylvania Bird List (pp. 73-75) does not follow the current AOU taxonomic order that became effective in 2003. Question: Why not define the terms Regular and Accidental? There is space at the bottom of p. 75 or at least use a reference as to how the terms are being used.

Nevertheless, these minor difficulties do not take away the qualities of this guide: outstanding color illustrations, excellent and easy to use cartography, pinpointing over 200 wildlife sites with concise information and precise directions for getting to them, Pennsylvania's Important Mammal Area Program and a Mammal List. Audubon members and friends in western Pennsylvania hope that Audubon Pennsylvania will use this book as a model for a companion guide to the Allegheny-Monongahela-Ohio Watershed.

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# The 2003-04 Christmas Bird Count in Pennsylvania

Nicholas C. Bolgiano

The Christmas Bird Count (CBC) was held for the 104th time from December 14, 2003 to January 5, 2004. A total of 155 species on count day, plus 2 more during count-week, were reported from 67 sites in Pennsylvania. This was the same number of sites that reported the previous year. Nescopeck Mountain dropped out while Western Chester County had an auspicious start. The 104th count in Pennsylvania was characterized by good numbers of some waterfowl, raptor, and gull species, declines in some species that seem likely to have been caused by the cold winter of 2002-2003, and a lack of northern irruptives.

## The Weather

Fall and early winter temperatures were seasonal. A snow storm on December 14 caused the postponement of some counts. The prevailing temperature turned much colder after the count period ended.

## Comparison to Past Years

For many species and overall, the 104<sup>th</sup> count seemed about average. The 155 species observed statewide was one above the average during previous three decades. Some compilers may remember their frustration with Audubon's new data entry system. Glitches led to data from four sites not being entered into the system at the time of this report, with data from Thompson and Wild Creek-Little Gap not being included in this summary. Potter County remained an unofficial Audubon site. Participation data were available from about half the sites, indicating that effort was about the same as during the previous count. In this report, the year is the year in which Christmas occurs, data include some unofficial counts reported to *Pennsylvania Birds*, and omitted are subspecies, hybrids, exotics, sp. and count week species.

## Site and Species Numbers

Most of the sites with high species numbers were familiar ones. However, the new site, Western Chester County, tied venerable leaders Southern

Lancaster County and Delaware County as the high site with 100. Southern Bucks County was just behind with 99, with Central Bucks County, Elverson, and Harrisburg not far behind.

## Top 10 Sites

1. Delaware County	100
Southern Lancaster County	100
Western Chester County	100
4. Southern Bucks County	99
5. Central Bucks County	96
6. Elverson	95
7. Harrisburg	94
8. Lititz	88
9. Upper Bucks County	86
10. Hamburg	83
Lehigh Valley	83

## Hits and Misses

A "hit" is a species found in 2003 but recorded less than 40% of the years between 1970-2002. A "miss" is a species not found in 2003 but recorded more than 60% of the years between 1970-2002. Compared to past years, the number of hits (9) was about average and the number of misses (3) was low.

## Hits

Great Egret  
Ross's Goose  
Spotted Sandpiper  
Rufous Hummingbird  
White-eyed Vireo  
Orange-crowned Warbler  
Black-and-white Warbler  
Ovenbird  
Indigo Bunting

## Misses

Blue-winged Teal  
Loggerhead Shrike  
Pine Grosbeak

The **White-eyed Vireo** at Newville and the **Indigo Bunting** at Clarion were only the third reports for both species in the Pennsylvania CBC. The single **Ross's Goose** was at Newville was the eleventh report, the **Spotted Sandpiper** at Lewistown was the seventh report, and the **Rufous Hummingbirds** at Central Bucks

County and Williamsport were the fourth and fifth reports for those species.

The count-week species were **Brant** at Southern Bucks County and **Trumpeter Swan** at Linesville.

## Waterfowl and Other Water Birds

Some of the more uncommon wintering water birds were 57 **Great Cormorants**, including 37 at Pennypack Valley and 18 at Southern Bucks County, 3 **Black-crowned Night Herons** at Southern Bucks County, and 3 **Great Egrets** at Delaware County.

The trend of plentiful geese continued. The single **Greater White-fronted Goose** at Lehigh Valley and Southern Bucks County made it six of the last seven years for this species being reported. This was the 9<sup>th</sup> year in the last 11 for large numbers of **Snow Geese**. The 210,000 **Canada Geese** were a new high.

**Ring-necked Ducks** were present in good numbers for the 4<sup>th</sup> of the last five years. Erie observers reported 9700 scaup. All three scoter species were reported: **Black Scoter** at Erie, **Surf Scoter** at Delaware County and Erie, and **White-winged Scoter** at Erie. The recent trend of relatively few **Common Goldeneye** continued.

The single **Virginia Rail**, at Indiana, was the first report of that species since 1998. After low numbers during the previous two years, the 156 **Wilson's Snipes** were a good number, including 43 at Lewisburg.

## Vultures and Raptors

Most vulture and raptor species were reported in average to above average numbers. With the possible exception of **Great Horned Owl**, there have been no recent declines in raptor numbers that might indicate a West Nile virus effect. The 5 **Ospreys** equaled the previous high from 1985 and 2000. The 1119 **Black Vultures** and 139 **Bald Eagles** were second to last year's highs. The 226 **Northern Harriers** were a good number. The 47 **Rough-legged Hawks** were about average; more may have subsequently moved into Pennsylvania to be tallied during the Winter Raptor Survey (G. Grove pers.

com.). **American Kestrel** was one exception to healthy raptor counts; the 663 were the fewest since 1970. A poor hatch appears to have accompanied the wet spring (L. Goodrich, pers. com.). The 12 **Peregrine Falcons** were a new high.

**Barn Owls** numbers remained low, with two each at Lewistown and Southern Lancaster County. Great Horned Owl numbers have been about one-third fewer during the last few counts than during the 1986-1998 peak, though how much of a possible population decline may be attributable to West Nile virus is unclear. The 23 **Long-eared Owls**, including 6 at Curtin, the 30 **Short-eared Owls**, including 10 at Clarion and 6 at Central Bucks County, and the 24 **Northern Saw-whet Owls**, including 5 at Harrisburg, were good numbers. The top owling sites were concentrated in southeastern Pennsylvania; the below list shows the number of owls reported by the top 10 sites.

#### Top 10 Owling Sites

1. Upper Bucks County	108
2. Central Bucks County	96
3. Southern Lancaster County	82
4. West Chester	80
5. Elverson	76
6. Hamburg	63
7. Delaware County	53
8. Western Chester County	50
9. New Bloomfield	49
10. Harrisburg	43

#### Upland Game Birds

The 3360 **Wild Turkeys** were down from last year's high of 4600; this may have been caused by the wet spring and a poor hatch. The 275 **Ring-necked Pheasants** were higher than last year's 213 but still historically low. Just one **Northern Bobwhite** was tallied, at Delaware County. The 108 **Ruffed Grouse** were the fewest since 1978; they are in the low end of their cycle.

#### Gulls

Seven gull species were reported. Eighty thousand **Herring** and 118 **Lesser Black-backed Gulls** were reported from Southern Bucks County, the top North American CBC site for Herring Gulls during 1999-2002 and for Lesser Black-backed Gulls during 1996-2002. As of this report, Southern Bucks was again the top North American site

for these species for 2003. There were nearly as many Lesser Black-backed Gulls at Central Bucks County, with 101 reported there. This species was reported more extensively than usual, with 25 at Upper Bucks County, 8 at Lebanon County, 4 at Bernville, 2 at both Elverson and Erie, and 1 each at Bethlehem-Easton, Pennypack Valley, Southern Lancaster County, and Wyncote.

#### Woodpeckers to Blackbirds

The 77 **Red-headed Woodpeckers** were above average and included 41 at Gettysburg, 17 at York, and 7 at Chambersburg. Gettysburg continued as one of the top wintering sites for Red-headed in northeastern North America. The 3700 **Red-bellied Woodpeckers** were second to the 2001 high. The 8 **Northern Shrikes**, including 3 at Mansfield, were about average for a non-flight year. The miss of **Loggerhead Shrike** was the second consecutive year and only the third miss for that species in the last 14 years.

**Red-breasted Nuthatches** tend to occur in high numbers every other winter and according to this trend, good numbers were expected this past winter. However, the 267 Red-breasted were more typical of a non-flight year.

**Carolina Chickadee**, **Tufted Titmouse**, **Carolina Wren**, and **Eastern Bluebird** were 25-35% fewer than in 2002. The most logical cause would seem to be the cold winter of 2002-2003. **American Pipits** were reported from one of every four sites, higher than normal. The number of **Cedar Waxwings** was low for the second consecutive year. The single **Orange-crowned Warbler** was reported from Harrisburg.

Single **Vesper Sparrows** were observed at Curtin and Lititz. The 2245 **White-crowned Sparrows** were a new high. The 97 **Eastern Meadowlarks** were about double last year's very low number, but still historically low.

#### Finches

According to long-term patterns, because Christmas fell in an odd-numbered year, chances were better than average for a flight year. However, except for modest flights of **Purple Finch** and **Pine Siskin**, this didn't materialize. While **Common Redpolls** appeared at some CBC sites in eastern

North America, there were just a few CBC reports from Pennsylvania. There was a single **Red Crossbill**, at Southeastern Bradford County, and 9 **Evening Grosbeaks**, from four sites. After being missed just twice during 1961-1993, **Pine Grosbeak** has been reported during just 2 of the last 10 years in the statewide CBC. If current trends in eastern North America continue, a similar dropoff in Evening Grosbeaks may soon occur. Fairly large numbers of **American Goldfinch** appeared in 2003 and during 6 of the last 7 years.

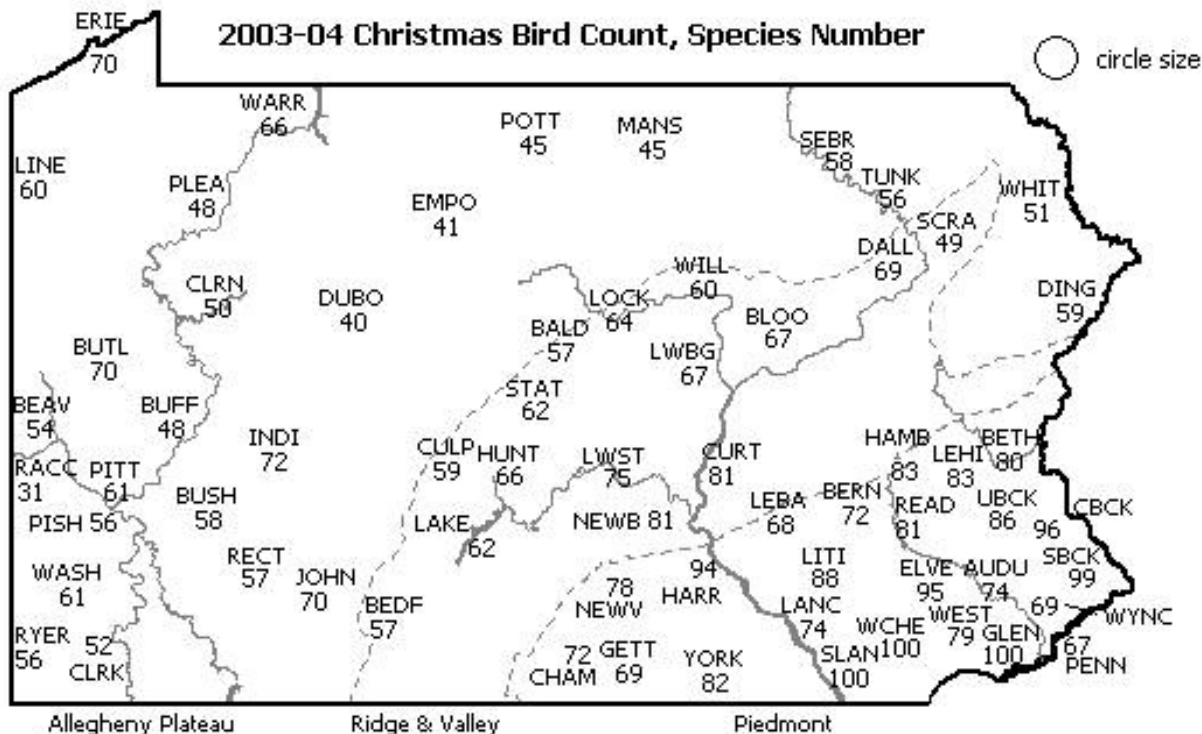
**Acknowledgment.** This report was made possible by the many hours spent by numerous birders and count compilers.

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## Site Abbreviations

AUDU Aububon  
 BALD Bald Eagle S.P.  
 BEAV Beaver  
 BEDF Bedford County  
 BERN Bernville  
 BETH Bethlehem-Easton  
 BLOO Bloomsburg  
 BUFF Buffalo Creek Valley  
 BUSH Bushy Run S.P.  
 BUTL Butler County  
 CBCK Central Bucks County  
 CHAM Chambersburg  
 CLRK Clarksville  
 CLRN Clarion  
 CULP Culp  
 CURT Curtin  
 DALL Dallas Area  
 DING Dingman's Ferry  
 DUBO Dubois  
 ELVE Elverson  
 EMPO Emporium  
 ERIE Erie  
 GETT Gettysburg  
 GLEN Delaware County  
 HAMB Hamburg  
 HARR Harrisburg  
 HUNT Huntingdon  
 INDI Indiana  
 JOHN Johnstown  
 LAKE Lake Raystown  
 LANC Lancaster  
 LEBA Lebanon County  
 LEHI LehighValley

LINE Linesville  
 LITI Lititz  
 LOCK Lock Haven-Jersey Shore  
 LWBG Lewisburg  
 LWST Lewistown  
 MANS Mansfield  
 NEWB New Bloomfield  
 NEWV Newville  
 PENN Pennypack Valley  
 PISH Pittsburgh South Hills  
 PITT Pittsburgh  
 PLEA Pleasantville  
 POTT Potter County  
 RACC Raccoon Creek S.P.  
 READ Reading  
 RECT Rector  
 RYER Ryerson  
 SBCK Southern Bucks County  
 SCRA Scranton  
 SEBR Southeastern Bradford County  
 SLAN Southern Lancaster County  
 STAT State College  
 THOM Thompson  
 TUNK Tunkhannock  
 UBCK Upper Bucks County  
 WARR Warren  
 WASH Washington  
 WCHE Western Chester County  
 WEST West Chester  
 WHIT White Mills  
 WILD Wild Creek-Little Gap  
 WILL Williamsport  
 WYNC Wyncote  
 YORK York



PENNSYLVANIA'S 2003 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS

	AUDU	BALD	BEAV	BEDF	BERN	BETH	BLOO	BUFF	BUSH	BUTL	CBCK	CHAM	CLRN	CLRK	CULP	CURT	DALL
Greater White-fronted Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Snow Goose	70	-	-	-	3000	10004	-	-	-	-	16	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ross's Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Canada Goose	6550	498	359	54	1503	13899	2796	326	625	1017	23888	896	47	246	79	156	4049
Mute Swan	-	-	-	1	7	11	-	-	6	-	31	-	-	-	-	3	-
Tundra Swan	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	42	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
Wood Duck	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	1	1
Gadwall	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
American Widgeon	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	4	1	3	-	-	-	-	-
American Black Duck	20	2	20	43	5	80	27	-	6	4	51	6	-	-	-	20	43
Mallard	451	163	214	285	341	1130	98	67	379	39	1004	953	-	68	168	352	279
Northern Shoveler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Pintail	2	3	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Green-winged Teal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Canvasback	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Redhead	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ring-necked Duck	1	-	-	-	1	24	-	-	-	38	3	-	-	-	-	-	39
Greater Scaup	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lesser Scaup	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
scaup sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black Scoter	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Surf Scoter	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
White-winged Scoter	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Long-tailed Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bufflehead	54	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	30	-	-	-	-	-	3	23
Common Goldeneye	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	4	6	-	-	-	-	3	-
Hooded Merganser	7	8	1	-	-	-	2	-	23	59	8	-	-	-	-	-	51
Common Merganser	34	16	-	1	12	46	45	-	-	1	112	-	-	-	-	15	38
Red-breasted Merganser	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ruddy Duck	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	26	5	-	-	-	-	-	3
Ring-necked Pheasant	1	1	-	1	8	4	38	5	12	3	1	10	3	3	24	25	1
Ruffed Grouse	-	1	-	6	-	-	3	-	6	1	-	-	9	2	5	7	1
Wild Turkey	-	-	19	4	11	77	120	105	170	121	15	5	127	46	16	4	7
Northern Bobwhite	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-throated Loon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Loon	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	CW
Pied-billed Grebe	3	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	CW	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Horned Grebe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Double-crested Cormorant	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Cormorant	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Blue Heron	22	12	12	1	10	22	4	-	4	CW	29	37	-	7	2	6	3
Great Egret	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black-crowned Night Heron	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black Vulture	51	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	192	-	-	-	-	5	-
Turkey Vulture	109	-	-	-	3	63	-	-	-	-	375	-	-	-	-	-	-
Osprey	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Bald Eagle	2	2	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	1	2	-
Northern Harrier	2	1	-	-	1	7	14	3	1	1	12	1	9	1	1	17	5
Sharp-shinned Hawk	10	-	1	-	4	12	10	3	4	9	11	13	1	1	2	5	2
Cooper's Hawk	5	3	1	1	2	8	8	4	7	4	7	7	3	4	1	6	4
Northern Goshawk	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Accipiter, sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-shouldered Hawk	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	2	-	-	1	-	-	1	1
Red-tailed Hawk	97	17	21	23	72	103	75	18	40	43	133	77	42	47	24	79	24
Rough-legged Hawk	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	CW	1	-	9	-	1	1	-
Golden Eagle	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Kestrel	8	4	2	6	27	3	32	5	26	13	12	22	7	11	8	25	4

PENNSYLVANIA'S 2003 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS

	AUDU	BALD	BEAV	BEDF	BERN	BETH	BLOO	BUFF	BUSH	BUTL	CBCK	CHAM	CLRN	CLRK	CULP	CURT	DALL
Merlin	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Peregrine Falcon	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	CW
Virginia Rail	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Coot	1	-	13	-	-	1	-	-	-	71	-	-	-	-	-	-	28
Killdeer	-	-	-	-	4	3	-	-	-	-	5	6	1	1	-	-	-
Spotted Sandpiper	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wilson's Snipe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	7	9	-	-	-	2	-
American Woodcock	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bonaparte's Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ring-billed Gull	259	12	473	-	3721	1869	8	1	-	59	836	-	-	-	-	42	39
Herring Gull	4	1	5	-	605	47	3	-	-	4	45	-	-	-	-	2	96
Iceland Gull	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lesser Black-backed Gull	-	-	-	-	4	1	-	-	-	-	101	-	-	-	-	-	-
Glaucous Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Black-backed Gull	232	175	209	314	1394	726	522	151	201	317	714	2059	174	176	672	514	175
Rock Pigeon	467	27	188	37	1082	633	468	163	408	573	515	2083	604	274	127	961	117
Barn Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eastern Screech-Owl	10	-	-	1	17	6	13	7	13	7	40	1	-	3	5	7	10
Great Horned Owl	9	2	-	-	11	20	18	1	2	3	45	11	-	6	5	3	15
Barred Owl	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1
Long-eared Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	6	-
Short-eared Owl	-	-	-	2	-	-	2	-	-	2	6	-	10	-	-	-	1
Northern Saw-whet Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rufous Hummingbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Belted Kingfisher	12	4	-	1	7	13	4	1	-	2	14	18	1	2	3	8	2
Red-headed Woodpecker	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-
Red-bellied Woodpecker	146	8	22	21	59	126	35	20	46	46	133	99	29	52	36	85	9
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	14	-	-	3	3	27	CW	1	3	-	15	5	1	3	-	4	-
Downy Woodpecker	152	22	47	24	65	169	93	15	39	80	117	127	63	48	55	101	40
Hairy Woodpecker	26	4	9	16	12	20	16	7	16	20	14	15	30	15	14	13	9
Yellow-shafted Flicker	77	11	2	8	23	98	9	-	19	11	96	43	2	31	8	52	1
Pileated Woodpecker	1	4	3	6	1	1	19	3	9	1	4	6	14	12	17	21	6
Eastern Phoebe	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
Northern Shrike	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
White-eyed Vireo	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Blue Jay	210	83	106	115	90	287	263	41	142	226	416	443	253	268	81	251	115
American Crow	241	344	127	146	99	1454	645	123	559	362	279	404	728	892	171	687	393
Fish Crow	1	-	-	-	-	2	9	-	-	-	8	2	-	-	-	4	-
Common Raven	-	-	-	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	7	3	-	CW
Horned Lark	-	-	20	-	864	261	67	18	39	296	50	1233	-	-	126	79	80
Carolina Chickadee	399	-	16	-	-	2	-	-	24	-	165	2	-	214	-	-	-
Black-capped Chickadee	-	117	68	147	12	343	149	87	68	304	75	123	376	-	120	178	142
chickadee sp.	41	-	71	-	54	-	-	-	66	-	27	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tufted Titmouse	217	56	100	74	62	352	131	75	100	137	171	102	153	145	85	247	49
Red-breasted Nuthatch	1	-	2	-	-	-	2	-	2	1	1	7	8	-	-	2	6
White-breasted Nuthatch	143	23	44	54	35	17	90	20	60	103	115	80	133	97	66	82	37
Brown Creeper	30	2	-	1	8	26	8	5	6	4	13	8	9	4	4	12	3
Carolina Wren	126	20	24	5	75	127	42	11	42	17	98	46	9	19	13	100	16
House Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Winter Wren	8	-	1	1	2	7	-	-	-	1	6	3	-	-	4	9	1
Golden-crowned Kinglet	38	16	2	16	27	13	13	14	22	6	23	30	23	10	12	71	21
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	10	-	2	-	5	14	CW	-	-	-	5	2	1	-	-	3	-
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eastern Bluebird	135	54	30	32	106	113	106	19	69	31	174	25	34	43	59	172	14
Hermit Thrush	2	1	-	-	1	7	4	-	9	3	10	1	-	-	5	4	3
American Robin	332	2	2	-	498	242	6	1	33	16	3836	27	68	27	2	4	9

PENNSYLVANIA'S 2003 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS

	AUDU	BALD	BEAV	BEDF	BERN	BETH	BLOO	BUFF	BUSH	BUTL	CBCK	CHAM	CLRN	CLRK	CULP	CURT	DALL
Gray Catbird	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	2	3	-	-	1	2	-
Northern Mockingbird	107	3	1	6	86	76	40	1	54	CW	120	147	3	29	9	63	5
Brown Thrasher	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
European Starling	2914	1456	463	787	10519	1880	1918	88	847	9786	4971	8651	1517	1017	635	3505	743
American Pipit	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	17	-	-	2	-	-
Cedar Waxwing	4	383	-	1	268	76	8	6	-	1	85	-	346	24	4	25	9
Orange-crowned Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Myrtle Warbler	74	3	4	11	2	52	6	-	47	1	95	7	-	30	5	3	-
Pine Warbler	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Palm Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black-and-white Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ovenbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Yellowthroat	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eastern Towhee	11	-	1	-	-	3	1	-	9	-	2	1	-	5	1	2	-
American Tree Sparrow	28	107	26	26	432	175	472	84	140	252	72	45	173	11	86	275	123
Chipping Sparrow	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	CW	1	-	2	-
Field Sparrow	33	5	18	-	6	17	3	2	45	-	8	2	-	1	-	9	-
Vesper Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Savannah Sparrow	-	-	-	-	10	11	-	-	-	-	20	-	-	-	-	1	-
Fox Sparrow	6	-	-	-	1	CW	2	-	-	-	10	2	-	-	-	1	-
Song Sparrow	246	19	94	5	447	253	152	39	231	51	307	230	11	67	26	257	33
Lincoln's Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Swamp Sparrow	3	2	-	-	23	10	6	2	6	8	20	3	-	-	1	8	3
White-throated Sparrow	861	128	5	38	905	1265	247	14	127	59	1237	563	31	31	116	316	54
White-crowned Sparrow	2	-	1	8	263	15	9	1	114	-	69	145	2	3	10	150	294
Slate-colored Junco	849	140	263	208	463	1425	1652	166	269	505	930	1493	786	183	506	484	-
Oregon Junco	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lapland Longspur	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	-
Snow Bunting	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Northern Cardinal	303	68	115	70	242	340	313	62	312	252	315	407	130	207	69	310	82
Indigo Bunting	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-winged Blackbird	-	1	-	-	1	5	-	-	-	-	276	-	21	-	-	-	30
Eastern Meadowlark	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rusty Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	-
Brewer's Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Grackle	1	-	-	2	1	6	-	-	2	17	207	30	-	-	-	-	-
Brown-headed Cowbird	5	-	35	-	-	50	48	-	-	117	527	84	1	-	2	14	-
blackbird sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Baltimore Oriole	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Purple Finch	8	-	4	25	23	13	5	3	13	93	11	17	1	16	7	3	-
House Finch	197	38	83	43	95	415	87	8	110	91	319	265	223	101	104	225	86
Red Crossbill	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Redpoll	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pine Siskin	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	53	-	22	12	8
American Goldfinch	342	59	90	90	112	497	221	50	124	204	279	266	560	90	112	281	432
Evening Grosbeak	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
House Sparrow	182	134	511	278	413	340	411	117	478	276	243	1441	628	517	212	335	124
Number Species	74	57	54	57	72	80	67	48	58	70	96	72	50	52	59	81	69
Number Individuals	17051	4277	3954	3067	28278	39475	11634	1966	6226	15841	44355	22881	7484	5104	3967	10764	8058

PENNSYLVANIA'S 2003 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS

	DING	DUBO	ELVE	EMPO	ERIE	GETT	GLEN	HAMB	HARR	HUNT	INDI	JOHN	LAKE	LANC	LEBA	LEHI
Greater White-fronted Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Snow Goose	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	1	-	-	5	-	-	-	1
Ross's Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Canada Goose	146	-	5731	-	8005	1702	13015	4070	1221	428	527	585	58	2208	712	20349
Mute Swan	7	-	3	-	-	5	6	9	3	-	2	7	-	-	-	1
Tundra Swan	-	-	1	-	91	-	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	226	7	-
Wood Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	5	4
Gadwall	-	-	1	-	45	2	7	31	71	-	-	CW	-	-	3	2
American Widgeon	-	-	1	-	4	-	-	-	41	-	-	-	-	-	5	3
American Black Duck	8	-	23	-	64	29	271	19	68	14	24	8	-	26	8	63
Mallard	52	331	492	-	325	205	545	429	1161	68	184	441	102	399	227	471
Northern Shoveler	-	-	1	-	-	-	38	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Pintail	-	1	1	-	1	1	17	-	-	17	-	-	-	-	2	2
Green-winged Teal	-	-	1	-	1	-	89	-	4	-	CW	-	-	-	2	1
Canvasback	-	-	3	-	62	-	-	-	-	-	1	12	-	-	-	-
Redhead	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ring-necked Duck	-	-	62	-	5	3	12	-	-	-	2	179	-	7	-	83
Greater Scaup	-	-	-	-	337	-	-	-	-	-	-	CW	-	-	-	2
Lesser Scaup	-	-	-	-	735	-	-	-	28	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
scaup sp.	-	-	-	-	8640	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black Scoter	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Surf Scoter	-	-	-	-	6	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
White-winged Scoter	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Long-tailed Duck	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bufflehead	-	-	9	-	255	6	14	-	8	-	CW	1	1	6	1	-
Common Goldeneye	22	-	2	-	193	-	-	-	14	-	-	-	-	28	-	-
Hooded Merganser	6	-	18	-	6	2	14	1	22	4	-	31	14	-	-	-
Common Merganser	15	-	50	-	30	-	182	38	38	2	-	4	79	8	27	6
Red-breasted Merganser	-	-	-	-	339	-	-	-	-	-	2	4	-	-	-	-
Ruddy Duck	-	-	17	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-
Ring-necked Pheasant	5	-	2	CW	-	1	1	9	1	5	5	17	1	-	-	5
Ruffed Grouse	1	-	-	4	-	-	-	2	5	3	10	2	4	-	-	-
Wild Turkey	40	-	57	143	65	3	-	100	13	87	106	56	15	16	5	102
Northern Bobwhite	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-throated Loon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Common Loon	-	-	2	-	7	-	1	-	1	-	9	-	-	-	-	-
Pied-billed Grebe	-	-	3	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2	4	-	-	1	2
Horned Grebe	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Double-crested Cormorant	-	-	-	-	19	-	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Great Cormorant	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Blue Heron	-	1	15	-	2	5	50	17	44	4	4	1	4	14	1	22
Great Egret	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black-crowned Night Heron	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black Vulture	-	-	118	-	-	63	66	74	6	8	-	-	5	12	4	14
Turkey Vulture	-	-	259	-	-	97	176	25	4	24	1	-	9	136	-	19
Osprey	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bald Eagle	7	-	2	-	-	-	4	1	1	1	-	-	2	3	-	-
Northern Harrier	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	7	6	3	3	4	3	-	2	7
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1	-	10	CW	1	4	23	11	7	2	9	5	1	10	1	27
Cooper's Hawk	2	2	5	-	2	-	10	14	10	5	7	7	2	4	1	11
Northern Goshawk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Accipiter, sp.	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Red-shouldered Hawk	-	-	3	-	-	1	1	4	4	2	-	1	1	-	-	-
Red-tailed Hawk	20	5	91	11	10	23	110	146	86	20	59	6	33	39	13	154
Rough-legged Hawk	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Golden Eagle	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Kestrel	-	1	15	-	2	23	9	46	11	9	10	5	12	11	3	9

PENNSYLVANIA'S 2003 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS

	DING	DUBO	ELVE	EMPO	ERIE	GETT	GLEN	HAMB	HARR	HUNT	INDI	JOHN	LAKE	LANC	LEBA	LEHI
Merlin	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Peregrine Falcon	-	-	-	-	CW	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Virginia Rail	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
American Coot	-	-	36	-	464	-	4	-	-	-	16	1	-	1	6	-
Killdeer	-	-	2	-	-	1	1	2	2	2	-	-	-	3	10	1
Spotted Sandpiper	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wilson's Snipe	-	-	15	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1
American Woodcock	-	-	-	-	251	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	35	-	-	-
Bonaparte's Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ring-billed Gull	138	-	13613	-	8397	1	3137	9	549	78	25	2	158	12962	139	203
Herring Gull	150	-	360	-	1033	1	215	4	60	-	-	-	-	420	640	-
Iceland Gull	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Lesser Black-backed Gull	-	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-
Glaucous Gull	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Black-backed Gull	16	-	8	-	63	-	33	-	47	-	-	-	-	297	68	-
Rock Pigeon	19	285	257	92	448	263	505	1377	770	354	132	270	127	314	41	470
Mourning Dove	34	44	487	194	107	187	479	1371	673	133	844	219	46	263	99	1262
Barn Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eastern Screech-Owl	13	-	55	1	1	-	27	39	18	2	-	-	7	5	15	2
Great Horned Owl	5	-	18	2	5	9	23	23	15	10	6	1	6	7	-	7
Barred Owl	2	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	5	1	CW	1	-	-	-	-
Long-eared Owl	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-
Short-eared Owl	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Northern Saw-whet Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rufous Hummingbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Belted Kingfisher	6	1	11	3	2	2	24	9	10	4	3	1	8	7	2	13
Red-headed Woodpecker	4	-	-	-	-	41	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-bellied Woodpecker	21	1	163	2	8	40	128	96	29	45	62	12	35	73	41	132
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	3	1	22	-	-	2	15	6	14	7	1	1	1	10	1	21
Downy Woodpecker	19	5	133	32	31	37	131	113	137	94	135	13	39	63	48	175
Hairy Woodpecker	6	2	28	19	5	9	42	29	39	23	32	7	5	10	1	27
Yellow-shafted Flicker	7	-	72	1	5	17	51	101	86	25	10	2	18	55	24	117
Pileated Woodpecker	11	3	11	5	-	6	3	9	14	27	25	4	27	4	-	7
Eastern Phoebe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Northern Shrike	-	-	-	-	CW	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
White-eyed Vireo	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Blue Jay	137	38	301	165	41	211	245	278	342	240	339	85	101	85	56	359
American Crow	115	184	601	180	52	47	454	1605	2516	306	743	154	397	11061	128	1308
Fish Crow	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	104	548	-	8	-	-	163	-	2
Common Raven	1	-	-	21	-	2	-	CW	2	22	1	4	8	-	-	-
Horned Lark	-	8	273	-	30	-	2	559	35	-	44	365	-	-	236	283
Carolina Chickadee	-	-	256	-	-	97	379	-	188	-	-	-	-	145	10	6
Black-capped Chickadee	103	110	21	261	47	-	2	-	46	235	586	178	109	7	26	318
chickadee sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	181	141	-	-	-	-	95	-	-
Tufted Titmouse	79	11	220	59	27	74	273	205	301	159	279	366	117	144	14	324
Red-breasted Nuthatch	1	1	3	18	2	-	8	3	3	10	5	1	10	2	-	20
White-breasted Nuthatch	34	22	128	84	25	37	150	98	120	98	186	23	62	35	26	133
Brown Creeper	2	-	11	21	1	4	20	14	59	6	7	2	2	17	3	11
Carolina Wren	5	2	74	5	-	9	143	117	138	39	27	1	48	79	21	83
House Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Winter Wren	-	-	4	CW	-	1	9	3	15	-	2	1	2	10	2	5
Golden-crowned Kinglet	16	-	17	5	4	5	30	86	92	54	39	3	47	39	16	25
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	-	-	16	-	-	-	6	9	22	-	1	-	-	4	2	10
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eastern Bluebird	23	1	160	12	4	31	130	238	202	108	74	-	101	96	7	83
Hermit Thrush	1	-	7	1	-	5	8	5	12	14	6	-	3	1	2	3
American Robin	510	3	118	1	40	13	1373	75	242	3	51	3	4	134	1	117

PENNSYLVANIA'S 2003 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS

	DING	DUBO	ELVE	EMPO	ERIE	GETT	GLEN	HAMB	HARR	HUNT	INDI	JOHN	LAKE	LANC	LEBA	LEHI
Gray Catbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	13	2	3	CW	-	-	1	-	-	2
Northern Mockingbird	4	-	115	CW	-	67	146	130	87	15	5	-	10	35	13	120
Brown Thrasher	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
European Starling	46	203	2653	179	43	2724	2691	10295	3413	813	1328	1189	468	8660	449	3925
American Pipit	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	30	5	-	-	2	-	76	1	1
Cedar Waxwing	538	-	219	1	-	3	231	39	117	19	53	-	16	-	-	163
Orange-crowned Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Myrtle Warbler	1	-	28	-	2	13	2	25	28	-	3	-	2	4	6	21
Pine Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Palm Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black-and-white Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ovenbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Yellowthroat	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eastern Towhee	-	-	7	-	-	-	48	4	16	1	1	-	-	11	1	2
American Tree Sparrow	81	20	119	88	172	7	62	505	82	195	226	212	25	3	88	317
Chipping Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	2	10	-	1	-	1	2	-	-	-	-
Field Sparrow	1	10	12	-	-	-	50	44	15	6	1	-	-	3	-	7
Vesper Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Savannah Sparrow	-	-	1	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	CW	-	-	15	-	-
Fox Sparrow	1	-	11	-	-	-	22	3	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
Song Sparrow	16	3	309	41	8	19	635	378	218	81	131	23	47	191	119	297
Lincoln's Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Swamp Sparrow	-	-	34	-	3	7	43	12	5	8	12	-	2	2	3	17
White-throated Sparrow	21	1	707	76	7	118	1501	1073	778	158	121	26	29	920	506	1559
White-crowned Sparrow	-	-	19	-	-	34	-	135	5	5	4	2	-	7	13	104
Slate-colored Junco	263	43	1111	1121	133	397	929	2050	886	798	1135	534	341	337	448	2290
Oregon Junco	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lapland Longspur	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Snow Bunting	-	89	5	-	2	-	-	3	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	-
Northern Cardinal	34	29	315	59	67	114	509	375	621	174	385	151	114	301	85	476
Indigo Bunting	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-winged Blackbird	-	-	233	1	-	-	367	2	3	1	-	-	-	1	-	6
Eastern Meadowlark	-	-	CW	-	-	8	-	20	-	2	-	4	-	-	-	-
Rusty Blackbird	-	-	25	-	-	-	3	-	2	7	-	1	-	-	-	1
Brewer's Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Grackle	1	-	23	-	-	-	7	4	-	-	4	2	-	51	-	3
Brown-headed Cowbird	-	-	5	-	-	-	50	39	2	-	23	-	-	1	1	-
blackbird sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Baltimore Oriole	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Purple Finch	113	6	21	15	-	27	32	17	34	11	32	6	-	-	-	7
House Finch	15	17	256	46	66	71	433	206	493	59	406	151	11	96	63	527
Red Crossbill	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Redpoll	-	3	-	1	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pine Siskin	4	18	-	61	-	-	9	8	2	9	1	2	11	-	-	6
American Goldfinch	112	24	346	586	45	107	258	270	428	289	409	243	238	37	57	274
Evening Grosbeak	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
House Sparrow	17	72	298	120	194	37	368	640	335	315	746	254	255	80	120	413
Number Species	59	40	95	41	70	69	100	83	94	66	72	70	62	74	68	83
Number Individuals	3080	1603	31395	3739	31110	7114	31185	28144	20746	5755	9687	5918	3442	40609	4694	37443

PENNSYLVANIA'S 2003 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS

LWBG	LWST	LINE	LITI	LOCK	MANS	NEWB	NEWV	PENN	PISH	PITT	PLEA	POTT	RACC	READ	RECT
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	301	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2000	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
794	278	6514	8525	408	144	278	507	1335	342	711	65	-	7	4753	185
-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	3	1	-	-	-	4	8	-
-	-	11	810	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-
-	9	-	3	1	-	2	-	-	2	-	-	1	1	-	-
-	-	CW	24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	CW	3	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
19	16	19	2902	36	-	9	16	341	-	5	-	1	-	243	24
328	232	273	831	363	-	137	436	383	224	963	11	86	4	656	33
-	-	2	81	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	-	-	8	-	8	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-
-	-	-	6	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	29	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	1	-	2	1	-	10	18	5	-	3	-	-	-	1	-
-	-	60	-	-	-	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	-	82	19	2	-	5	5	-	1	CW	-	-	-	-	-
22	12	85	25	18	-	11	1	-	-	-	30	-	-	83	-
-	-	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	12	1	15	-	-	3	4	-	-	-	3	-	2	2	2
1	2	-	4	-	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
52	32	61	55	22	78	9	17	8	72	78	22	193	111	14	5
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	3	1
-	-	CW	-	CW	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	37	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11	22	8	43	17	1	9	34	5	3	19	8	-	-	22	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	87	-	24	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	89	-
-	15	-	160	-	-	4	4	15	-	-	-	-	-	56	12
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	CW	22	3	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	5	-	-	1	-
7	2	8	6	1	2	-	4	3	-	1	-	-	-	3	2
1	5	-	7	2	-	1	5	7	4	9	1	2	-	6	-
9	12	2	6	4	3	1	8	3	6	16	2	1	-	5	4
-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	-
-	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	6	2	-	-	-	-	-
3	-	3	3	1	-	4	2	-	-	1	1	1	-	1	1
84	70	21	118	20	32	53	45	30	39	83	33	4	1	60	32
1	2	-	1	2	9	1	1	-	2	-	CW	1	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
27	22	4	23	2	4	11	27	5	6	7	3	-	1	10	4

PENNSYLVANIA'S 2003 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS

LWBG	LWST	LINE	LITI	LOCK	MANS	NEWB	NEWV	PENN	PISH	PITT	PLEA	POTT	RACC	READ	RECT
Merlin	1	-	1	-	-	-	CW	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Peregrine Falcon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	CW	-	-	-	-	-
Virginia Rail	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Coot	8	13	-	-	-	1	2	9	-	9	-	-	-	4	-
Killdeer	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	-
Spotted Sandpiper	43	4	10	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wilson's Snipe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Woodcock	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bonaparte's Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ring-billed Gull	43	118	684	20	-	6	316	1023	9	125	-	-	-	579	-
Herring Gull	-	5	20	3	-	-	11	7	-	38	-	-	-	202	-
Iceland Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lesser Black-backed Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Glaucous Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Black-backed Gull	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-
Rock Pigeon	851	975	1026	545	283	194	1146	257	172	1181	2	185	8	747	20
Mourning Dove	617	287	578	152	184	193	436	439	485	657	57	108	10	742	218
Barn Owl	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eastern Screech-Owl	10	7	19	5	5	26	3	3	6	22	3	10	4	18	6
Great Horned Owl	8	10	12	1	3	17	6	2	2	9	6	8	-	6	7
Barred Owl	-	2	1	2	1	3	3	CW	-	1	3	-	-	1	10
Long-eared Owl	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Short-eared Owl	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	CW	-	-	-	-	CW
Northern Saw-whet Owl	-	-	-	2	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Rufous Hummingbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Belted Kingfisher	7	13	15	5	-	8	14	5	5	11	6	-	-	3	2
Red-headed Woodpecker	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Red-bellied Woodpecker	35	117	119	24	15	96	51	63	95	144	18	-	12	71	59
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	-	10	12	2	-	6	7	3	1	2	-	-	-	6	-
Downy Woodpecker	64	188	34	88	27	65	41	51	197	175	63	44	7	73	52
Hairy Woodpecker	8	27	20	5	18	18	10	16	25	46	9	21	2	10	20
Yellow-shafted Flicker	14	65	10	48	11	3	57	16	28	25	1	-	-	35	9
Pileated Woodpecker	7	33	1	14	16	3	32	2	13	16	11	3	1	2	10
Eastern Phoebe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Shrike	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
White-eyed Vireo	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Blue Jay	218	229	60	215	143	230	225	50	206	398	140	205	18	143	224
American Crow	1752	561	3085	405	448	646	277	43	274	10060	94	60	24	335	359
Fish Crow	-	-	15	-	-	2	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Raven	2	6	-	3	13	5	-	-	-	-	-	72	-	3	-
Horned Lark	527	522	2	232	-	77	277	-	34	-	-	76	-	3	10
Carolina Chickadee	-	-	82	-	-	5	39	82	71	120	-	2	2	57	1
Black-capped Chickadee	119	119	164	169	217	221	16	-	16	149	429	512	7	9	369
chickadee sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	288	155	-	-	29	113	-
Tufted Titmouse	115	196	21	143	61	282	48	64	194	398	135	38	12	124	172
Red-breasted Nuthatch	2	CW	2	1	2	5	3	4	1	2	2	31	1	-	3
White-breasted Nuthatch	64	133	19	77	37	116	30	41	86	158	114	71	15	72	115
Brown Creeper	5	38	5	20	3	32	29	5	2	8	13	1	-	11	6
Carolina Wren	42	103	2	81	40	2	79	42	62	200	12	-	1	58	25
House Wren	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Winter Wren	2	2	1	9	2	-	5	10	1	-	-	-	-	5	2
Golden-crowned Kinglet	4	33	10	17	1	82	69	3	54	46	29	19	-	21	13
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	-	-	15	2	-	4	9	2	-	2	-	-	-	9	1
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eastern Bluebird	61	126	7	62	39	237	40	7	43	50	CW	-	-	70	104
Hermit Thrush	2	9	-	3	-	9	2	3	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
American Robin	12	13	17	28	3	9	34	60	24	156	3	-	-	47	4



PENNSYLVANIA'S 2003 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS

RYER	SCRA	SBCK	SLAN	SEBR	STAT	TUNK	UBCK	WARR	WASH	WCHE	WEST	WHIT	WILL	WYNC	YORK
-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	CW	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	11	12001	-	-	-	-	-	-	1153	110	-	-	-	1
155	2120	23418	3607	1722	11	638	5288	1056	475	10310	14228	66	469	5317	1744
-	1	27	-	-	-	-	12	3	-	5	3	-	-	5	-
-	-	-	12	-	-	-	-	346	-	CW	-	-	1	-	115
-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	1	2	-	-	18	2
-	-	46	2	-	-	-	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
-	6	126	625	44	1	10	29	5	5	39	64	12	20	3	128
54	84	1415	894	62	349	156	666	631	84	462	527	38	218	629	681
-	-	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2
-	-	7	-	-	1	2	-	-	1	7	-	-	-	-	1
-	-	12	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	5	-	1	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	319	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	15	62	-	-	2	8
-	-	2	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	65	1	1	-	5	3	32	-	-	9	-	9	-	2
-	-	40	1	-	-	2	-	5	-	1	-	-	2	-	-
-	-	45	16	-	-	14	14	91	7	4	7	4	22	43	14
-	16	972	3949	21	-	187	35	134	-	88	52	23	57	23	26
-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	8
-	12	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	-	-	-	-	1
2	1	1	4	1	2	4	8	-	-	2	1	-	10	-	1
1	1	-	-	5	6	-	-	4	-	-	-	2	3	-	-
187	22	-	5	17	13	107	132	18	120	CW	-	121	129	5	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	1	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	CW	-	2
-	-	32	2	-	-	-	1	5	-	1	-	-	-	-	3
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	4	47	50	3	43	1	12	11	-	13	21	-	4	15	10
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	9	127	-	-	-	3	-	-	77	53	-	-	12	6
6	-	71	283	-	-	-	40	-	-	274	190	-	-	51	89
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
-	1	1	38	2	-	1	2	9	-	8	CW	8	-	1	-
-	-	7	13	1	4	-	4	-	-	7	4	-	1	2	10
2	4	26	18	-	2	10	3	3	2	5	11	1	7	10	6
2	8	11	9	3	4	2	6	12	4	8	12	-	3	7	6
1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	CW	1	-	-	-
-	-	-	1	-	-	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	1	1	2	-	-	-	2	-	1	2	2	-	-	-	1
30	14	97	74	51	39	12	45	30	22	131	92	5	11	71	41
-	-	1	-	-	5	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
12	3	1	31	8	7	3	3	1	4	26	7	-	12	-	8

PENNSYLVANIA'S 2003 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS

	RYER	SCRA	SBCK	SLAN	SEBR	STAT	TUNK	UBCK	WARR	WASH	WCHE	WEST	WHIT	WILL	WYNC	YORK
Merlin	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-
Peregrine Falcon	-	-	2	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-
Virginia Rail	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
American Coot	-	-	139	5	-	-	CW	-	2	-	1	7	-	-	-	16
Killdeer	-	-	6	20	-	-	-	1	-	4	2	10	-	-	-	3
Spotted Sandpiper	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wilson's Snipe	-	-	2	15	-	-	-	4	-	13	23	-	-	-	-	1
American Woodcock	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bonaparte's Gull	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ring-billed Gull	-	771	16448	8767	3	-	2	719	179	-	2714	619	180	2	121	341
Herring Gull	-	45	80660	377	-	-	2	40	2	-	55	6	-	-	9	1
Iceland Gull	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	CW	-	-	-	-	-
Lesser Black-backed Gull	-	-	118	1	-	-	-	25	-	-	CW	-	-	-	1	-
Glaucous Gull	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Great Black-backed Gull	-	2	5234	44	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Rock Pigeon	13	764	888	1017	543	1096	118	199	403	200	974	276	25	764	212	446
Mourning Dove	183	332	771	557	148	536	210	401	277	325	558	414	58	336	313	282
Barn Owl	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eastern Screech-Owl	5	-	12	47	11	2	10	88	11	10	42	65	-	11	3	1
Great Horned Owl	-	1	18	24	3	CW	8	16	4	1	6	15	-	3	7	3
Barred Owl	3	-	-	3	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	CW	1	-	-	2
Long-eared Owl	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Short-eared Owl	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Northern Saw-whet Owl	-	-	-	2	1	CW	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
Rufous Hummingbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Belted Kingfisher	1	-	15	19	2	2	1	3	8	3	15	12	2	8	9	14
Red-headed Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	17
Red-bellied Woodpecker	65	7	80	196	22	31	6	98	19	50	102	148	4	20	85	64
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	3	-	6	33	-	2	1	11	-	4	8	13	-	1	7	5
Downy Woodpecker	43	59	94	138	38	61	15	117	81	67	79	108	36	65	98	53
Hairy Woodpecker	4	9	20	27	9	11	8	16	23	14	17	17	13	11	19	9
Yellow-shafted Flicker	11	1	81	129	15	10	7	73	CW	15	41	73	1	23	27	40
Pileated Woodpecker	2	-	-	8	6	9	2	4	11	8	2	3	6	13	1	4
Eastern Phoebe	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	-	-	1	-
Northern Shrike	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
White-eyed Vireo	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Blue Jay	194	207	235	365	60	237	53	511	306	158	292	338	141	168	80	212
American Crow	127	697	686	566	544	989	252	201	154	100	439	857	205	600	242	103
Fish Crow	-	-	1067	5	-	56	-	-	-	-	3	-	3	-	1	10
Common Raven	1	-	-	-	1	10	2	-	10	1	-	-	1	CW	-	2
Horned Lark	3	-	-	757	-	400	225	-	-	-	271	-	-	-	-	12
Carolina Chickadee	125	-	230	321	-	-	-	85	-	80	161	213	-	-	190	41
Black-capped Chickadee	7	275	12	-	148	246	84	49	405	30	3	2	252	198	-	1
chickadee sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	60	-	110	-	31	-	-	-	-
Tufted Titmouse	121	52	99	204	53	179	24	127	97	145	114	202	59	101	166	16
Red-breasted Nuthatch	2	-	CW	11	5	4	1	5	9	11	8	7	5	-	16	4
White-breasted Nuthatch	74	43	44	91	45	86	17	122	98	62	78	121	50	52	82	31
Brown Creeper	4	-	15	37	11	4	2	5	2	2	8	5	2	4	20	-
Carolina Wren	6	9	76	103	13	29	11	76	6	32	75	123	2	35	49	45
House Wren	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Winter Wren	2	6	4	110	4	11	1	39	25	6	28	27	10	23	17	16
Golden-crowned Kinglet	-	-	8	23	-	-	-	5	1	-	10	11	3	1	1	4
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eastern Bluebird	50	5	21	159	30	53	33	105	8	20	105	222	22	83	42	61
Hermit Thrush	-	-	6	32	-	5	-	11	-	1	4	11	4	1	1	12
American Robin	-	1	418	88	-	10	14	1905	3	2	99	457	5	89	796	21

PENNSYLVANIA'S 2003 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS

	RYER	SCRA	SBCK	SLAN	SEBR	STAT	TUNK	UBCK	WARR	WASH	WCHE	WEST	WHIT	WILL	WYNC	YORK
Gray Catbird	-	-	4	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	4	-	-	2	-
Northern Mockingbird	6	7	94	150	1	23	CW	37	-	5	169	214	-	6	49	60
Brown Thrasher	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
European Starling	331	1533	16075	3847	892	1958	397	3514	1045	280	4484	2014	232	6594	1226	2966
American Pipit	-	-	-	18	-	-	-	1	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-
Cedar Waxwing	1	63	20	65	6	12	5	115	47	1	31	77	81	21	18	22
Orange-crowned Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Myrtle Warbler	-	-	19	61	-	-	-	58	-	8	10	1	-	-	4	36
Pine Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	1
Palm Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black-and-white Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Ovenbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Yellowthroat	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eastern Towhee	2	1	7	23	-	-	-	2	-	1	30	25	-	-	-	3
American Tree Sparrow	26	140	24	21	49	90	176	94	118	33	25	16	69	191	19	65
Chipping Sparrow	3	-	10	-	-	-	-	7	-	3	-	-	-	-	1	-
Field Sparrow	3	-	37	7	-	-	-	12	6	4	1	19	-	-	3	4
Vesper Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Savannah Sparrow	-	-	6	13	-	-	-	6	-	-	9	6	-	-	-	1
Fox Sparrow	-	-	6	15	-	1	-	21	6	-	2	15	-	2	6	2
Song Sparrow	113	7	247	705	21	27	22	210	26	131	312	416	2	32	87	206
Lincoln's Sparrow	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Swamp Sparrow	-	-	12	34	1	4	6	3	1	3	5	14	-	-	-	13
White-throated Sparrow	43	21	958	2021	29	244	54	1176	45	21	484	946	5	132	605	350
White-crowned Sparrow	18	-	4	162	-	7	-	22	3	9	48	2	1	-	2	72
Slate-colored Junco	683	634	753	1121	70	594	192	1695	736	295	666	956	178	468	751	616
Oregon Junco	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lapland Longspur	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Snow Bunting	-	-	-	2	-	30	1	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	-
Northern Cardinal	230	141	315	780	63	265	58	320	191	-	314	597	33	161	186	139
Indigo Bunting	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-winged Blackbird	1	1	27	43490	-	2	-	16	-	-	643	76	-	1	1	41
Eastern Meadowlark	-	-	13	6	2	1	-	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
Rusty Blackbird	-	-	9	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	4	-
Brewer's Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Grackle	-	1	26	32556	1	51	-	1	4	21	4269	32	-	1	-	-
Brown-headed Cowbird	-	-	18	10104	-	27	59	8	9	3	508	2	-	-	-	-
blackbird sp.	-	-	-	13200	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Baltimore Oriole	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Purple Finch	4	17	3	25	-	4	-	93	8	11	7	18	13	10	10	1
House Finch	38	353	228	108	16	134	32	245	183	218	320	407	13	192	143	63
Red Crossbill	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Redpoll	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Pine Siskin	-	10	-	5	4	40	-	-	49	-	-	-	11	-	3	1
American Goldfinch	138	157	145	326	248	189	23	203	621	168	179	258	154	217	271	71
Evening Grosbeak	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
House Sparrow	362	533	398	675	233	721	70	242	241	228	455	119	93	201	390	94
Number Species	56	49	99	100	58	62	56	86	66	61	100	79	51	60	69	82
Number Individuals	3507	9201	153878	145671	5298	8993	3350	19572	7887	3647	31999	26141	2259	11877	12620	9636

PENNSYLVANIA'S 2003 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS

	TOTALS	NO. OF COUNTS	HIGH COUNT	HIGH	NO. OF COUNTS	HIGH COUNT	TOTALS	NO. OF COUNTS	HIGH	HIGH COUNT	
Greater White-fronted Goose	2	2	1	1	1	1	Golden Eagle	1	1	1	POTT
Snow Goose	28677	16	12001	1	60	46	American Kestrel	663	60	46	HAMB
Ross's Goose	2	2	1	1	12	12	Martin	12	12	1	9
Canada Goose	211215	62	23888	1	6	3	Peregrine Falcon	12	6	3	10
Mute Swan	168	27	31	1	1	1	Virginia Rail	1	1	1	INDI
Tundra Swan	1681	18	810	1	20	464	American Coot	825	20	464	ERIE
Wood Duck	67	24	18	1	29	20	Killdeer	134	29	20	SLAN
Gadwall	259	15	71	1	1	1	Spotted Sandpiper	1	1	1	LWST
American Widgeon	95	15	41	1	18	43	Wilson's Snipe	156	18	43	LWBG
American Black Duck	5700	53	2902	1	1	1	American Woodcock	1	1	1	SEBR
Mallard	23333	62	1415	1	4	251	Bonaparte's Gull	291	4	251	ERIE
Northern Shoveler	140	7	81	1	49	16448	Ring-billed Gull	81389	49	16448	SBCK
Northern Pintail	74	22	17	1	37	80660	Herring Gull	85254	37	80660	SBCK
Green-winged Teal	129	13	89	1	4	4	Iceland Gull	8	4	4	ELVE
Canvasback	84	7	62	1	11	118	Lesser Black-backed Gull	264	11	118	SBCK
Redhead	9	3	7	1	2	3	Glaucous Gull	4	2	3	ELVE
Ring-necked Duck	899	23	319	1	19	5234	Great Black-backed Gull	5867	19	5234	SBCK
Greater Scaup	347	6	337	1	65	2059	Rock Pigeon	30057	65	2059	CHAM
Lesser Scaup	803	8	735	1	65	2083	Mourning Dove	26146	65	2083	CHAM
scup sp.	8641	2	8640	1	4	2	Barn Owl	4	2	2	11
Black Scoter	6	1	6	1	790	55	Eastern Screech-Owl	790	55	88	UBCK
Surf Scoter	9	2	6	1	494	55	Great Horned Owl	494	55	45	SBCK
White-winged Scoter	1	1	1	1	59	28	Barred Owl	59	28	10	RECT
Long-tailed Duck	5	1	5	1	23	8	Long-eared Owl	23	8	6	CURT
Bufflehead	583	32	255	1	30	11	Short-eared Owl	30	11	10	CLRN
Common Goldeneye	400	18	193	1	24	12	Northern Saw-whet Owl	24	12	5	HARR
Hooded Merganser	668	36	91	1	2	2	Rufous Hummingbird	2	2	1	12
Common Merganser	6665	43	3949	1	408	59	Belted Kingfisher	408	59	24	GLEN
Red-breasted Merganser	388	9	339	1	77	12	Red-headed Woodpecker	77	12	41	GETT
Ruddy Duck	126	14	26	1	3787	64	Red-bellied Woodpecker	3787	64	196	SLAN
Ring-necked Pheasant	275	48	38	1	328	47	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	328	47	33	SLAN
Ruffed Grouse	108	31	10	1	4869	65	Downy Woodpecker	4869	65	197	PISH
Wild Turkey	3360	57	193	1	1029	65	Hairy Woodpecker	1029	65	46	PITT
Northern Bobwhite	1	1	1	1	1995	60	Yellow-shafted Flicker	1995	60	129	SLAN
Common Loon	2	2	1	1	527	60	Pileated Woodpecker	527	60	33	LWST
Pied-billed Grebe	72	20	32	1	15	14	Eastern Phoebe	15	14	2	HAMB
Horned Grebe	10	4	3	1	8	6	Northern Shrike	8	6	3	MANS
Double-crested Cormorant	46	8	19	1	12892	65	White-eyed Vireo	12892	65	511	UBCK
Great Cormorant	57	3	37	1	52829	65	American Crow	52829	65	11061	LANC
Great Blue Heron	792	55	50	1	2019	23	Fish Crow	2019	23	1067	SBCK
Great Egret	3	1	3	1	208	28	Common Raven	208	28	72	POTT
Black-crowned Night Heron	3	1	3	1	8423	39	Horned Lark	8423	39	1233	CHAM
Black Vulture	1119	25	192	1	3808	32	Carolina Chickadee	3808	32	399	AUDU
Turkey Vulture	2570	29	375	1	8699	58	Black-capped Chickadee	8699	58	586	INDI
Osprey	5	5	1	1	1462	15	chickadee sp.	1462	15	288	PISH
Bald Eagle	139	34	38	1	8787	65	Tufted Titmouse	8787	65	398	PITT
Northern Harrier	229	45	17	1	272	51	Red-breasted Nuthatch	272	51	31	POTT
Sharp-shinned Hawk	357	55	27	1	4771	65	White-breasted Nuthatch	4771	65	186	INDI
Cooper's Hawk	335	62	16	1	622	59	Brown Creeper	622	59	HARR	
Northern Goshawk	11	10	2	1	3092	63	Carolina Wren	3092	63	200	PITT
Accipiter, sp.	21	11	6	1	3	3	House Wren	3	3	1	13
Red-shouldered Hawk	57	33	4	1	197	42	Winter Wren	197	42	26	SLAN
Red-tailed Hawk	3251	65	154	1	1565	62	Golden-crowned Kinglet	1565	62	110	SLAN
Rough-legged Hawk	47	23	9	1	223	34	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	223	34	23	SLAN
LEHI, SBCK							AUDU, CHAM, ELVE, GLEN, WCHE				SLAN, WILL
NEWV, SLAN							HAMB, HARR, NEWB				LWST, SLAN
JOHN, TUNK							CLRN, MANS				CBCK, WILL
BUTL, ERIE							BETH, BUFF, CBCK, DALL, GLEN,				CURT, PENN, RYER
GLEN, SLAN							LANC, LWBG, LITI, PISH, PITT, WCHE, WILL				BETH, CBCK
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	1	1	1	1	1	1	Baltimore Oriole	1	1	1	WYNC
Eastern Bluebird	4364	61	238	1	1006	52	Purple Finch	1006	52	113	DING
Hermit Thrush	236	44	32	1	10035	63	House Finch	10035	63	527	LEHI
American Robin	12160	60	3636	1	1	1	Red Crossbill	1	1	1	SEBR
Gray Catbird	56	22	13	1	29	9	Common Redpoll	29	9	12	POTT
Northern Mockingbird	2809	53	214	1	376	29	Pine Siskin	376	29	61	EMPO
Brown Thrasher	10	9	2	1	14079	65	American Goldfinch	14079	65	621	WARR
European Starling	186865	65	25524	1	9	4	Evening Grosbeak	9	4	6	HARR
American Pipit	231	18	76	1	23000	64	House Sparrow	23000	64	1441	CHAM
Cedar Waxwing	3702	50	538	1	155	100	Number Species	155	100	19	
Orange-crowned Warbler	1	1	1	1	1134327	153878	Number Individuals	1134327	153878	SBCK	
Myrtle Warbler	784	42	95	1							
Pine Warbler	5	4	2	1							
Palm Warbler	2	2	1	1							
Black-and-white Warbler	1	1	1	1							
Ovenbird	1	1	1	1							
Common Yellowthroat	2	2	1	1							
Eastern Towhee	271	36	48	1							
American Tree Sparrow	7982	65	505	1							
Chipping Sparrow	63	20	10	1							
Field Sparrow	493	43	50	1							
Vesper Sparrow	2	2	1	1							
Savannah Sparrow	125	16	20	1							
Fox Sparrow	171	29	22	1							
Song Sparrow	9553	64	705	1							
Lincoln's Sparrow	2	2	1	1							
Swamp Sparrow	410	45	43	1							
White-throated Sparrow	25392	65	2021	1							
White-crowned Sparrow	2245	46	294	1							
Slate-colored Junco	40960	64	2290	1							
Oregon Junco	1	1	1	1							
Lapland Longspur	13	8	3	1							
Snow Bunting	260	16	89	1							
Northern Cardinal	14859	64	780	1							
Indigo Bunting	1	1	1	1							
Red-winged Blackbird	45285	32	43490	1							
Eastern Meadowlark	97	17	20	1							
Rusty Blackbird	81	12	25	1							
Brewer's Blackbird	1	1	1	1							
Common Grackle	37441	32	32556	1							
Brown-headed Cowbird	11936	31	10104	1							
blackbird sp.	14400	2	13200	1							

# The 2004 Winter Raptor Survey in Pennsylvania

Greg Grove

**Introduction.** Between January 17 and February 15, 2004, Pennsylvania birders conducted a statewide Winter Raptor Survey (WRS) for the fourth consecutive year. One or more WRS routes were run in 62 of the states 67 counties,

Briefly, the WRS is a roadside survey with simple but specific guidelines (Grove, 2001). All raptors are recorded but the focus of the survey is open-country raptors (Northern Harriers, Red-tailed Hawks, Rough-legged Hawks, and American Kestrels) as well as Black and Turkey Vultures. Data are also collected on sex/age/color form as applicable for a given species.

**Effort and Weather.** During the 2004 surveys, 513.5 hours of observation were recorded, covering 8290 miles, continuing the trend of increased effort in each year the survey has been conducted. (Table 1, and see Appendix for effort in each county).

Results are presented for the entire state and for four physiographic regions listed below (see Appendix for counties in each region). The data are normalized on a birds *per hour* basis to allow comparison between different regions of the state and among years. The data are also presented on an individual county basis in the accompanying maps.

## Physiographic Regions

- I. **Piedmont** (southeast)
- II. **Ridge and Valley** (south central, central, east central)
- III. **High Plateau** (Allegheny mountains through the north central highlands and east to Poconos)
- IV. **West** (northwest, west central, southwest).

Following the cold 2003 winter season, the winter of 2004 was again cold and snowy across the state. Thus the weather of the third and fourth years of the Pennsylvania WRS has contrasted substantially with that of the first two winters, which were characterized as "mild." The average temperature reported on 2004 surveys was 21°F, varying from 25°F in the Piedmont to 18°F in the Plateau region. The majority of counts reported snow cover, 8 inches

on average statewide and deepest in the plateau regions and least in the Piedmont. A few individual counts in the Piedmont had no snow cover while some surveys in each of the other three regions reported as much as two feet of cover.

**General Comments.** There were two particularly noteworthy results from the 2004 WRS. First, in 2004 twice as many Rough-legged Hawks were recorded as during the first three WRS surveys combined. And second, and in contrast, fewer American Kestrels were observed than in any previous year despite the greater number of hours.

As in the three previous WRS years, though with the distinct exception of Rough-legged Hawks, Piedmont routes on average were most productive for raptors, followed fairly closely by the Ridge and Valley and the West regions (Table 1). The Plateau as always, and with the notable exception of Rough-legs, hosted far fewer raptors – two routes recorded none at all.

**Red-tailed Hawks.** The Red-tails, with 2052 recorded in 2004, were as usual by far the most abundant raptor. On a *per hour* basis, the 2004 statewide rate was within the range of the previous three WRS survey years.

During the cold winter of 2003, the number of Red-tails *per hour* was 33% less than the 2001-2002 levels. In 2004, the number *per hour* rebounded substantially despite another cold, snowy season (Table 2). Only in the Piedmont did the 2004 rate fall well short of that seen during the mild winters of 2001 and 2002. The highest numbers of Red-tails *per hour* were recorded in the Piedmont, in the more southerly Ridge and Valley counties, and in some of the far western counties (see maps).

**Rough-legged Hawks.** Red-tails may be the predominant wintering *buteo* in Pennsylvania, but Rough-legs made a strong showing this year with 341 tallied, easily the highest number yet for this survey (Table 3).

As usual, the greatest numbers of Rough-legs were found in the High Plateau counties (see map) where on average 0.94 were recorded *per hour* of

survey time. That value is about double last years result for the Plateau counties and four times higher than in 2001 and 2002.

In 2004, unlike previous years, the *per hour* rate of recorded Rough-legs in the Ridge and Valley and West regions was not far behind that of the High Plateau counties as these *buteos* of the far north pushed farther south in substantial numbers than we have been accustomed to seeing in recent years. Even the Piedmont recorded 33 Rough-legs after recording a total of 10 in the first three WRS years combined.

The map shows that Rough-leg distributions in both the Ridge and Valley and the West regions were not uniform. In the Ridge and Valley region, higher rates were clustered in Susquehanna River Valley counties (Juniata, Snyder, Northumberland, Montour, Columbia). This area is where high numbers of Rough-legs have been found in past Christmas Bird Counts (Bolgiano, *per. com.*). Rough-legs were also high in northwestern counties (Warren, McKean, Erie, Crawford, Mercer, Venango, Clarion, Jefferson).

**American Kestrels.** Despite the record high number of hours of observation in 2004, a record low of only 265 of Kestrels were recorded, in comparison to over 300 in each of the first three WRS years. Each of those three years however had far fewer hours of effort. Thus, the number of Kestrels recorded *per hour* in 2004 was less than half that in 2001 and 2002. In each of the four regions, the number per hour was the lowest recorded in any WRS year so far (Table 4).

Based only on four years of these winter surveys, I cannot say there is definite trend. The first two years were mild, perhaps inducing kestrels to winter in Pennsylvania rather than moving further south. The last two winters have been harsh, perhaps forcing them southward. If these simple assumptions are true, then the apparent "trend" in the 4 WRS years thus far is nothing more than the result of annual weather variation. The test of that statement of course will be what happens when we again have a mild winter season.

**Northern Harriers.** The total of 94 Northern Harriers recorded was greater than the combined total of harriers from the first three WRS years. Even accounting for the significant increase in hours of observation, the statewide number of harriers *per hour* was double that of the previous WRS results (Table 5). Most harriers were found in southern counties as well into some central counties (see map).

**Vultures.** The vulture results in 2004 were consistent with previous years of the WRS. With the exception of a single Turkey Vulture in northern Lycoming County, all vultures were recorded in the Piedmont and Ridge and Valley regions (Table 6).

**Age/Sex/Color-Form data.** A total of 1690 Red-tails were aged in 2004 with results similar to previous years. The percentage of adults in each of the four regions varied little from the overall statewide percentage.

- 2001 - 87 % adult Red-tails
- 2002 - 91 %
- 2003 - 89 %
- 2004 - 88%

The sex of 226 Kestrels was noted, with results similar to earlier surveys and with little variation among different regions.

- 2001 - 59 % male Kestrels
- 2002 - 60 %
- 2003 - 66%
- 2004 - 56%

Of 330 categorized Rough-legs. 62% were light form, consistent with previous years.

- 2001 – 63% light
- 2002 – 63%
- 2003 – 60%
- 2004 – 62%

Among harriers, 69% of aged birds were adults and 41% of sexed birds were male.

**Other Raptor Species Reported in 2004**

- Bald Eagle 39 (17 adult)
- Sharp-shinned Hawk: 33
- Cooper’s Hawk: 82
- Northern Goshawk 5
- Red-shouldered Hawk: 32
- Broad-winged Hawk 1
- Ferruginous Hawk 1
- Golden Eagle 1
- Merlin: 1
- Peregrine Falcon: 2

**Owls and Shrikes:**

- E Screech: 4
- Great Horned: 1
- Barred: 1
- Short-eared: 26

Of the more common raptors on the “other raptor” list, the *per hour* rates of Bald Eagles, Sharp-shinned Hawks, and Red-shouldered Hawks were within the ranges of values found in previous years.

The exception to this is the Cooper’s Hawk with 0.16 per hour recorded. This value has increased each year for this species.

This was a good year for finding Short-eared owls. This species is often found in areas with wintering Northern Harriers, which were also more abundant this year than in previous WRS years.

The reported Broad-winged and Ferruginous Hawks are not expected in Pennsylvania in winter (or at all in the case of the latter), I have encouraged submission of documentation to the Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee.

**Acknowledgement**

I thank Nick Bolgiano for comments on a draft of this article and for again creating the maps. And of course thanks go to the well over 100 birders and companions who gathered the data across the state.

**Literature Cited**

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**Table 1 – Effort and Numbers of Open-country Raptors and Vultures during the 2004 Pennsylvania WRS.**

	Hour s	Miles	Northern Harrier	Red-tailed hawk	Rough-legged Hawk	American Kestrel	Black Vulture	Turkey Vulture
<b>Piedmont</b>	130	1903	34	664	33	76	234	840
<b>R. &amp; V.</b>	167	2619	44	602	119	120	29	103
<b>Plateau</b>	70	1240	1	195	65	8	0	1
<b>West</b>	147	2528	15	591	124	61	0	0
<b>Total</b>	514	8290	94	2052	341	265	263	944

**Table 2. Red-tailed Hawks per Hour 2001-2004.**

	Statewide	Piedmont	R & V	High Plateau	West
<b>2001</b>	4.51	7.48	2.95	2.55	4.37
<b>2002</b>	4.47	7.97	3.43	3.00	4.47
<b>2003</b>	3.02	3.83	3.31	1.79	2.23
<b>2004</b>	4.00	5.11	3.60	2.81	4.02

Table 3. Rough-legged Hawks per Hour 2001-2004.

	Statewide	Piedmont	R & V	High Plateau	West
2001	0.17	0.10	0.26	0.25	0.08
2002	0.07	0.00	0.05	0.25	0.01
2003	0.25	0.03	0.30	0.54	0.14
2004	0.66	0.25	0.71	0.94	0.84

Table 4. American Kestrels per Hour 2001-2004.

	Statewide	Piedmont	R & V	High Plateau	West
2001	1.36	2.06	1.60	0.37	0.59
2002	1.25	1.98	1.67	0.16	0.88
2003	0.91	1.25	1.41	0.20	0.48
2004	0.52	0.58	0.72	0.12	0.41

Table 5. Northern Harriers per Hour 2001-2004.

	Statewide	Piedmont	R & V	High Plateau	West
2001	0.09	0.15	0.07	0.00	0.10
2002	0.10	0.10	0.08	0.02	0.17
2003	0.07	0.19	0.05	0.01	0.05
2004	0.18	0.26	0.26	0.01	0.10

Table 6. Statewide Frequency of Vultures 2001 -2004

	Black Vultures per hour	Turkey Vultures per hour
2001	0.44	2.09
2002	0.55	1.68
2003	0.53	1.28
2004	0.51	1.84

Appendix : Counties in each region with hours/miles of survey effort.

<u>I. Piedmont</u>			<u>II. Ridge and Valley</u>				<u>III. High Plateau</u>				<u>IV. West</u>	
	Hrs	Mi.										
Adams	5.5	101	Bedford	3.5	75	Bradford	3.5	70	Allegheny	4.5	135	
Berks	16.5	188	Blair	2.5	30	Cambria	1.5	35	Armstrong	5	107	
Bucks	9.5	117	Carbon	10	157	Cameron	1.5	46	Beaver	4	72	
Chester	13.5	329	Centre	22	270	Clearfield	0	0	Butler	3	104	
Cumberland	16.5	150	Clinton (south)	9	183	Clinton (north)	0	0	Clarion	18.5	284	
Dauphin (south)	3.5	52	Columbia	2	38	Elk	1.5	50	Crawford	14	229	
Delaware	4	116	Dauphin (north)	5	64	Fayette (east)	0	0	Erie	1.5	34	
Franklin	8.5	91	Fulton	6.5	55	Forest	0	0	Fayette (west)	6	112	
Lancaster	11	151	Huntingdon	7.5	125	Lackawanna	0	0	Greene	12.5	166	
Lebanon	4	63	Juniata	8.5	147	Lycoming (north)	3	60	Indiana	11.5	215	
Lehigh	5.5	77	Luzerne	4.5	133	McKean	4	91	Jefferson	12	188	
Montgomery	6	60	Lycoming (south)	8	162	Pike	4	52	Lawrence	20.5	316	
Northampton	10	183	Mifflin	13.5	156	Potter	11	226	Mercer	9	146	
Philadelphia	0.5	20	Monroe	7.5	132	Somerset	15.5	228	Venango	6	98	
York	15.5	205	Montour	2	42	Sullivan	0	0	Washington	5.5	104	
<b>Total</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>1903</b>	Northumberland	13.5	261	Susquehanna	1.5	15	Westmoreland (west)	13.5	218	
			Perry	15.5	123	Tioga	13	179	<b>Total</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>2528</b>	
			Schuylkill	14.5	251	Warren	3.5	65				
			Snyder	7.5	152	Wayne	1.5	52				
			Union	4	63	Westmoreland (east)	4.5	71				
			<b>Total</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>2619</b>	Wyoming	0	0				
						<b>Total</b>	<b>69.5</b>	<b>1240</b>				

# Pennsylvania Bird Lists For 2003

Compiled by Peter Robinson

A number of unusual species of birds were found in the state during 2003. Many of them stayed long enough to become additions to state and county life lists. The first opportunity occurred January 1 when a Varied Thrush was seen at a feeder in McKean Twp., Erie County. It stayed the January 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>, then returned Feb. 4<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>, so it must have found another feeder in the area. A very cooperative Snowy Owl was found January 11 in Brodheadsville, Monroe County, and stayed at the same location until at least March 13. In Huntingdon County a female Harlequin Duck was identified January 26 on the Raystown Branch of the Juniata River, where it stayed until February 9 or longer. A Scissor-tailed Flycatcher was found May 8 along the Loyalsock Creek next to the Williamsport airport (Lycoming County), where it was seen again May 9. On May 31 a few birders got to see a Black Skimmer on the Susquehanna River in the vicinity of Columbia, Lancaster County. It was seen several times during that day, but was not found the next day. An American White Pelican that arrived July 8 at Presque Isle was there until at least July 13. A Long-tailed Jaeger was at Lake Nochamixon, Bucks County, on August 31 and September 1.

The passage of Hurricane Isabel through the state presented a golden opportunity September 19 & 20 to see rare species that would not have been in the state without the hurricane. Those that were "chase-able"

included 3 Pomerine Jaegers – one on the Susquehanna River at Marysville (Dauphin County), another at Somerset Lake (Somerset County), and a third at Kahle Lake (Venango County). Other "chase-able" rarities included a Black Skimmer at Shawnee State Park (Bedford County), a Sabine's Gull at Yellow Creek State Park (Indiana County) where those looking for the Sabine's Gull also found a Leach's Storm-Petrel, a Band-rumped Storm-Petrel at Bald Eagle State Park (Center County) where birders looking for it also found an adult Sabine's Gull and an Arctic Tern, and a Royal Tern at Columbia (Lancaster County). The other storm-assisted rarities were fly-by's, brief visits, or were not reported soon enough for others to go look for them.

The year's final listing opportunity was a Franklin's Gull that was found October 20 in fields at Millers Pond, near Pymatuning Lake (Crawford County). It stayed until at least November 4.

There are 56 birders now whose Pennsylvania life lists are 300 or more, an increase of two (Dave Kyler and Ronald Leberman) from 2002. Eight birders now have PA life lists of 350 species or more, with Randy Miller entering that category. Ronald Leberman makes the seventh birder above the 300 mark in the PA Life List-Unassisted category -- species found by the individual, or by another person with whom they were birding at the same spot at the same time, but not including "chase" birds. The top PA

Annual List reported for 2003 was Deuane Hoffman's 295.

Bruce Carl's 301 for Lancaster County brings the total to 12 County Life Lists of 300 or greater. There were several lead changes among the County Life Lists. For Forest County, Deuane Hoffman now has the highest life list at 174, an increase of 31 species since 2000. In Huntingdon County, Dave Kyler has taken the lead with 242 species, a 13 species increase since 1996. John Fedak now has the largest McKean County life list at 256, a 27 species increase during the past year. The Montour County leader is now Deuane Hoffman, with 232 species. Deuane Hoffman also added 25 species for Northumberland County since 2000 for a new high of 236. Jerry Skinner is now the Susquehanna County leader at 198. In the past year John Fedak added 25 species to his Warren County list for a new high of 247. Six new species for 2003 gives Mark McConaughy the lead at 228 for Westmoreland County.

There were new annual high species counts for 8 of the 67 counties: Geoff Malosh's 190 species for Allegheny, Deuane Hoffman's 246 for Dauphin, John Fedak's 222 for McKean, Michael Schall's 160 for Monroe and his 236 for Northampton, Deuane Hoffman's 224 for Northumberland, Jerry Skinner's 170 for Susquehanna, and John Fedak's 204 for Warren.

## Pennsylvania Life Lists

1	371	Jason Horn	02	27	329	Paul Schwalbe	98	59	298	Roger Higbee	99	90	274	Richard Koval	99
2	368	Deuane Hoffman	03	27	329	Fritz Brock	03	59	298	George Malosh	03	90	274	Greg Grove	03
3	363	Barbara Haas	01	29	327	Glenna Schwalbe	98	59	298	Michael Schall	03	93	273	Katrina Knight	99
4	360	Franklin Haas	01	29	327	Steve Santner	99	62	297	Allan Keith	98	93	273	Randi Gerrish	03
5	355	Dave DeReamus	03	29	327	Jerry McWilliams	03	63	296	Ed Kwator	96	95	272	Scott Kinzey	99
5	355	Eric Witmer	03	32	326	Arlene Koch	00	63	296	Mark McConaughy	03	96	271	James Flynn	97
7	354	Tom Garner	03	33	324	Harry Franzen	96	65	295	Frank Windfelder	98	96	271	Sarah Gerrish	03
8	350	Randy C. Miller	03	34	319	John Ginaven	98	65	295	J. Kenneth Gabler	02	98	270	Gary Edwards	03
9	349	Robert Schutsky	03	35	318	Phillips Street	99	67	294	James Baxter	86	98	270	Bob Machesney	03
10	348	Devich Farbotnik	02	36	317	Mike Fialkovich	03	67	294	Terence Schiefer	99	100	267	Harry Henderson	91
10	348	Steve Farbotnik	03	37	316	Margaret Higbee	99	67	294	William Reid	01	100	267	Scott Bills	03
10	348	Bernard Morris	03	37	316	Ronald Leberman	01	70	293	John Peplinski	94	100	267	Sam Sinderson, Jr.	03
13	346	Jerry Book	00	39	315	Evelyn Kopf	95	71	292	Carl Garner	99	103	266	Joe Meloney	94
13	346	Ken Lebo	03	39	315	Bruce Carl	03	71	292	Allen Schweinsberg	02	103	266	Wayne Laubscher	03
15	345	Joyce Hoffmann	03	41	314	Walter Shaffer	99	71	292	Dave Rieger	03	105	261	Neil Troyer	02
16	343	Rick Wiltraut	98	42	313	Harold Morrin	96	74	290	David Abbott	98	106	260	Dennis Miller	99
17	340	John Fedak	03	43	311	Dana Shaffer	99	74	290	Chuck Tague	99	107	259	Linda McWilliams	92
17	340	Peter Robinson	03	43	311	Don Henise	00	76	289	Kevin Crilley	98	107	259	Eugene Zielinski	00
19	339	Jonathan Heller	03	45	308	Robyn Henise	00	77	285	Armas Hill	96	109	258	Steve Graff	00
20	338	Jan Witmer	97	46	307	Ernest Schiefer	00	77	285	Neal Thorpe	97	109	258	Jeffrey Wentz	02
20	338	Richard Colyer	00	46	307	Skip Conant	02	77	285	Thomas Reeves	03	111	257	Russell Ryan	93
20	338	Harold Lebo	02	48	306	Tom Clauser	02	80	284	James Gray	83	112	256	Ted Grisez	96
23	337	John Miller	97	48	306	Ronald Leberman	03	81	283	Kerry Grim	98	113	255	Jeff Payne	03
24	336	William Stocku	97	50	305	Gene Wilhelm	92	82	282	John Billings	98	114	254	Jim Dunn	03
25	334	Al Guarente	02	51	302	Sam Stull	85	82	282	Dick Byers	02	115	253	Scott Bastian	99
26	332	William Murphy	00	51	302	Edward Pederson	98	84	279	Aden Troyer	03	115	253	Deborah Grove	03
				51	302	John Salvetti	03	85	278	James Baird	81	117	252	David Hawk	02
				54	300	Larry Lewis	88	85	278	Merrill Wood	91	117	252	Retta Payne	03
				54	300	Richard Timm	97	87	277	Bonnie Baird	81	119	250	Stanley Glowacki	02
				54	300	David Kyler	03	88	276	Trudy Kyler	03	120	245	Bill Reddinger	99
				57	299	Keith Richards	82	89	275	Bill Etter	03	120	245	Robert Frantz	00
				57	299	Matt Wlasniewski	03	90	274	Gloria Lamar	92	122	244	Harvey Troyer	99

123 243	Ross Gallardy	03
124 242	Walter Fye	97
124 242	Jerry Troyer	99
126 240	Dale Gearhart	00
127 239	Adam Miller	00
128 238	Roy Ickes	99
129 237	Marjorie Howard	03
129 237	Nick Kerlin	03
131 234	Glenn Czulada	03
132 233	Gerry Boltz	03
132 233	Theodore Drozdowski	03
134 232	Joe Strasser	94
134 232	Voni Strasser	94
136 231	Larry Brown	98
136 231	Jim Mountjoy	00
138 227	Marvin Byler	02
138 227	Martin Page	03
140 226	Eli Troyer	99
140 226	Stan Kotala	01
140 226	Leonard Hess	03
140 226	Jerry Skinner	03
144 224	Arlene Brown	98
145 223	Pamela Woodman	93
146 222	Linda Hess	03
147 219	Ann Pettigrew	96
147 219	Daniel Snell	00
147 219	Mike Ward	03
150 213	Richard Murphy	99
151 210	Gregg Gorton	01
152 206	Benjamin Israel	00
152 206	Dennis Weaver	00
154 200	Fred Crowley	95
155 199	Candy Krenzer	99
156 190	Lewis Grove	00
157 180	Thomas Mason	99
158 178	Helena Kotala	03
159 153	Douglas Anderson	03

## PA Life Lists – Unassisted

("Chase" birds not included)

1	321	Jason Horn	02
2	317	Deuane Hoffman	03
3	312	Jerry McWilliams	03
4	310	Robert Schutsky	00
4	310	John Fedak	03
6	305	Ronald Leberman	03
7	304	Eric Witmer	03
8	293	Jonathan Heller	03
9	291	Devich Farbotnik	02
10	289	Franklin Haas	00
11	280	Al Guarente	03
12	275	Skip Conant	01
12	275	Geoff Malosh	03
14	273	Don Henise	00
15	271	Ken Lebo	01
16	263	Steve Farbotnik	00
17	259	Michael Schall	03
18	254	Dave DeReamus	03
19	251	Neil Troyer	02
19	251	Bill Etter	03
21	248	Mark McConaughy	03
22	245	Greg Grove	03
23	233	Ross Gallardy	03
24	226	Stan Kotala	01
24	226	Leonard Hess	03
26	222	Linda Hess	03
27	212	Jim Mountjoy	00
28	207	Gregg Gorton	01
29	206	Benjamin Israel	00
30	205	Dennis Weaver	00
30	205	Martin Page	03
32	186	John Salvetti	03
33	153	Douglas Anderson	03
34	110	Helena Kotala	01

## PA Annual Lists 2003

295	Deuane Hoffman
260	John Fedak
257	Geoff Malosh
255	Mark Vass
239	Michael Schall
237	Randy C. Miller
234	Bill Etter
231	Jerry McWilliams
230	Jonathan Heller
229	Mike Fialkovich
223	Peter Robinson
221	Gary Edwards
219	Matt Wlasniewski
218	Jim Dunn
212	Dave Rieger
208	Gerry Boltz
207	Ronald Leberman
203	Bob Machesney
200	Mark McConaughy
192	Skip Conant
189	Aden Troyer
184	Theodore Drozdowski
181	Al Guarente
179	Dave DeReamus
177	Marjorie Howard
153	Douglas Anderson
152	J. Kenneth Gabler
131	Sam Sinderson
127	Martin Page

## PA Annual List > Personal Best

313	Deuane Hoffman	1998
306	Robert Schutsky	1992
297	Jason Horn	2000
294	John Fedak	1998
294	Devich Farbotnik	2002
290	Joyce Hoffmann	2002
288	Barbara Haas	1986
288	Franklin Haas	1986
284	Peter Robinson	2002
278	Sam Stull	1979
278	Gene Wilhelm	1983
272	Randy C. Miller	1992
268	Terence Schiefer	1985
267	Jonathan Heller	1992
267	Michael Schall	2002
263	Jerry McWilliams	1983
262	Ken Lebo	1995
262	Walt Shaffer	1999
260	Dana Shaffer	1999
259	Mike Fialkovich	1998
258	Steve Santner	1992
248	Dave Rieger	2001
239	Bill Etter	2001
231	Dave DeReamus	1990
230	Al Guarente	1986
230	Gary Edwards	2000
229	Mark McConaughy	1998
225	John Salvetti	1996
222	Matt Wlasniewski	1991
208	Sam Sinderson	1974
208	Gerry Boltz	2003
204	Aden Troyer	1998
201	Theodore Drozdowski	2002
200	Scott Bills	1996
188	Marjorie Howard	2002
186	John Salvetti	1999
170	J. Kenneth Gabler	2002

## County Life Lists

(100 Or More)

### ADAMS

213	Arthur Kennel	1995
212	Carl Garner	1999
207	Deuane Hoffman	2003
193	Nonie Kennell	1995
182	J. Kenneth Gabler	2002
150	Steve Santner	1995
144	Russell Ryan	1993
124	Jeffrey Wentz	2002
108	John Fedak	1998
104	Don Henise	2000

### ALLEGHENY

243	Joyce Hoffmann	2003
228	Mike Fialkovich	2003
218	Geoff Malosh	2003
210	Bob Machesney	2003
208	Ed Kwater	1996
202	Sam Sinderson	2002
189	Deuane Hoffman	1999
188	Scott Kinzey	1999
185	Randi Gerrish	2003
176	Dave Rieger	2003
173	Sarah Gerrish	2003
168	George Malosh	1989
141	Greg Malosh	1991
140	Margaret Higbee	1993
139	John Fedak	2001
138	Roger Higbee	1993
122	Dick Byers	1999
102	Steve Santner	1995

### ARMSTRONG

239	John Fedak	2000
223	Margaret Higbee	1999
211	Roger Higbee	1999
188	Scott Bastian	1997
185	Steve Graff	2000
181	Deuane Hoffman	2000
175	Bill Reddinger	1999
136	Mark McConaughy	2003
100	Steve Santner	1995

### BEAVER

199	Bill Hintze	2000
171	Deuane Hoffman	1999
168	Nick Kerlin	1996
167	Geoff Malosh	2003
152	George Malosh	1998
138	Scott Kinzey	1998
124	John Cruzan	1994
113	John Fedak	1998
112	Greg Malosh	1991
108	John Snarey	1997
102	Steve Santner	1995

### BEDFORD

220	Deuane Hoffman	2003
211	Ross Gallardy	2003
152	John Fedak	2000
133	J. Kenneth Gabler	2002
122	Steve Santner	1995
121	Richard Murphy	1999
111	Dick Byers	2003
108	Deb Grove	2003
107	Greg Grove	2003
102	Randi Gerrish	1999
102	Sarah Gerrish	1999

### BERKS

292	Ken Lebo	1999
287	Jason Horn	2002
286	Harold Lebo	2002
278	Matt Wlasniewski	2003
275	Kerry Grim	1998
270	Deuane Hoffman	1999
253	Ernest Schiefer	1999
249	Tom Clauser	2003
215	Bernard Morris	2003
207	Barbara Haas	1999
206	Terence Schiefer	2003
192	Larry Lewis	1988
176	Al Guarente	2002
174	Steve Santner	1995
170	Randy C. Miller	2002

162	Jonathan Heller	2001
149	Kevin Crilley	1998
146	Bruce Carl	2003
145	Steve Farbotnik	2001
139	Scott Bills	1992
135	John Fedak	1999

### BLAIR

221	Stan Kotala	2001
180	David Kyle	1996
160	Deuane Hoffman	2000
123	Helena Kotala	2002
104	John Fedak	1998
103	Steve Santner	1995
101	Deb Grove	2003
101	Greg Grove	2003

### BRADFORD

230	William Reid	2001
194	Ronald Young	1993
168	Frances Biles	1985
150	Randy C. Miller	2002
150	Deuane Hoffman	2003
133	J. Kenneth Gabler	2003
111	John Fedak	2002
105	Barbara Haas	1993
102	Steve Santner	1995

### BUCKS

307	Steve Farbotnik	2003
300	Devich Farbotnik	2002
290	Jason Horn	2002
269	Bill Etter	2003
251	William Murphy	2000
241	Deuane Hoffman	2003
228	Stanley Glowacki	2002
215	Harry Franzen	1996
202	Stan Glowacki	1991
177	Bernard Morris	2003
157	Kevin Crilley	1998
139	John Fedak	2000
137	Al Guarente	2002
129	Barbara Haas	2000
121	Steve Santner	1995
121	Michael Schall	2003
111	Thomas Mason	1999
105	Jonathan Heller	2002

### BUTLER

267	Gene Wilhelm	1992
202	Deuane Hoffman	2000
199	Dick Byers	2000
187	Bob Machesney	2003
169	John Fedak	2000
166	Ed Kwater	1996
165	George Malosh	1989
155	Randi Gerrish	2003
148	Geoff Malosh	2003
146	Sarah Gerrish	2003
144	Sam Sinderson	2002
129	Margaret Higbee	1993
119	Greg Malosh	1991
119	Roger Higbee	1993
100	Steve Santner	1995

### CAMBRIA

225	John Salvetti	2002
177	Deuane Hoffman	2003
161	Gloria Lamer	1992
158	Ross Gallardy	2003
131	John Fedak	1998
103	Steve Santner	1995

### CAMERON

151	Deuane Hoffman	2000
121	John Fedak	2002
105	Steve Santner	1995

### CARBON

245	Rick Wiltraut	1998
237	David Hawk	2002
227	Jason Horn	2002
206	Bernard Morris	1998
205	Deuane Hoffman	1999
202	Robert Frantz	2000

158	Nick Kerlin	2003	208	Roger Higbee	1999	233	Gene Wilhelm	1992	233	Gloria Lamer	1992
148	Michael Schall	2003	201	Gene Wilhelm	1992	232	Sam Sinderson	2003	232	Steve Graff	2000
115	Steve Santner	1995	193	Geoff Malosh	2003	231	Dave Rieger	2003	195	Anne Hedgpeth	1986
105	John Fedak	2002	164	Ed Kwater	1996	224	Randy C. Miller	2002	194	Deuane Hoffman	2001
102	Al Guarente	2002	150	Greg Malosh	1991	223	Bob Machesney	2003	193	Leonard Hess	2003
<b>CENTRE</b>			146	Randi Garrish	2003	221	Richard Colyer	2000	185	Linda Hess	2003
272	Merrill Wood	1991	146	Sarah Garrish	2003	217	Greg Malosh	1991	184	John Fedak	2001
263	Harry Henderson	1991	124	George Malosh	1989	208	Steve Santner	1995	173	Randi Gerrish	2003
245	Rick Wiltraut	1998	123	James Flynn	1997	204	Jonathan Heller	2002	173	Sarah Gerrish	2003
244	Terence Schiefer	1998	117	Randy C. Miller	1998	197	Terence Schiefer	1998	173	Mark McConaughy	2003
239	Deuane Hoffman	2003	116	Dick Byers	2003	180	Don Henise	2000	137	Ross Gallardy	2003
235	Jim Dunn	2003	112	Steve Santner	1995	180	Randi Gerrish	2003	118	Steve Santner	1995
232	Eugene Zielinski	2000	107	Jonathan Heller	1998	179	Sarah Gerrish	2003	104	Bill Reddinger	1999
218	Scott Bills	1992	103	Don Henise	2000	178	Bernard Morris	1998	<b>JEFFERSON</b>		
218	Greg Grove	2003	102	Terence Schiefer	1998	161	Marjorie Howard	2002	225	John Fedak	2000
184	Paul Schwalbe	1998	100	Bill Reddinger	1999	146	J. Kenneth Gabler	1999	172	Deuane Hoffman	1998
182	John Fedak	2001	<b>CUMBERLAND</b>			144	Steve Graff	2000	105	Bill Reddinger	1999
176	Deborah Grove	2003	270	Deuane Hoffman	2003	133	Greg Grove	2002	104	Steve Santner	1995
162	Russ Ruffing	1991	261	Don Henise	2000	110	Bill Reddinger	1999	<b>JUNIATA</b>		
145	Steve Santner	1995	259	Robyn Henise	2000	<b>FAYETTE</b>			238	Aden Troyer	2003
145	Kevin Crilley	1998	247	Richard Colyer	1999	168	Mark McConaughy	2003	228	Deuane Hoffman	2003
127	Barbara Haas	1999	208	Carl Garner	1998	153	Deuane Hoffman	2000	129	John Fedak	2002
125	Jonathan Heller	2003	197	Steve Santner	1995	125	Randi Gerrish	2003	118	Jonathan Heller	2002
111	Randy C. Miller	1998	176	George Wertz, Jr.	1986	122	John Fedak	1999	108	Steve Santner	1995
<b>CHESTER</b>			170	Mark McConaughy	2002	120	Sarah Gerrish	2003	101	Greg Grove	2003
268	Larry Lewis	1988	165	J. Kenneth Gabler	2002	119	Steve Santner	1995	<b>LACKAWANNA</b>		
252	Barbara Haas	1996	154	John Fedak	1998	111	Ed Kwater	1996	198	Glenn Czulada	2003
252	Phillips Street	1996	125	Jonathan Heller	2001	<b>FOREST</b>			172	Deuane Hoffman	2003
246	John Ginaven	1998	121	Randy C. Miller	2002	174	Deuane Hoffman	2003	158	William Reid	2001
232	Deuane Hoffman	2003	<b>DAUPHIN</b>			169	John Fedak	2003	137	Richard Koval	1996
231	Joe Meloney	1994	277	Deuane Hoffman	2003	141	Ted Grisez	1996	136	John Fedak	2002
228	Al Guarente	2002	243	Scott Bills	2003	108	Steve Santner	1995	103	Steve Santner	1995
213	Theodore Drozdowski	2003	238	Mark McConaughy	1998	<b>FRANKLIN</b>			<b>LANCASTER</b>		
209	Jason Horn	2002	235	Grace Randolph	1996	269	J. Kenneth Gabler	2002	321	Randy C. Miller	2003
193	Neal Thorpe	1995	234	George Wertz, Jr.	1986	266	Carl Garner	1998	319	Eric Witmer	2003
193	Martin Page	2003	219	Steve Santner	1995	215	Dale Gearhart	2000	318	Tom Garner	2003
167	Steve Santner	1995	211	Richard Colyer	1999	213	Jeffrey Walck	1989	310	Robert Schutsky	2003
150	Thomas Reeves	2003	175	Don Henise	2000	205	Deuane Hoffman	2003	309	Deuane Hoffman	2003
127	Bruce Carl	2003	156	John Fedak	2002	141	Don Henise	1997	306	Jerry Book	2000
126	Jonathan Heller	2002	140	Jonathan Heller	2003	130	Steve Santner	1995	304	Jonathan Heller	2003
120	Randy C. Miller	1998	139	Randy C. Miller	2003	114	John Fedak	1998	301	Bruce Carl	2003
111	Terence Schiefer	1998	128	William Reid	2001	<b>FULTON</b>			294	Barbara Haas	2000
108	John Fedak	1998	127	Merrill Wood	1991	205	J. Kenneth Gabler	2000	292	Jan Witmer	1997
<b>CLARION</b>			124	J. Kenneth Gabler	2002	200	Daniel Snell	2000	291	Harold Morrin	1996
255	John Fedak	2001	<b>DELAWARE</b>			198	Carl Garner	1998	288	Jason Horn	2002
229	Walter Fye	1997	289	John Miller	1985	194	Daniel Snell	1997	274	Steve Santner	1995
209	Deuane Hoffman	1998	268	Al Guarente	2002	184	Deuane Hoffman	2003	240	Larry Lewis	1988
200	Margaret Buckwalter	1996	256	Barbara Haas	2000	152	Jeffrey Walck	1989	227	Al Guarente	2002
181	Gene Wilhelm	1992	254	Skip Conant	2000	119	Steve Santner	1995	224	Richard Colyer	2000
163	Bill Reddinger	1999	249	Thomas Reeves	2003	118	Robert Walker	1989	212	Jim Mountjoy	2000
152	Mark McConaughy	2003	226	Paul Schwalbe	1998	115	Dale Gearhart	2000	209	Ernest Schiefer	2000
150	Fred Crowley	1995	224	John Ginaven	1999	108	John Fedak	2001	201	George Wertz, Jr.	1986
104	Steve Santner	1995	209	Deuane Hoffman	1999	<b>GREENE</b>			198	Pamela Woodman	1993
<b>CLEARFIELD</b>			151	Jason Horn	1995	194	Ralph Bell	1993	196	Dennis Weaver	2000
178	Deuane Hoffman	2001	130	Steve Santner	1995	173	Marjorie Howard	2003	185	Terence Schiefer	1998
174	John Fedak	2001	130	Martin Page	2001	162	Deuane Hoffman	2001	184	Don Henise	1997
154	Eugene Zielinski	2000	119	John Fedak	2001	134	Roy Ickes	1996	166	John Fedak	1998
114	Paul Schwalbe	1998	<b>ELK</b>			109	Steve Santner	1995	160	Kevin Crilley	1998
100	Steve Santner	1995	183	Linda Christenson	1997	109	John Fedak	2001	156	Matt Wlasniewski	2000
<b>CLINTON</b>			154	Deuane Hoffman	2003	103	Sam Sinderson	2000	148	Jeffrey Wentz	2002
246	Paul Schwalbe	1998	150	John Fedak	2003	101	Mark McConaughy	2003	147	Douglas Anderson	2003
183	Wayne Laubscher	2003	105	Steve Santner	1995	<b>HUNTINGDON</b>			146	Steve Farbotnik	2001
168	Deuane Hoffman	2001	<b>ERIE</b>			242	David Kyler	2003	145	Bernard Morris	2000
130	John Fedak	2000	316	Jerry McWilliams	2003	239	Greg Grove	2003	132	J. Kenneth Gabler	2001
120	Steve Santner	1995	305	Donald Snyder	2002	227	Trudy Kyler	2003	129	Mark McConaughy	2001
101	Barbara Haas	1994	291	Sam Stull	1985	224	Deborah Grove	2003	118	Margaret Higbee	1993
<b>COLUMBIA</b>			291	Joyce Hoffmann	2002	191	Deuane Hoffman	2003	108	Roger Higbee	1993
171	Deuane Hoffman	1999	289	Deuane Hoffman	2001	190	Jim Dunn	2003	104	Geoff Malosh	2003
116	John Fedak	1999	274	Ed Kwater	1996	181	Merrill Wood	1991	100	Martin Page	2003
115	Richard Koval	1999	274	John Fedak	2003	178	John Salvetti	2003	<b>LAWRENCE</b>		
100	Steve Santner	1995	268	James Flynn	1997	171	Lewis Grove	2000	210	Gene Wilhelm	1992
<b>CRAWFORD</b>			263	Ronald Leberman	2001	155	Eugene Zielinski	1998	158	John Fedak	2000
285	Ronald Leberman	2003	262	Mike Fialkovich	2003	122	J. Kenneth Gabler	2002	138	Deuane Hoffman	2000
249	Deuane Hoffman	2003	259	Geoff Malosh	2003	106	John Fedak	1998	108	Geoff Malosh	2003
223	Margaret Higbee	1999	257	Jason Horn	2002	104	Steve Santner	1995	102	Steve Santner	1995
217	John Fedak	2001	253	Linda McWilliams	1992	<b>INDIANA</b>			<b>LEBANON</b>		
215	Marvin Byler	2002	249	Barbara Haas	1996	264	Margaret Higbee	1999	273	Randy C. Miller	2002
211	Sam Sinderson	2002	249	Margaret Higbee	1999	245	Roger Higbee	1999	250	Deuane Hoffman	2003
			237	Roger Higbee	1999				236	Steve Santner	1995
			236	George Malosh	1989						

218 Jonathan Heller 2003  
 208 Stephen Mallanson 1996  
 204 Bruce Carl 2003  
 202 Bruce Weaver 2000  
 181 Jason Horn 1995  
 171 Gerry Boltz 2003  
 152 George Wertz, Jr. 1986  
 139 John Fedak 2002  
 130 Don Henise 1997  
 122 Barbara Haas 1996

**LEHIGH**

271 Jason Horn 2002  
 266 Fritz Brock 2003  
 266 Bernard Morris 2003  
 260 Rick Wiltraut 1998  
 201 Deuane Hoffman 1999  
 164 Michael Schall 2003  
 136 Robert Frantz 2000  
 109 John Fedak 2002  
 103 Steve Santner 1995

**LUZERNE**

280 William Reid 2001  
 253 Richard Koval 1999  
 216 Mark Blauer 1985  
 194 Deuane Hoffman 1999  
 186 John Fedak 2003  
 149 Kevin Crilley 1998  
 121 Glenn Czulada 2003  
 115 Bernard Morris 1998  
 104 Steve Santner 1995

**LYCOMING**

230 Paul Schwalbe 1998  
 206 Deuane Hoffman 2003  
 124 Steve Santner 1995  
 119 John Fedak 1999  
 103 Don Henise 2000

**McKEAN**

256 John Fedak 2003  
 154 Deuane Hoffman 2001  
 117 Steve Graff 2000  
 103 Steve Santner 1995  
 103 Ted Grisez 1996

**MERCER**

243 Neil Troyer 2002  
 232 Harvey Troyer 1999  
 231 Jerry Troyer 1999  
 216 Eli Troyer 1999  
 213 Deuane Hoffman 1998  
 211 Gene Wilhelm 1992  
 191 John Fedak 2000  
 190 Neal Troyer 1998  
 166 Marvin Byler 2002  
 154 Geoff Malosh 2003  
 124 Steve Santner 1995  
 103 Margaret Higbee 1993  
 102 Randi Garrish 1999

**MIFFLIN**

202 Deuane Hoffman 2003  
 175 Greg Grove 2003  
 113 John Fedak 1998  
 113 Deborah Grove 2003  
 108 Steve Santner 1995

**MONROE**

222 Phillips Street 1996  
 176 Jason Horn 1995  
 162 Deuane Hoffman 2003  
 162 Michael Schall 2003  
 130 Bernard Morris 2003  
 111 John Fedak 2001  
 110 Steve Santner 1995

**MONTGOMERY**

275 Jason Horn 2002  
 260 William Murphy 1999  
 255 Kevin Crilley 1998  
 241 Harry Franzen 1996  
 233 Deuane Hoffman 2003

229 Bernard Morris 2003  
 223 Neal Thorpe 1997  
 184 Steve Farbotnik 2001  
 169 John Fedak 2003  
 144 Al Guarente 2002  
 141 Gregg Gorton 2001  
 137 Steve Santner 1995  
 129 Thomas Mason 1999  
 129 Michael Schall 2002  
 116 Thomas Reeves 2001  
 107 Robert Walker 1989  
 100 Barbara Haas 1996

**MONTOUR**

232 Deuane Hoffman 2003  
 216 Allen Schweinsberg 2002  
 212 Barbara Haas 1996  
 140 John Fedak 1999  
 119 Steve Santner 1995  
 104 Kevin Crilley 1998

**NORTHAMPTON**

269 Rick Wiltraut 1998  
 266 Arlene Koch 2000  
 266 Dave DeReamus 2003  
 257 Michael Schall 2003  
 248 Jason Horn 2002  
 233 Bernard Morris 2003  
 229 Steve Boyce 1990  
 225 Deuane Hoffman 2001  
 220 Brad Silfies 1990  
 220 Dennis Miller 1998  
 219 Adam Miller 2000  
 117 Steve Farbotnik 2003  
 112 John Fedak 2002  
 106 Steve Santner 1995  
 102 Randy C. Miller 2002

**NORTHUMBERLAND**

236 Deuane Hoffman 2003  
 219 Allen Schweinsberg 2002  
 166 Barbara Haas 1993  
 138 John Fedak 1999  
 112 Steve Santner 1995

**PERRY**

240 Deuane Hoffman 2000  
 235 Richard Colyer 2000  
 159 Don Henise 2000  
 157 Steve Santner 1995  
 141 Walter Shelly, Jr. 1992  
 139 Dallas Dowhower 1992  
 126 John Fedak 1998  
 120 Randy C. Miller 2003  
 119 Mark McConaughy 2001  
 117 Jonathan Heller 2001

**PHILADELPHIA**

290 John Miller 1985  
 245 Frank Windfelder 1992  
 243 Harry Franzen 1996  
 243 Al Guarente 2002  
 241 Barbara Haas 1996  
 230 Skip Conant 2001  
 219 John Ginaven 1998  
 216 Thomas Reeves 2001  
 208 Deuane Hoffman 1999  
 184 Jim McKinney 1992  
 167 Jason Horn 1995  
 167 Gregg Gorton 2001  
 163 Stephen Lawrence 1990  
 155 Steve Farbotnik 2001  
 154 Steve Santner 1995  
 129 Thomas Mason 1999  
 120 Terence Schiefer 1998  
 113 John Fedak 1998  
 107 Kevin Crilley 1998  
 101 Randy C. Miller 1998

**PIKE**

201 Joe Strasser 1994  
 201 Voni Strasser 1994  
 174 Deuane Hoffman 2003  
 144 Phillips Street 1996  
 138 John Fedak 2001

130 Michael Schall 2002  
 101 Steve Santner 1995  
 101 Barbara Haas 2001

**POTTER**

218 David Hauber 1999  
 171 John Fedak 2003  
 157 Deuane Hoffman 2003  
 104 Steve Santner 1995  
 104 Paul Schwalbe 1998

**SCHUYLKILL**

263 Tom Clauser 2002  
 220 Deuane Hoffman 2003  
 208 Mike Ward 2003  
 177 Jason Horn 1995  
 164 Bruce Carl 2003  
 151 Dave Rieger 2003  
 149 Bernard Morris 2003  
 133 Steve Santner 1995  
 127 Barbara Haas 2000  
 113 John Fedak 1998  
 109 Randy C. Miller 2003  
 104 Al Guarente 2002

**SNYDER**

205 Deuane Hoffman 1999  
 199 Allen Schweinsberg 2002  
 132 Steve Santner 1995  
 108 John Fedak 1998

**SOMERSET**

246 Jeff Payne 2003  
 242 Retta Payne 2000  
 238 Scott Bastian 1999  
 187 Deuane Hoffman 2003  
 177 Richard Murphy 1998  
 170 Ross Gallardy 2003  
 149 John Fedak 2000  
 126 Steve Santner 1995  
 108 Randi Gerrish 1999  
 107 Sarah Gerrish 1999  
 106 Mark McConaughy 2003

**SULLIVAN**

172 Nick Kerlin 2000  
 163 Skip Conant 2002  
 135 Deuane Hoffman 2000  
 132 Thomas Reeves 2003  
 115 Randy Miller 2002  
 108 John Fedak 1998  
 104 Steve Santner 1995

**SUSQUEHANNA**

198 Jerry Skinner 2003  
 183 William Reid 2001  
 182 Jerry Skinner 1999  
 150 Deuane Hoffman 2000  
 116 John Fedak 2002  
 105 Steve Santner 1995

**TIOGA**

223 Larry Brown 1998  
 215 Arlene Brown 1998  
 205 Benjamin Israel 2000  
 195 Deuane Hoffman 2003  
 175 Bruce Carl 2003  
 153 John Fedak 2002  
 120 Steve Santner 1995

**UNION**

230 Allen Schweinsberg 2002  
 170 Deuane Hoffman 2003  
 132 Barbara Haas 1996  
 117 Steve Santner 1995  
 110 John Fedak 2001

**VENANGO**

249 Gary Edwards 2003  
 213 John Fedak 2001  
 204 Deuane Hoffman 2003  
 175 Gene Wilhelm 1992  
 153 Nick Kerlin 1997  
 103 Steve Santner 1995

**WARREN**

247 John Fedak 2003  
 227 Harris Johnson 1986  
 227 Ted Grisez 1996

153 Deuane Hoffman 2001  
 114 Steve Santner 1995

**WASHINGTON**

210 Margaret Higbee 1993  
 209 Roger Higbee 1993  
 197 Roy Ickes 1996  
 161 Russ Ruffing 1991  
 150 Deuane Hoffman 2003  
 149 Geoff Malosh 2003  
 141 George Malosh 1989  
 115 Sam Sinderson 2002  
 106 John Fedak 1998  
 100 Steve Santner 1995

**WAYNE**

221 Joe Strasser 1994  
 221 Voni Strasser 1994  
 162 Deuane Hoffman 1998  
 129 John Fedak 1998  
 126 William Reid 1999  
 102 Steve Santner 1995

**WESTMORELAND**

228 Mark McConaughy 2003  
 227 Dick Byers 2003  
 208 Linda Christenson 1996  
 200 Randi Gerrish 2003  
 193 Sarah Gerrish 2003  
 188 Linda Hess 2003  
 185 Leonard Hess 2003  
 166 Deuane Hoffman 2003  
 144 John Fedak 2001  
 142 Margaret Higbee 1993  
 137 Steve Santner 1995  
 133 Roger Higbee 1993  
 129 Richard Murphy 1999  
 122 Sam Sinderson 2002  
 120 James Flynn 1997

**WYOMING**

251 William Reid 2001  
 176 Richard Koval 1999  
 152 Deuane Hoffman 2000  
 143 Skip Conant 2000  
 118 John Fedak 2000  
 111 Steve Santner 1995  
 101 Thomas Reeves 2003

**YORK**

263 Deuane Hoffman 2003  
 242 Jeffrey Wentz 2002  
 229 Russell Ryan 1993  
 194 Steve Santner 1995  
 185 Ann Pettigrew 1996  
 172 George Wertz, Jr. 1986  
 166 Jeff Pheasant 1995  
 166 Carl Garner 1999  
 160 Jason Horn 1995  
 160 J. Kenneth Gabler 2002  
 158 Jonathan Heller 2003  
 154 Don Henise 2000  
 153 Candy Krenzer 1999  
 150 Randy C. Miller 1998  
 138 Don Henise 1997  
 111 Barbara Haas 1996  
 109 John Fedak 1998

## PHOTOGRAPHIC HIGHLIGHTS



**Pink-footed Goose** (*Anser brachyrhynchus*). 11 January 2004 Coatesville Res., Chester (Janet Crawford). This bird was present for about a week frequenting both Coatesville Res. and nearby Chamber's Lake. First county record.



**Greater White-fronted Goose** (*Anser albifrons*). 28 February 2004, Peace Valley Park, Bucks (Elaine Ryan). One of an increasing number found this winter.



**Red-necked Grebe** (*Podiceps grisegena*). 31 January 2004 along the Schuylkill River near the Betzwood Bridge area of Valley Forge N.P., Montgomery (John Freiberg).



**Great Cormorant** (*Phalacrocorax carbo*). The lower Delaware River near Bristol, *Bucks* is probably the best area in the state for finding this species in winter. These four birds were photographed there 17 January 2004 (Geoff Malosh).



**Black Vulture** (*Coragyps atratus*). This bird is a great addition to one's feeder list. 2 February 2004, Warrensville, *Lycoming* (Ed Reish).



**Red-shouldered Hawk** (*Buteo lineatus*). February 2004, near Analomink, *Monroe* (Pedro Baena). This was one of three birds that wintered in this area.



**Peregrine Falcon** (*Falco peregrinus*). 10 January 2004 (Dave Shollenberger) on a ledge of the Genetti Hotel Williamsport, Lycoming.



**Lesser Black-backed Gull** (*Larus fuscus*) While expected in the eastern third of the state in winter, sometimes in triple-digit numbers, this species continues to be rare in western PA. This adult was photographed at Dashields Dam on the Ohio River, Allegheny, 6 December 2003 (Geoff Malosh).



**Barred Owl** (*Strix varia*). 1 February 2004, Martin's Creek, Northampton (Rick Wiltraut).



**Long-eared Owl** (*Asio otus*) Rushland, Bucks, 12 December 2003 (Avery English-Elliot)



**Snowy Owl** (*Bubo scandiacus*). This bird was first discovered near the Willow Hill exit of the PA Turnpike, *Franklin*, 5 January 2004. The bird remained in the general vicinity and was seen by many through the end of the period. Photographed here 24 January (*Geoff Malosh*).



**Rufous Hummingbird** (*Selasphorus rufus*). 6 December 2003 (*Dave Shollenberger*). This bird was present near Williamsport until 14 January 2004.



**Rufous Hummingbird** (*Selasphorus rufus*). This adult female was present in Middletown, *Dauphin* from late fall and was banded on 16 December 2003. The bird remained in the area into January and was photographed here 1 January 2004 (*Tom Johnson*).



**Rufous Hummingbird** (*Selasphorus rufus*). This bird present since mid-October 2003 in New Freedom, York remained until 23 January 2004. Photographed here during a snowstorm, 6 December (Rich Hurley).



**Rufous Hummingbird** (*Selasphorus rufus*) This bird was present since 25 October 2003 to about 10 January 2004 in Hilltown Twp., Bucks, when it was found dead. Photographed here December 2003. Photograph courtesy of Jim Glick /Ollie Candids.



**Rufous Hummingbird** (*Selasphorus rufus*) Another photo of the Hilltown Twp., Bucks bird. This post-mortem photograph, taken 17 January 2004 (Nick Pulcinella), shows the Rufous Hummingbird tail pattern. The outermost tail feather, r5, shows a wide white tip and r2, the fourth feather from the left, shows a nice notch. Allen's Hummingbird would show a very narrow white tip to r5 and a round or notchless r2.



**Cape May Warbler** (*Dendroica tigrina*). This bird was present at Silver Lake Nature Center, Bucks 21 February 2004 through the end of the period. Photographed here 28 February (*Terri Van Kirk*).



**Harris's Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia querula*). This obliging bird was present in Sugar Grove, Warren, 7 December 2003 to the end of the period. Photographed here 25 January 2004 (*Geoff Malosh*).



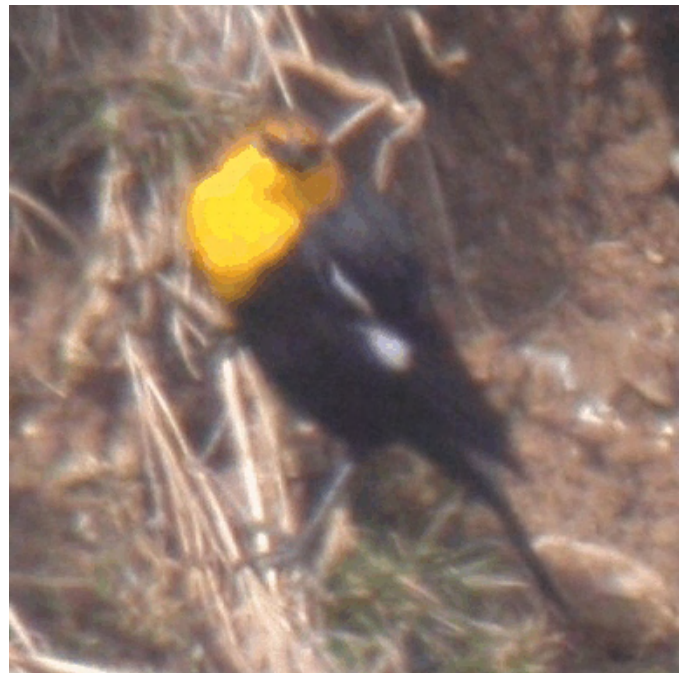
**Harris's Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia querula*). Discovered on 31 January 2004, at Stone Church, Northampton, this adult attracted a large crowd of birders and was still present at the end of the period. Photographed here 10 February (*Elaine Ryan*).



**Northern Shrike** (*Lanius excubitor*). Bald Eagle S.P., Centre 4 January 2004 (Bob Fowles).



**Snow Bunting** (*Plectrophenax nivalis*). 20 December 2003, Cogan House, Lycoming (Dave Schollenberger).



**Yellow-headed Blackbird** (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*). The open farmlands of southern Lancaster and western Chester can harbor huge flocks of mixed blackbirds in winter. These flocks number in the thousands with Red-winged Blackbirds and Common Grackles predominating. Occasionally, the flocks contain an unusual species such as this bird near Bethel, Lancaster, 21 February 2004 (Geoff Malosh).



**Brewer's Blackbird** (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*). 11 January 2004 (*Mark McConaughy*). This female was part of group of two females and a male at Crabtree, *Westmoreland* 10-11 January for a first county record.



**Common Redpoll** (*Carduelis flammea*). 18 February 2004, Chalfont, *Bucks* (*Elaine Ryan*). This was one of eleven present at this feeder beginning 26 January.



**White-winged Crossbill** (*Loxia leucoptera*). 18 January 2004. This bird was present most of the winter at a feeder in Saylorsburg, *Monroe* (*Rick Wiltraut*).



212	Deuane Hoffman	1999	167	Deuane Hoffman	1998	211	Gene Wilhelm	1992	<b>POTTER</b>		
202	Deuane Hoffman	2001	167	Aden Troyer	2000	210	Neil Troyer	1999	160	David Hauber	1992
202	Geoff Malosh	2002	166	Aden Troyer	1995	192	Neil Troyer	1997	160	David Hauber	1995
180	Geoff Malosh	2003	166	Aden Troyer	1999	192	Eli Troyer	1999	160	David Hauber	1999
174	Geoff Malosh	1994	158	Aden Troyer	1998	190	Neil Troyer	2001	157	David Hauber	1993
153	Geoff Malosh	1990	129	Deuane Hoffman	2001	190	Neil Troyer	2002			
151	Ronald Leberman	2000				186	Neil Troyer	1998	<b>SCHUYLKILL</b>		
141	Ronald Leberman	2003	<b>LACKAWANNA</b>			184	Neil Troyer	2000	212	Tom Clauser	1999
105	Steve Graff	1998	169	Glenn Czulada	1996	155	Deuane Hoffman	1998	210	Tom Clauser	2001
			161	Glenn Czulada	1995				210	Tom Clauser	2002
<b>FAYETTE</b>			117	Richard Koval	1995	<b>MIFFLIN</b>			209	Tom Clauser	1996
145	Mark McConaughy	2000	103	Deuane Hoffman	1998	160	Deuane Hoffman	1998	208	Tom Clauser	1997
112	Mark McConaughy	1998	103	William Reid	2001	155	Deuane Hoffman	2000	203	Tom Clauser	2000
103	Deuane Hoffman	1998				128	Greg Grove	2003	203	Tom Clauser	2003
			<b>LANCASTER</b>			126	Deuane Hoffman	1997	191	Tom Clauser	1987
<b>FOREST</b>			268	Deuane Hoffman	2000	113	Deuane Hoffman	1996	167	Deuane Hoffman	2001
144	April Walters	1993	255	Robert Schutsky	1992				158	Deuane Hoffman	1998
143	Richard Walters	1993	249	Jonathan Heller	1992	<b>MONROE</b>					
132	John Fedak	1997	242	Deuane Hoffman	2001	160	Michael Schall	2003	<b>SNYDER</b>		
			239	Jonathan Heller	1993	103	Deuane Hoffman	1999	177	Deuane Hoffman	1998
<b>FRANKLIN</b>			235	Deuane Hoffman	1998	101	Deuane Hoffman	1998	175	Deuane Hoffman	1996
215	Dale Gearhart	1999	230	Deuane Hoffman	1999				172	Deuane Hoffman	1997
185	Carl Garner	1997	226	Jonathan Heller	2003	<b>MONTGOMERY</b>			158	Deuane Hoffman	2000
180	Carl Garner	1993	221	Randy C. Miller	2003	151	Deuane Hoffman	1999			
180	Carl Garner	1994	220	Jonathan Heller	2002	140	Deuane Hoffman	1998	<b>SOMERSET</b>		
178	Carl Garner	1999	216	Bruce Carl	2000	132	Deuane Hoffman	1997	222	Scott Bastian	1999
174	Carl Garner	1998	214	Bruce Carl	1999	126	John Fedak	1997	216	Jeff Payne	1996
156	Kenneth Gabler	1999	197	Jim Mountjoy	2000	113	Michael Schall	2002	216	Retta Payne	1996
156	Dale Gearhart	2000	186	Jim Mountjoy	1999				208	Scott Bastian	1994
152	J. Kenneth Gabler	2002	185	Bruce Carl	1998	<b>MONTOUR</b>					
149	J. Kenneth Gabler	1998	185	Randy C. Miller	1999	143	Deuane Hoffman	2000	<b>SULLIVAN</b>		
148	J. Kenneth Gabler	2000	185	Randy C. Miller	2000	126	John Fedak	1997	140	Nick Kerlin	1999
144	Deuane Hoffman	2001	177	Randy C. Miller	1998	115	Deuane Hoffman	1997	130	Nick Kerlin	1995
133	J. Kenneth Gabler	2001				112	Deuane Hoffman	1998	125	Skip Conant	1995
125	J. Kenneth Gabler	2003	<b>LAWRENCE</b>						124	Nick Kerlin	1997
210	Deuane Hoffman	1998	210	Gene Wilhelm	1992	<b>NORTHAMPTON</b>			123	Skip Conant	1999
			118	John Fedak	1997	236	Michael Schall	2003	121	Skip Conant	2000
<b>FULTON</b>			110	Deuane Hoffman	1996	210	Adam Miller	2000	118	Skip Conant	1998
173	Daniel Snell	1997				206	Michael Schall	2002	114	Skip Conant	2001
128	Deuane Hoffman	1996	<b>LEBANON</b>			203	Michael Schall	2000	114	Skip Conant	2002
120	Deuane Hoffman	2001	222	Randy C. Miller	1999	202	Michael Schall	2001	113	Nick Kerlin	1998
115	Kenneth Gabler	1988	215	Randy C. Miller	1993	189	Dave DeReamus	1990	112	Skip Conant	2003
112	Deuane Hoffman	1998	213	Randy C. Miller	2002	186	Adam Miller	1999	112	Nick Kerlin	2000
108	Kenneth Gabler	2000	211	Randy C. Miller	2000	174	Michael Schall	1999			
			210	Randy C. Miller	2003	171	Dave DeReamus	2003	<b>SUSQUEHANNA</b>		
<b>GREENE</b>			205	Randy C. Miller	1996	168	Dave DeReamus	1991	170	Jerry Skinner	2003
137	Ralph Bell	1985	204	Randy C. Miller	1998	164	Dave DeReamus	2001	145	Jerry Skinner	1999
134	Ralph Bell	1986	179	Deuane Hoffman	1998	159	Dennis Miller	1996	109	Deuane Hoffman	1997
130	Ralph Bell	1990	171	Bruce Weaver	1999	159	Michael Schall	1997	109	William Reid	2001
122	Deuane Hoffman	2000	167	Deuane Hoffman	2001	151	Dave DeReamus	2002	107	William Reid	1999
107	Deuane Hoffman	1998	163	Bruce Weaver	2000	146	Dave DeReamus	1999	105	Deuane Hoffman	1996
			161	Deuane Hoffman	2000	133	Deuane Hoffman	1998	103	John Fedak	1997
<b>HUNTINGDON</b>			138	Gerry Boltz	2003				103	Deuane Hoffman	1998
205	David Kyler	1996				<b>NORTHUMBERLAND</b>					
201	Greg Grove	2003	<b>LEHIGH</b>			224	Deuane Hoffman	2003	<b>TIOGA</b>		
194	Greg Grove	1994	200	Bernard Morris	1984	157	Deuane Hoffman	1999	197	Benjamin Israel	2000
191	Greg Grove	1992	132	Deuane Hoffman	1998	147	Deuane Hoffman	1998	174	Larry Brown	1998
191	Greg Grpve	2000	128	Michael Schall	2003	144	Deuane Hoffman	1997	167	Larry Brown	1992
190	Greg Grove	2002	119	Deuane Hoffman	1997	128	John Fedak	1997	163	Benjamin Israel	1999
188	Greg Grove	2001	110	Michael Schall	2001				160	Arlene Brown	1992
180	Greg Grove	1998				<b>PERRY</b>			142	Arlene Brown	1998
137	Deuane Hoffman	1998	<b>LUZERNE</b>			202	Richard Colyer	1997	122	Deuane Hoffman	1998
			220	Richard Koval	1996	199	Deuane Hoffman	1995	<b>UNION</b>		
<b>INDIANA</b>			219	Richard Koval	1995	193	Deuane Hoffman	1996	121	Deuane Hoffman	1999
206	Margaret Higbee	1993	206	Richard Koval	1994	188	Deuane Hoffman	1998	102	Deuane Hoffman	1998
203	Margaret Higbee	1991	153	William Reid	1999	184	Deuane Hoffman	2000			
195	Steve Graff	1998	132	William Reid	2001	179	Deuane Hoffman	1999	<b>VENANGO</b>		
186	Steve Graff	2000	121	Deuane Hoffman	1998	171	Deuane Hoffman	2001	221	Gary Edwards	2000
131	Deuane Hoffman	1998							207	Gary Edwards	1995
115	Mark McConaughy	2003	<b>LYCOMING</b>			<b>PHILADELPHIA</b>			194	Gary Edwards	1991
114	Mark McConaughy	1998	126	Deuane Hoffman	2000	225	John Miller	1965	192	Russ States	1991
107	Mark McConaughy	2001	120	Deuane Hoffman	1999	208	Edward Fingerhood	1996	113	Deuane Hoffman	1998
106	Mark McConaughy	2002	112	Deuane Hoffman	1997	162	Al Guarente	1992			
100	Mark McConaughy	1999	103	Deuane Hoffman	1998	135	Skip Conant	1999	<b>WARREN</b>		
			100	Don Henise	2000	133	Skip Conant	1998	204	John Fedak	2003
<b>JEFFERSON</b>						132	Skip Conant	2000	201	John Fedak	2002
198	John Fedak	1997	<b>McKEAN</b>			127	Deuane Hoffman	1998	165	Ted Grisez	1992
143	Deuane Hoffman	1996	222	John Fedak	2003	120	Skip Conant	2001	152	Ted Grisez	1985
121	Deuane Hoffman	1998	219	John Fedak	2002	116	Skip Conant	2003	141	John Fedak	2001
			151	John Fedak	2001	103	Skip Conant	2002	117	John Fedak	1997
<b>JUNIATA</b>			119	Deuane Hoffman	1996						
188	Aden Troyer	1996	<b>MERCER</b>			<b>PIKE</b>					
176	Aden Troyer	1997	213	Harvey Troyer	1999	123	Michael Schall	2002			
172	Deuane Hoffman	2000	212	Jerry Troyer	1999	112	Deuane Hoffman	1999			
170	Deuane Hoffman	1996				109	Deuane Hoffman	2000			

**WASHINGTON**

134	Russ Ruffing	1985
132	Roy Ickes	1984
100	George Malosh	1975
100	Geoff Malosh	1999
<b>WAYNE</b>		
127	Deuane Hoffman	1997
121	John Fedak	1997
112	Deuane Hoffman	1998

**WESTMORELAND**

190	Mark McConaughy	1999
179	Mark McConaughy	2000
175	Mark McConaughy	2002
167	Mark McConaughy	2003
163	Mark McConaughy	1998
163	Mark McConaughy	2001

**WYOMING**

196	William Reid	1999
193	William Reid	1993
188	William Reid	2001
181	William Reid	1994
134	Richard Koval	1994
122	Richard Koval	1999
105	Skip Conant	2000
102	Skip Conant	1998
101	Skip Conant	2001

**YORK**

219	Bruce Fortman	1999
214	Deuane Hoffman	1999
202	Deuane Hoffman	2001
196	Russell Ryan	1992
191	Randy Phillips	1999
189	Deuane Hoffman	2000
182	Deuane Hoffman	1998
178	Russell Ryan	1991
153	Candy Krenzer	1999
110	Carl Garner	1999

## County Annual Lists (Top 50)

1	275	Bucks	Devich Farbotnik	2002
2	268	Lancaster	Deuane Hoffman	2000
3	264	Erie	Sam Stull	1979
4	256	Erie	Gerald McWilliams	1992
5	255	Lancaster	Robert Schutsky	1992
6	253	Bucks	Devich Farbotnik	2001
7	252	Erie	Gerald McWilliams	1991
7	252	Berks	Ken Lebo	1995
9	251	Erie	Gerald McWilliams	1983
9	251	Erie	Gerald McWilliams	1988
11	249	Lancaster	Jonathan Heller	1992
12	248	Erie	Gerald McWilliams	1989
13	247	Bucks	Devich Farbotnik	2000
14	246	Erie	Gerald McWilliams	1993
14	246	Dauphin	Deuane Hoffman	2003
16	245	Butler	Gene Wilhelm	1983
16	245	Erie	Gerald McWilliams	1996
18	244	Erie	Gerald McWilliams	1985
19	243	Erie	Gerald McWilliams	1979
19	243	Erie	Gerald McWilliams	1981
21	242	Erie	Gerald McWilliams	1984
21	242	Lancaster	Deuane Hoffman	2001
23	241	Delaware	John Miller	1969
24	240	Erie	Gerald McWilliams	1997
24	240	Berks	Ken Lebo	1999
26	239	Lancaster	Jonathan Heller	1993
26	239	Erie	Gerald McWilliams	1994
26	239	Erie	Gerald McWilliams	2001
29	238	Erie	Gerald McWilliams	1990
29	238	Erie	Gerald McWilliams	1999
31	237	Erie	Gerald McWilliams	1995
31	237	Erie	Gerald McWilliams	2000
33	236	Lancaster	Randy Miller	1991
33	236	Berks	Ken Lebo	1997
33	236	Northampton	Michael Schall	2003
36	235	Lancaster	Deuane Hoffman	1998
37	234	Erie	Gerald McWilliams	1980
37	234	Erie	Gerald McWilliams	1982
37	234	Erie	Gerald McWilliams	1987
37	234	Erie	Ed Kwater	1989
37	234	Lancaster	Jonathan Heller	1991
37	234	Lancaster	Randy Miller	1992
37	234	Dauphin	Deuane Hoffman	1997
44	233	Erie	James Flynn	1979
45	232	Erie	Ed Kwater	1992
45	232	Erie	Gerald McWilliams	2002
45	232	Bucks	Bill Etter	2003
48	231	Erie	Deuane Hoffman	1996
48	231	Clarion	John Fedak	1998
48	231	Dauphin	Deuane Hoffman	1998

# Summary of the Season - December 2003 - February 2004

Douglas Kibbe and Roberta Zwier

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It was, by most accounts, a real winter but few observers relished it. Frozen conditions, poor food supplies and a dearth of winter finches left many observers bemoaning the season and eagerly awaiting the advent of spring and the start of Pennsylvania's second Breeding Bird Atlas Project. Some, mostly those fortunate enough to be located in southeastern Pennsylvania's banana belt, managed to find plenty to keep them active as water birds were forced south to them by freezing conditions. This corner of the state now hosts thousands of geese virtually yearround. These flocks attract and hold rarities for those patient enough to regularly canvass them. The best rarity this winter was the **Pink-footed Goose** that enticed observers from all over to Chester County. Once there, they endured bitter temperatures as they scoped the mixed flock of waterfowl in which this bird hid. Suspected by some to be the same bird which visited the state in 1997 and/or 1998, this individual was accompanied by three Greenland race **Greater White-fronted Geese** which under normal circumstances would have held many observers attention. Whether the Pink-footed originated from the Greenland breeding population is, of course, speculation.

**Greater White-fronted Geese** are now found annually as are **Ross' Geese**. The increase in wintering geese populations is occurring even as traditional winter habitat, i.e. agricultural cropland, is declining. Urban and suburban sprawl continues to shrink farmland available to these birds and it will be only a matter of time before golf courses and industrial parks are listed in regional birding guides as being among the best place to see the small bodied Cackling Goose, the state's newest species (thanks to taxonomic revisions to the Canadian Goose complex made by the American Ornithologist's Union Checklist Committee). Good luck picking one out of a flock of Canadas next winter!

Food availability in winter is a very important factor in determining the number of half-hardy species (e.g., **Gray Catbirds**, **Hermit Thrushes**) which linger and the number of raptors and finches which come down from areas to the north. Data on available food (i.e. berries, fruits, mast, cones and small rodents) was virtually unreported despite repeated requests in past summaries. Perhaps there was nothing to report as few individuals lingered and **Snowy Owls**, **Northern Shrikes**, and irruptive winter finches were nearly nonexistent for the second consecutive winter.

Despite severe weather early in the season, **Rufous Hummingbirds** defied all logic and broke all records for 'abundance' (an incongruous term to use in the context of hummingbirds in a Pennsylvania winter?). Since none of these misguided individuals ever successfully over winter, the popularity of hummingbird feeders is presumably responsible for the increase in reported records. Recall that barely more than a decade ago the species had only been reported from the state five times. Obviously, many earlier occurrence probably went unseen or unidentified.

There were few other western strays, the obvious exceptions being three **Varied Thrush**, two **Harris Sparrows** and three "**Oregon**" **Juncos**. Although **Bohemian Waxwings** invaded the East Coast, including New Jersey, in record numbers, Pennsylvanians were unable to spot even one.

The Gulls attracted much attention, as usual, this season. Bucks County birders solidified their grasp of the title as the epicenter of the **Lesser Black-backed Gull** population in North America. Why those landfills are so attractive and where all these birds go to breed are still unanswered questions. Pennsylvania's first report was in 1960! Rarely do we get an opportunity to see such a dramatic change in an avian population. Now we can watch two species continue their increase. Brace yourself for the explosion of another introduced European species, the **Eurasian Collared Dove**, which may also be on it's way to colonizing the entire east coast.

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# Birds of Note – December 2003 through February 2004

This report summarizes unexpected species and species reported in 5 or fewer counties during the reporting period.

Rare and unusual sightings for which details have been submitted will be reviewed by the Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee. "No Desc" means no description of the bird was submitted, or we are unaware of such a submission at this time.

Birds in *Italics* are uncommon, but occur during this time period in most years.

Birds Underlined occur at least 4 to 7 out of 10 years during this time period.

*Italics Underlined* occur fewer than 4 out of every 10 years during this time period.

**Pink-footed Goose** - *Chester*: one from 1/9 at Coatesville Reservoir (Grier Saunders, Holly Merker). After 1/9, the bird began dividing its time between Coatesville Reservoir and Chambers L. (m.obs.). This is the first record for Chester County; *Lancaster*: one on 2/29 and 3/1 at the Greenfield Estates (Jeff Karnicky, Deuane Hoffman). This is the first record for the county.\

**Gr. Wh-fronted Goose** - *Bradford*: one 1/5 at a pond in Stevensville (Judi Segebarth); *Bucks*: one 12/13-16 at Peace Valley Park (Cameron Rutt, Ken Rieker) and 2/28 (Elaine Ryan); Churchville Res. 12/20-1/20 (Nick Zahn); Del. R. at Washington Crossing 1/1 (Devich Farbotnik). *Chester*: five 12/26 at Coatesville Res. (Early Bird Nature Club); 1-3 at Chamber's L. and Marsh Creek S.P. through 2/1; *Indiana*: two 2/29 at a pond in Saltsburg (David Dunmire, Mary Ann Dunmire, Dennis Lauffer); *Lehigh*: one 1/15 at the Fogelsville Quarry (Jason Horn); *Monroe*: one 2/17 in Brodheads ville (Mike Schall); *Montgomery*: one 1/25-1/27 at Hill Road Green Lane Res. (Andrew Curtis, Kevin Crilley); two more (?) 2/22 at Church Road, Green Lane Res. (Jon Parker, mobs); *Northampton*: one 12/20 at the Northampton Quarry (Michael Schall).

**Ross's Goose** - *Cumberland*: one 1/4 along Mud Level Road on the Newville CBC; *Lancaster*: one 12/21 on the SoLanco CBC; one 12/29 at Muddy Run (Mark Vass); *Lancaster/Lebanon*: 1-7 at Middle Creek W.M.A. 2/13-22 (Tom Johnson, Ramsay Koury, Randy Miller et al.); *Somerset*: an adult 1/4 near Roxbury (Jeff Payne, Retta Payne) and refound at Indian Lake (Ross Gallardy) and in nearby fields (Matt and Chris Payne) until 1/11.

**Brant** - *Berks*: 35 headed south over Hawk Mt. Sanctuary 12/2 (David Barber); *Bucks*: one 12/21 at L. Caroline (Devich Farbotnik); *Chester*: one 1/9-1/18 at Coatesville Res. (Larry Lewis, Rick Robinson).

**Trumpeter Swan** - *Beaver*: two 1/2 at Big Beaver wetlands (Mark Vass); *Chester*: one 2/1-28 at Thorndale Greene (Dave Simmons, Larry Lewis, Mike Chmielewski); *Dauphin*: two 3/1 in Elizabethville, (Edward Engle).

**Surf Scoter** - *Allegheny*: one from November-12/12 at Moody Road in Findlay Twp. (MV, DW); *Beaver*: one 1/30 at New Brighton Big Rock Park (Mark Vass); *Delaware*: three 12/20 along the Delaware R. (Norm Famous).

**White-winged Scoter** - *Allegheny*: one from November-12/12 at a small pond along Moody Road in Findlay Twp.(MV, DW); *Armstrong*: a female 1/17 on the Allegheny R. at Kittanning (Tom Byrnes, Lee Carnahan, Carol Guba, Margaret Higbee, Roger Higbee, Dennis Lauffer, Scott Speedy); *Dauphin*: a drake 2/1-2/15 near the east end of the Rockville Bridge (Tom Johnson, Nancy & Carl Juris, et al.); *Erie*: two 2/25-27 at Presque Isle S.P. (Ben Coulter); *Venango*: one 1/25 on the Allegheny R. ; *Wyoming*: one 12/10 at L. Carey (Bill Reid).

**Black Scoter** - *Allegheny*: one from 1/23-2/7 at Dashiield's Dam on the Ohio R.(DW, m. obs.); *Bucks*: three 12/13 at Nockamixon S.P., a new late fall date (Bill Etter).

**Long-tailed Duck** - *Bucks*: four 12/1 at Nockamixon S.P.(Bill Etter); one 12/30 at Peace Valley Park (Larry Krutulis).

**Barrow's Goldeneye** - *Northampton*: one 12/22 from the Portland footbridge (Billy Weber, Judy Weber, Michael Schall), a fourth county record.

**Red-throated Loon** - *Bucks*: one 12/3 and 12/27 at Nockamixon S.P.(Bill Etter); *Centre*: one 12/6 at Colyer Lake (John Yerger); *Wyoming*: one 12/14 at Lake Carey (Jim Hoyson, Rick Koval).

**Great Egret** - *Philadelphia*: of the 6 that were present 12/2 at John Heinz N.W.R., three survived into early February.

**Green Heron** - *Beaver*: one 1/1-2 at Raccoon Cr.(Ed Richards, Mark Vass, Chris Knoll, Becky Smith); *Schuylkill*: two 1/3 near Landingville Dam (Viv Connor); *Somerset*: one 12/6 at Somerset Lake and 12/3 at Quemahoning Reservoir (Anthony Marich).

**Osprey** - *Bradford*: one during the first two weeks of December on the Susquehanna R. near Wysox (Anita Duvall, Terry Duvall) and again during the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of February (Howard Watkins Jr.). *Bucks*: one 12/1 at Nockamixon S.P.(Bill Etter); *Chester*: one 12/27 at Chamber's Lake (Larry Lewis); *Delaware*: one late November- 12/20 at Springton Res.(Kate Brethwaite).

**Gyrfalcon** - *Dauphin*: a white phase bird 2/14 seen soaring over East Hanover Twp. (Nancy Cladel).

**Virginia Rail** - *Bucks*: seven 1/3 at Quakertown Swamp with four on 1/4 (Devich Farbotnik, Cameron Rutt); *Indiana*: one 12/26 & 1/2 at Yellow Creek S.P. (Margaret and Roger Higbee).

**Sandhill Crane** - *Erie*: one was seen briefly flying over a wooded area in Waterford (Jean Stull Cunningham); *Westmoreland*: one 2/22 near Murrysville (Tom Kuehl).

**Bonaparte's Gull** - *Beaver*: one 1/23 at Beaver Falls Dam (Mark Vass, Chris Knoll); *Berks*: a flock of 34 on 12/1 at L. Ontalaunee (Steve Fordyce); *Bucks*: 35-40 on 1/7 at Churchville Res.(Connie Goldman); *Chester*: one 1/9 at Struble L. and five 1/9 at Marsh Creek S.P. (Grier Sanders, Holly Merker); *Dauphin*: ten 1/7 at the Susquehanna R. from West Fairview (Rosemary Spreha); *Huntington*: 35 on 12/27 on the Juniata R. (David Kyler).

**Thayer's Gull** - *Erie*: at least five birds 1/8-24 at Presque Isle S. P. (Ben Coulter, Jerry McWilliams); *Northampton*: one 1/17 at the Chain Dam (Dave DeReamus ), 3<sup>rd</sup> occurrence in the county.

**Iceland Gull** - *Berks*: seen 12/21-1/11, with high of 4 at New Morgan Landfill 12/21 (Frank & Barbara Haas) and Blue Marsh L. 1/3 (Rudy Keller); *Bucks*: four- five 2/21-22 at the Penn-Warner Tract (Matt Sharp, Devich Farbotnik); *Chester*: one 12/27 at Struble L.(Larry Lewis, Grier Saunders, Sandy Stowet); 1-2 on 1/14-2/12 at Marsh Creek S.P. (Larry Lewis); *Erie*: seven 12/28 through the period at Presque Isle S.P.(Ben Coulter, Jerry McWilliams); *Lebanon*: a 1<sup>st</sup> year bird was Memorial Lake S.P.; *Northampton*: one 12/21 in Wind Gap (Rick Wiltraut); two 1st winter birds 1/14 at the Chain Dam (Michael Schall); two 1/19 including an adult at the Chain Dam (Michael Schall, Gail Johnson); one adult 1/20 at the Chain Dam (Dave DeReamus, Billy Weber) and a different on 1/4 at the Chain Dam (Rick Wiltraut, Jason Horn, Bernie Morris); *Philadelphia*: one 1/10 along the Delaware R.

**Glaucous Gull** - *Berks*: three 12/21 at the New Morgan Landfill (Frank & Barbara Haas) and a juv. 12/31 at Blue Marsh L. (Joan Silagy). *Bucks*: one 12/30-2/21 at Penn-Warner Tract (Karl Kosciuch, Devich Farbotnik, Matt Sharp); *Chester*: one 12/27 at Struble L.(Larry Lewis, Grier Saunders, Barry Blust); one 1/18 at Chamber's L.(Rick Robinson); one .2/2 at Marsh Creek S.P (Larry Lewis, Grier Saunders); *Erie*: five 1/11-2/25 at Presque Isle S.P. (Ben Coulter, Jerry McWilliams);

*Lancaster*: one 12/21 on the SoLanco CBC; *Northampton*: one 1/19 at the Chain Dam (Michael Schall, Gail Johnson).

***Nelson's Gull (Herring X Glaucous Gull)*** - *Bucks*: one 1/15 at the Penn-Warner Tract (Devich Farbotnik); *Erie*: one 2/27 at Presque Isle S.P.(Ben Coulter); *Northampton*: one 1/20 at the Chain Dam (Dave DeReamus, Billy Weber).

***Eurasian Collared Dove*** - *Franklin*: unreported number observed regularly at a feeder in Shady Grove near Kline's Store and Hades Church Road.

***Snowy Owl*** - *Erie*: one 2/17 near McKean (Linda McWilliams); *Franklin*: one female from the beginning of the quarter through 1/24 at Willow Hill (m.obs.).

***Rufous Hummingbird*** - *Allegheny*: two from the fall into December at a feeder in Sewickly Heights (Donna Kipp, Chris Knoll); *Bucks*: one 10/25-1/9 at feeders in Hilltown Township (Bob Tompkins, Kelly Cern); *Centre*: an adult female 12/7-12/27 in Port Matilda (Chuck Widmann); *Dauphin*: one that arrived at a Middletown residence in mid-fall, banded 12/16 (Scott Weidensaul, Jan Getgood) remained until 1/10; *Lycoming*: one from the beginning of the quarter through 1/14 (Dave Ferry); *Schulykill*: one on 1/3 near Williams Valley High School in Tower City (Scott Weidensaul); *York*: one 10/10-1/23 at feeders in New Freedom.

***Selasphorus sp. Hummingbird*** - *Fayette*: one at Belle Vernon reported in the fall period remained to 12/12 (Christine Zerambo, George Zerambo); one at South Connellsville from the fall period was last seen 1/10 (Joanna Adams, Joyce Hoffmann, Dave Wilton, Geoff Malosh, Mark Vass, Mike Fialkovich).

***White-eyed Vireo*** - *Cumberland*: one 1/4 at the Huntsdale Fish Hatchery (Tom Johnson, Ramsay Koury, Joan Renninger).

***Tree Swallow*** - *Perry*: one 12/27 during the New Bloomfield CBC (Pam Parson).

***House Wren*** - *Dauphin*: one 1/29 in South Hanover Twp.(Tom Johnson).

***Marsh Wren*** - *Bucks*: one 1/4 at Quakertown Swamp(Devich Farbotnik), a first county winter record.

***Blue-gray Gnatcatcher*** - *Delaware*: one 12/20 behind the Philadelphia Int'l Airport(Al Guarente).

***Variied Thrush*** - *Berks*: a male 12/6 visited a fruiting crabapple in a backyard near French Creek SP after an 8" snowfall (Colin Hurner); *Dauphin*: one 12/6-12/13 at a Lower Paxton yard (Jane Webster); *Forest*: one 2/27 near Tionesta (Bob Toman,).

***Orange-crowned Warbler*** - *Cumberland*: one 12/20 near Camp Hill (Deuane Hoffman, Ken Mengel).

***Cape May Warbler*** - *Bucks*: one 2/21-3/1 at Silver Lake Nature Center (M. Jeitner, D. Filler, B. Mercer).

***Pine Warbler*** - *Bucks*: one 12/28 at Solebury Twp.(Charlie Cameron); *Centre*: one 1/25-2/27 in Scenery Park,(Dan Ombalski); *Chester*: one 12/27 in western Chester Co.(Larry Lewis); two 1/11 at Coatesville Res.(Larry Lewis); *Philadelphia*: one 1/10 at FDR Park (Stijn Brand, Rich Horowitz); *York*: one 12/20 on the York CBC.

***Palm Warbler*** - *Bucks*: one 12/28 at New Britain Twp.(Chuck Crunkleton, Elaine Ryan); *Montgomery*: one 12/31 at Church Road, Green Lane Res. (George Franchois).

***Black-and-White Warbler*** - *Chester*: one 12/27 during the Western Chester County CBC.

***American Redstart*** - *Delaware*: one in Secane 12/4.

***Ovenbird*** - *Huntington*: one on 12/21 during the Huntington CBC (Rob Criswell).

***Common Yellowthroat*** - *Berks*: adult males were found on the Reading CBC (12/27) and Hamburg CBC (1/4) (Dean Kendall, Katrina Knight); *Wyoming*: one 11/12 in Lemon Twp (Bill Reed)

***Wilson's Warbler*** - *Chester*: one 12/25-12/30 in Avondale (Dirk Robinson); *Delaware*: one 12/4 in Secane.

***Chipping Sparrow*** - *Allegheny*: one at a feeder in Pine Twp.in December (Pat Lynch, Sherron Lynch); one 12/27 in Leetsdale(Becky Smith); *Bucks*: a total CBC count of 18; *Chester*: 1-2 late February in West Chester (Nick Pulcinella); *Delaware*: nine 12/20 on the Glenolden CBC (m obs.); *Indiana*: two 1/22-27 in Reservoir Hill (Pat Johner); *Mercer*: one 12/15-24 at Williamson Rd. (Neil Troyer); *Montgomery*: one spent the entire season at Fort Washington S.P.(Bill Murphy); *Philadelphia*: one 1/10 in Philadelphia (Adrian Binns, Bert Filemyr, Bill Murphy).

***Clay-colored sparrow*** - *Chester*: one 12/11-12-9 in Honey Brook Twp. (Grier Sanders, Sandy Stowet, Holly Merker, Larry Lewis); one 12/20 on the Western Chester County CBC. (Larry Lewis); *Dauphin*: one 2/14 at a South Hanover Twp. feeder (Patricia & Richard Williams); *Mercer*: one 12/24-12/29 at a feeder on Williamson Road (Neil Troyer).

***Lincoln's Sparrow*** - *Allegheny*: one 12/7 in Leetsdale (Becky Smith); *Bucks*: one 12/14 in Lower Makefield Twp. (George Carmichael).

***Harris's Sparrow*** - *Montgomery*: one throughout the quarter at a feeder near Green Lane Res. (Dan Hall); *Northampton*: one 1/31 through the end of the period at Stone Church (Rick Wiltraut, mobs); *Warren*: one 12/7-January near Sugar Grove (Scott Soleson, m.obs.)a first county record.

***Dark-eyed (Oregon) Juncos*** - *Butler*: three (1 adult male, 2 first-year females) 12/3 in Slippery Rock (Gene and Joanne Wilhelm).

***Rose-breasted Grosbeak*** - *Westmoreland*: one at a feeder in Murrysville as late as 12/1 (Louis Skrabec).

***Blue Grosbeak*** - *Lancaster*: one 1/7 near Holtwood (Jim Smith).

***Indigo Bunting*** - *Clarion*: one 12/27 in Miola (Ernie Aharrah).

***Painted Bunting*** - *York*: one 2/7 through the end of the period at a feeder in the village of Saginaw (mobs.).

***Yellow-headed blackbird*** - *Lancaster*: one 2/21 in southern Lancaster Co. (Geoff Malosh; photographs taken).

***Brewer's Blackbird*** - *Allegheny*: one 12/27 in Penn Hills (Ron Byrom), likely the first county record; *Bucks*: one 12/7 at Bedminster Twp. (Tim Bradley); one 12/16 near Perkaspie (Hart Rufe); *Lycoming*: one male at a feeder (Ed Reish); one 12/7 at Cogan House Twp.( Dr. Joe Lipar, Joe Yoder, Dave Ferry). *Westmoreland*: one 1/10-11 at Crabtree (M. McConaughy, D. Beyers, Mike Fialkovich, J. Hoffman, D. Wilton, G. Malosh, M. Vass, M. & R. Higbee).

***Baltimore Oriole*** - *Bucks*: one 12/10 at Nockamixon S.P.(Bill Etter); two together 1/11 at Peace Valley Park (Ken Rieker, Ian Baldock); one 2/22 in Doylestown Twp. (Bill Graham); *Chester*: one 12/16-20 at Tel Hai Retirement Community (Phyllis and Beryl Hurlock); *Clarion*: one 12/7-13 at Knox (Walter Fye).

***Red Crossbill*** - *Berks*: a calling bird 12/8 near Hamburg (Kerry Grim); *Bradford*: one 12/27 near Herrickville (Bill Reid); *McKean*: six near Indian Creek (John Fedak, Lisa Fedak); *Wyoming*: unreported number at unreported locations (Bill Reid).

***White-winged Crossbill*** - *Monroe*: one in late January at a feeder near Saylorsburg (Jana Atwell); *Wyoming*: unreported number at unreported locations Bill Reid).

***Hoary Redpoll*** - *Allegheny*: one 2/6 at a feeder in Sewickley (Dave Wilton, Mark Vass), this is likely a first county record; *Lehigh*: one 12/14 at feeders near Macungies (Bernie Morris, Pauline Morris).

***Evening Grosbeak*** - *Berks*: a male 2/1at an Eckville feeder; *Clarion*: ten 2/8 at the Olson Farm (Walter Fye); *Franklin*: one 12/20 on the Chambersburg CBC; *McKean*: 20+ on 12/1 at Eldred; *Monroe*: two in late January near Canadensis (Jana Atwell); *Warren*: one 12/1 at Saybrook.

# Local Notes - December 2003 through February 2004

## Adams County

Locations: Abbottstown (ABTN), E. Berlin (EBER), Freedom Twp (FDM), Gettysburg (GBG), Long Pine Run Reservoir (LPRR), Mountain Road (MTN), York Springs (YS).

There were 80 species reported during the winter season, including 11 waterfowl species. The December 20<sup>th</sup> Christmas Bird Count tallied 69 species, including 10 species of waterfowl.

The waterfowl found on the 12/20 CBC included 2 **Snow Geese**, 2 **Gadwall**, 1 **N. Pintail**, and 2 **Hooded Merganser**. A nice flock of 25 Hooded Merganser was found 12/3 at LPRR (PK).

There were 5 reports of **N. Harrier** from 12/20-2/14, with 12 reported on the CBC. Good numbers of **Rough-legged Hawks** also appeared throughout the season, with a high of 14 seen 2/16 in FDM (ANK). A Barn Owl was found in Feb. in FDM (CS). On 2/14 a **Long-eared Owl** was found dead beside the road in FDM, apparently hit by a car (BF, SW). **Short-eared Owls** visited FDM and were reported from 12/20-2/13. The high count of 7 on 2/9 included 5 live and 2 dead birds, also apparently hit by cars. The roadkill owls were probably hunting along the side of the road because of a hard crusted snow cover.

Adams County is a good place to find **Red-headed Woodpeckers**. The CBC recorded 41 of them. There were 3 reports of **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** – 1 on 12/15 at MTN (RDS), 2 on the 12/20 CBC, and 1 in FDM 2/5 (PJR). A **Northern Shrike** visited FDM from 2/16-/20 (ANK). A pair of **Common Raven** continue to reside in western Adams (RDS).

There was only one **Red-breasted Nuthatch** sighting, a single bird in GBG on 12/2 (NL), and just three reports of **Brown Creeper**. One **Winter Wren** was found 12/20 on the CBC. **Fox Sparrows** were scarce also, with a 12/7 sighting in ABTN (BM) and one spotted 2/8 in EBER (PK). One **Snow Bunting** was seen 2/1 during a winter raptor survey, the only one for the season. **Pine Siskins** appeared at MTN – 3 on 2/15 and 15 on 2/23 (RDS). No Crossbill, Redpoll, or Evening Grosbeak was found.

Observers: **Peter Robinson, P. O. Box 482, Hanover, PA 17331, (717) 632-8462 pabirder@hotmail.com** Christmas Bird Count, Bruce Fortman, Don & Jennifer Gilbert, Phil Keener, Art & Nonie Kennell, Nancy Locher, Bob Moul, Regina Reeder, Ralph & Deb Siefken, Carole Simon, Dan Snell, Steve Wildasin.

## Allegheny County

Locations: Dashields Dam on the Ohio River (DASH), Imperial (IMP), Pittsburgh Christmas Count (PGHCC)

We had a very good variety of winter birds in the county this season. Waterfowl variety was excellent this winter as lakes to the north began to freeze. A flock of 75 **Tundra Swans** were flying over Kilbuck Township 12/12 (PB), 71 were flying over North Park 1/19 (BVN), and an undetermined number were heard flying over at IMP at dusk 2/12 (SC). A **Northern Pintail** was present at North Park 1/2-3 (DW, JH, MF), and 1 was on the Allegheny River at Sharpsburg 2/27 (JF). A **Ring-necked Duck** was in Findlay Township 1/6 (DW), and a **Greater Scaup** was on the Allegheny River at Fox Chapel 1/29 (DW). **Common Goldeneye** were reported through the period with a high count of 18 on the Ohio River at Emsworth 2/21 (PB). Other species reported during the period included **Gadwall**, **American Wigeon**, **American Black Duck**, **Canvasback**, **Redhead**, **Lesser Scaup**, **Bufflehead**, **Hooded**, **Common**, and **Red-breasted Mergansers**, and **Ruddy Duck**. The **Surf Scoter** and **White-winged Scoter** first reported in November on a small pond along Moody Road in Findlay Township were last reported 12/12 (MV, DW). A female or immature **Black Scoter** was a great find at DASH 1/23 (DW). It was seen by many observers and was last reported 2/7. It's a rare event when we record all 3 scoters in the Pittsburgh area.

Unusual was an albino (or leucistic) **Wild Turkey** in Findlay Township 1/12 (DW). A **Ring-necked Pheasant** was seen in Hampton Township 12/27 (PGHCC).

There was a single report of a **Common Loon** on the Ohio River at Emsworth 1/31 (PB). A welcome sight was a **Red-necked Grebe** on 1/23 at DASH (DW) where it remained until 2/2. A bird seen on the Allegheny River at Fox Chapel and Verona 2/9–14 (DW, MF, DY) may have been the same individual. A few **Double-crested Cormorants** were present in December, but moved on when the rivers froze in February. Unusual were reports of **Turkey Vultures** during the period. The high count in December was 26 on 12/7 seen from DASH (JH, DW), and the high for January at that location was 25 on 1/3 (MV). **Turkey Vultures** were also noted at the Imperial Landfill in Findlay Township (v.o.).

**Bald Eagle** sightings were regular this winter. Adults and immatures were at various locations along the Ohio River, 2 adults were seen in the Highland Park Bridge area on the Allegheny River (TB), and 3 were seen on 12/1 at DASH (MV, DW). An immature was observed on 1/24 hunting at Brunot's Island on the Ohio River. Bob Machesney writes: "The eagle hovered over the water and plunged into the icy Ohio talons first. It came out and started to hover again. This time a duck popped up and submerged as soon as the eagle plunged again into the water. This went on for several minutes. At one point, the eagle flew downstream a hundred yards, and then immediately returned to the duck. This time the duck wasn't quick and the eagle was able to grab it and hold it under water for about 2 minutes and drowned it. Soaked, the eagle couldn't take off, so it paddled with its huge wings and duck in tow to an ice flow. As it was plucking the feathers it kept looking down river. I then noticed a barge in tow heading right for the eagle. Just as the barge was almost on top of it, it flew into some nearby trees on the island. The rest of the duck—less feathers—floated down river." Interestingly, this was within sight of downtown Pittsburgh.

Along with other parts of the state, we were fortunate to have good numbers of **Rough-legged Hawks** in the area this winter. Dark and light morph birds were seen at IMP regularly during the period. The highest count was 7 on 2/11 (DW, WS, DS). Up to 2 **Merlins** were seen in Schenley Park in December and into January (v.o.). A single **Merlin** was found in Jefferson Borough 12/20 (SSN).

A few wintering **Killdeer** were reported: 1 in Oakland 12/1 (AG); 1 at DASH 12/6 (MV), and 1 at Jefferson Borough 2/25 (SSN).

Three rare gulls for the county appeared this winter. Unfortunately, the birds were seen by few birders due to their brief visits and tendency to move around. A first winter **Iceland Gull** was found on 2/7 among thousands of **Ring-billed Gulls** at the convergence of the Ohio, Monongahela, and Allegheny Rivers in Pittsburgh (DW). Unfortunately, the bird was not relocated. I checked with other birders and looked through county records and could not find any record of Iceland Gull, so this was most likely a first county record. An adult **Lesser Black-backed Gull** was seen at DASH 12/6 (DW), and another was at Findlay Township 1/29 (DW). A first winter **Great Black-backed Gull** was seen at DASH 1/21 (DW), and an adult was seen in the same area 1/22 (GM). An incredible 3,000 **Ring-billed Gulls** were counted at DASH 12/7 (SK, MV).

**Short-eared Owls** were seen regularly at IMP during the period. Unexpected was a **Short-eared Owl** flushed in St. Mary's Cemetery in O'Hara Township 12/30 (DY). In February, I received a report of 2 **Rufous Hummingbirds** visiting a feeder in Sewickley Heights in the fall and into December (DK, fide CK). A detailed description was not submitted, so the species is undetermined, although thought to be a *Selasphorus sp.*

**Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers** were reported at Harrison Hills Park 12/20 (PH), Kilbuck Township 1/3 (PB), O'Hara Township 1/29 (DW) and at Ross Township 2/2 (EA). Adding to the county rarities this winter, a **Northern Shrike** was found in a field at North Park 1/9 (DW). This bird was seen by many eager birders and was present through February. Interestingly, a **Northern Shrike** was seen at the same location 12/12/91 (JH). Two **Common Ravens** were seen at IMP 2/11 (DW). Apparently, they were feeding at the Imperial Land Fill.

A **Red-breasted Nuthatch** was reported at Penn Hills from 12/25 through January (MF), in Plum 1/1 (MMC), 2 in Shaler Township 1/1 (DY), and 1 in Marshall Township 1/31 (DW). A **Winter Wren** was found at North Park 1/24 (DW), and on 2/1 on the grounds of the National Aviary in Pittsburgh (SC). Unusual for December, a **Ruby-crowned Kinglet**, a **Brown Thrasher** and a **Gray Catbird** were found in Frick Park 12/27 (TF, SC). A few **Hermit Thrushes** were found in the county. Two were in Sewickley 12/10 (CK), and single birds were found in Fox Chapel 12/27 to at least 1/7 (BSH, et al.), IMP 2/2 (DW) and Ross Township 2/2 (EA).

An unexpected bird was found at Woodland Hills High School in Churchill 12/19—an **American Pipit** was well studied in a courtyard at the school; closely observed through a classroom window. The bird was present for a few minutes before flying off (JO). **Yellow-rumped Warblers** were seen in Sewickley 12/1 (CK) and 1/14 (DW). **Eastern Towhees** are rarely reported in the winter, however this year there were widespread reports. Two birds were visiting a feeder in Sewickley Heights 12/17-19, and 12/28 (CK), and 3 were there 1/14 (DW). A single bird was in Shaler Township 12/21 (JH); 4 were found in Frick Park 12/27 (PH, JS, SS, TF, SC, BC), several were seen along Strouss Road in Findlay Township in January (DW, et al.) with a high count of 11 on 1/22 (DW), and 1 was in Upper St. Clair 1/6 (DW). A **Chipping Sparrow** was an unexpected visitor to a feeder in Pine Township in December (PL, SL). One was also in Leetsdale 12/27 (BS). A few wintering **Field Sparrows** were found during the period: 2 in Sewickley 12/4 (CK) and 7 in Harmar Township 1/20 (DW). Also unusual at this time of year, a **Lincoln's Sparrow** was seen at a feeder in Leetsdale 12/7 (BS). Wintering or lingering **Swamp Sparrows** were found in Sewickley 12/12 (CK), 1 at Harrison Hills Park 12/20 (PH), 2 at North Park 1/2 (JH, DW), 2 in Upper St. Clair 1/6, and 1 in Sewickley 1/14 (DW). **White-crowned Sparrows** were found at the reliable wintering location at a small farm in Findlay Township, but up to 9 were also seen in Jefferson Borough in early December (SSN), and 3 were in Sewickley 12/19-28 (CK).

Rare for the county, a flock of 31 **Snow Buntings** was seen at IMP 2/8 (DW, JH, FM, CM), and 12 were there 2/14 (MV). An early **Red-winged Blackbird** visited a feeder in Etna 1/25 (DY). A **Rusty Blackbird** was visiting a feeder in Pine Township 12/7-22, and was joined by another bird 12/17 (PL, SL). This is an uncommon species in the county during migration, but even more so during the winter. A **Brewer's Blackbird** was found during the PGHCC in Penn Hills 12/27 (RB) which was probably a first county record. Unusual were the presence of 2 **Brown-headed Cowbirds** visiting a feeder in Pine Township 12/9-21 (PL, SL), and a **Common Grackle** found in Hampton Township 12/27 (PGHCC).

A **Common Redpoll** visited a feeder in Frazer Township 2/5 (JM), and a **Hoary Redpoll** was reported at a feeder in Sewickley 2/6 (DW, MV), which is another likely first county record. A few **Pine Siskins** were reported: 3 were seen at Hartwood Acres 12/28 (JH, DW), 6 were at that location 1/20 (DW), and several were visiting a feeder in Marshall Township from at least 12/28 to 2/16 (DW, et al.).

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#### **Armstrong County**

Abbreviations: Elders Ridge (ER), Keystone Power Plant (KPP), Kittanning (KT), Margaret (MG), Rosston (RT), Schenley (SL).

**Canada Goose** maxima included 150 near KT 1/17 (TB, LC, CG, MH, RH, DL, SS), 181 near ER 1/22 (RH), and 209 at KPP 2/2 (MH,RH). Two **Mute Swans** had been present at RT through 1/17 (TB, et al.), but by 2/4 (JV,JVa) through the end of the season, only 1 could be found. A single **Tundra Swan** at SL 1/25 (MFi,PH,JVa) was the lone report. Three **Gadwalls** arrived at KPP 2/22 (EF,MF) where they remained through the end of the season (RH). **Am. Black Duck** reports included 1 at KT 1/1 (EF,MF,DL), 11 at Mosgrove 1/9 (EF,MF), 2 at SL 1/25 (MF,PH,JVa), and 2 at RT 2/22 (MM). **Mallard** maxima were 100 at SL 1/25 (MF,PH,JVa) and 77 near MG 1/26 (MH,RH). RT yielded 5 **Canvasbacks** on 2/17 (KB,EC,KJ,MS,LS). Three **Redheads** were seen near Lock 5 at KT 1/17 (TB,et al.) while 1 was at KPP 1/18 (DL) and 2/2 (MH,RH); by 2/22 (EF,MF) 15 Redheads and 1 **Lesser Scaup** had arrived at KPP. A female **White-winged Scoter** was a nice find on the Allegheny River at KT 1/17 (TB, et al.). Two **Buffleheads** were at KT 1/1 (EF,MF,DL); 1 was at Templeton 1/9 (EF,MF), 4 at KT 1/17 (TB,et al.), and 3 at RT 2/27 (MM). **Common Goldeneye** reports included 4 at RT and 2 at KT, both 1/17 (TB, et al.), and 5 at SL 1/25 (MF,PH,JVa). One **Hooded Merganser** was listed at KT 1/17 (TB,et al.), 2 were at KPP the same day (EF,MF), and 4-3 were at RT 2/22, 27 (MM). Ten **Common Mergansers** lingered on Keystone Reservoir 12/7 (MH,RH); by 2/12 (JV,JVa) the numbers on the river at RT had increased to 43. By 2/22 (MM), 67 were present at RT. Twelve **Red-breasted Mergansers** at Crooked Creek 12/2 (DV,JV) were last. A **Ruddy Duck** at KT 1/1 (EF,MF,DL) was the lone report.

A **Ring-necked Pheasant** near Elderton 2/2 (MH,RH) was the lone report. **Wild Turkey** maxima included 22 at Crooked Creek 12/2 (DV,JV) and 65 near Keystone Reservoir 1/22 (CG,MH). Two **Common Loons** lingered at Keystone Reservoir 1/1 (MH,RH). One **Pied-billed Grebe** at KT 1/1 (EF,MF,DL) and 2 at Manorville and 1 at RT, both 1/17 (TB, et al.) were the only reports for this species. **Great Blue Herons** were found 1/17 (EF,MF) at KPP and 2/27 (MM) at RT. **Bald Eagle** reports included 1 immature at KT 12/9 (JV) and 1 adult and a sub-adult at Templeton 1/9 (EF,MF). ER yielded 3 **N. Harriers** 1/10 (MH,RH); 1 was still present 2/22 (MM). **Sharp-shinned Hawks** were found at 3 locations; **Cooper's**, at 2 (v.o.). MM counted 22 **Red-tailed Hawks** on his WRS 2/15. A light morph **Rough-legged Hawk** was found at ER 1/17 (EF,MF) and 1/19 (MH,RH); a dark morph was near Iselin 1/19 (MH,RH); 4 (2 of each morph) were simultaneously visible in flight near Blanco 2/2 (MH,RH). MM's WRS counted 3 rough-legs but only 1 **Am. Kestrel** on 2/15. A **Killdeer** at the KPP 1/18 (DL) was the lone report. Thirty **Ring-billed Gulls** circled over Ford City 12/1 (JV), but none could be found on the river until 2/10 (JV,JVa) when 12 were present at Manorville; 67 was the top count at Manorville on 2/20 (JV,JVa). A single **Herring Gull** was listed at KT 1/1 (EF,MF,DL) and 1/9 (EF,MF); 4 were at RT 2/27 (MM). A gray morph **E. Screech-Owl** peering from a tree near WL 1/10 (MH,RH) was the lone report. A **Belted Kingfisher** at KPP 1/17 (EF,MF) and 1/18 (DL) was the lone report. The river outing on 1/17 (TB,et al.) yielded 2 **Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers**, 1 at the Snyder picnic area and the other at Templeton. Courtship feeding between 2 **Common Ravens** was observed near last year's nest near Elderton on 2/17 (MH,RH). A flock of 25 **Horned Larks** in North Buffalo Twp. 1/25 (JV,JVa) was the lone report. Single **Carolina Wrens** were listed only at MG 2/2 (MH,RH) and at Ford City 2/15 (JV,JVa). A **Winter Wren** near FC 12/6 (JV) was a nice find. **E. Bluebird** reports included 2 near MG 12/3 (MH,RH), 4 near Maysville 1/10 (MH,RH), and 4 near Blanco 2/23 (MH,RH). **Am. Robins** were in scarce supply with only the report of 1 on 2/2 (JV,JVa) at KT. **N. Mockingbirds** were listed 2/2 (MH,RH) near MG and at Blanco and again 2/23 (MH,RH) at Blanco. Top **Am. Tree Sparrow** count was 8 at the Snyder picnic area 1/17 (TB,et al.). High tallies included 125 **Red-winged Blackbirds** and 25 **Brown-headed Cowbirds** 2/22 (MM) at ER.

Observers: Margaret & Roger Higbee, 3119 Creekside Road, Indiana 15701, (724) 354-3493 bcoriole@alltel.net Ken Byerly, Tom Byrnes, Lee Carnahan, Ellie Cochran, Mike Fialkovich (MFi), Evelyn Fowles, Mike Fowles, Carol Guba, Paul Hess, Margaret Higbee, Roger Higbee, Karen Jackson, Dennis Lauffer, Mark

McConaughy, Mary Shirland, Lou Skrabec, Scott Speedy, Dave Valasek, Joe Valasek, Josie Valasek (JVa), Jim Valimont (JVAl).

### Beaver County

Overall the weather was very wintery, which is appropriate. The area received more snow than usual plus there was ice covering the snow for a few weeks late in the season.

Throughout the season period waterfowl remained on the rivers and lakes. The highlights being **Bufflehead, Gadwall, Common Goldeneye, Hooded Merganser, Lesser Scaup, Ring-necked Duck** plus a beautiful male **Surf Scoter** at New Brighton Big Rock Park on 1/30 (Mark Vass), which remained on the Ohio River for at least 3 days. A drake **Wood Duck** was found at Beaver Falls dam (MV). Two **Trumpeter Swans** were at Big Beaver wetlands 1/2 (MV).

A **Green Heron** was present at Raccoon Cr. 1/1-2 (MV Ed Richards, Chris Knoll, Becky Smith). A **Red-shouldered Hawk** was located in Darlington Twp. 1/31 (MV, CK). A dark phase Rough-legged Hawk was seen 2-1-04 thru 2604.

On 1/23 there was a **Bonaparte's Gull** at Beaver Falls Dam (MV, CK) and a **Great Black-backed Gull** along the Ohio R. At Industry (MV). An **American Pipit** at Rochester Riverfront Park 1/23 (MV, CK). Other notable species were: Snow Bunting, Horned Lark and Lapland Longspur all seen on 2-8-04.

Observers: **Jim Barker, 250 Neville Rd., Beaver, 15009, barker@access995.com**, Chris Knoll (CK), Ed Richards, Becky Smith, Mark Vass (MV).

### Bedford County

Lakes were frozen from Dec. to March while the rest of the County was left covered with 12 -18 inches of hard crusted snow. This snow, plus windchill, kept most of our observers in cars and out of the bush. On 12/27, at Shawnee State Park, a crack in the ice gave us the only waterfowl of the season: 1 **Pied-billed Grebe**, 1 **Tundra Swan**, 20 **Canada Goose**, 43 **Am. Black Duck**, 8 **American Widgeon**, 170 **Mallard**, 1 **Ruddy Duck**, and 1 **Common Merganser**.

It was a good season for wintering raptors. This was especially true for the Cumberland Valley where rodents were abundant and accessible. On 1/8, 15 **Red-tailed Hawks**, 5 **Northern Harriers**, and 3 **Am. Kestrels** were counted over a 2 hour period (SD,TD,RM,). Later that day 5 **Short-eared Owls** were discovered in fallow fields off the "Old Glades Pike Road." They lingered on and off for 8 weeks. The same raptor route produced different results on 2/1 with 26 **Red-tailed Hawks**, 2 light phase **Rough-legged Hawks**, 1 **adult Red-shouldered Hawk**, 4 **Am. Kestrels** and 1 **Northern Goshawk**. No harriers were found.

Timothy Flanagan (DGP for Bedford) reported **Golden Eagle(s)** feeding on deer kills off Rt. 31. It is not unusual for several Golden Eagles to over-winter each year. Occasionally the game commission deer dump site at Wills Mt. attracts as many as 10 Golden Eagles at one time during the late Winter/Spring migration.

The first report of **American Woodcock** was 2/21. A flock of **Snow Buntings** were seen on 1/10 in Cumberland Valley (SD). On the same day it appeared that every manured field was covered with pigeons, crows, horned larks, and pipits.

The early season lack of acorns and severe winter took its toll on **Wild Turkey**. Several reports were received regarding turkey mortality. However, turkeys surprised country feeder watchers by spending time at feeders eating and roosting. The birds and the watchers were happy. Other interesting reports were 4 **Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers** feeding on tree sap in Shellsburg on 12/27 and on the same date a small flock of 11 **Yellow-rumped Warblers** at Shawnee State Park.(SD). Winter finches were all but absent. Were it not for **Pine Siskins** which were spotty, but persistent, occasionally in large numbers < 100, at some Bedford Co. feeders.

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**thomasd102@aol.com**, Tom and Debbie Bodenshatz, Sally Dick, Rosemary McGlynn, Janet Shaffer.

### Berks County

Locations: Blue Marsh L. (BML), Hawk Mt. Sanctuary (HMS), L. Ontelaunee (LO), State Game Land #110 on Kittatinny Ridge (SGL).

Rough-leg winters have traditionally been hard, and this one felt that way. But locally compiled weather statistics said the period December through February was, in the long-term sense, average in temperature and precipitation. The major lakes were mostly frozen from mid-January through February, causing a hiatus in the occurrence of waterfowl and gulls.

**Snow Geese** had begun to arrive in tens of thousands by 2/29, earlier than last year due to earlier thaw. The only reported **Brant** were 35 headed south over HMS 12/2 (DB). **Mute Swan** pairs resided where open water permitted. Young birds are regularly seen wandering in search of ponds of their own. A few small flocks of **Tundra Swans** were noted as usual at both ends of their migration time. Birders reported 14 duck spp. spending all or part of the winter. Two **Great Blue Herons** survived the freeze at LO partly by approaching ice fishermen, who occasionally threw them small fish. Raptor variety and numbers were exceptional. Both vulture spp. again wintered throughout the county, concentrating around quarries for roosting and chicken farms for carrion.

The post-season volunteer hawk count at HMS tallied 18 **Bald Eagles** 12/16-1/31 (DB). A few adults and immatures were reported all winter at BML and LO (m.obs.). A pair of adults at LO was exhibiting courtship behavior in early January (SF, PS) and was observed copulating and carrying sticks in February and March, marking another PA site apparently colonized by a nesting pair. After years of scarcity, the mid-January freeze brought an influx of **N. Harriers** and **Rough-legged Hawks**. At least 13 Rough-legs (3 dark morph, 10 light morph) were reported (m.obs.). The warm season grass plantings at BML apparently produced the voles required by these birds, as 3 Rough-legs and at least 5 Harriers stayed there to hunt (SF, RK, JS, et al.). Virtually all the Rough-legs were gone by March. Among 54 **Red-tailed Hawks** (CRE, SS) attracted to chicken carrion in the Oley Valley 2/9 was a richly colored bird having "... rufous on the breast where a normal Redtail would have been white, with an extremely broad and dark belly band." (CRE). The observers said it matched the western intermediate adult illustrated in the Sibley guide. There are several previous records of this form in the county. **Red-shouldered Hawks** wintered in southern Berks, where nesting has occurred, and at LO (SF, KL, MS, MW). Adult **N. Goshawks** were seen at BML 1/17 (JS) and at Windsor Castle 2/8 (RK). The only reported **Merlin** was at BML 2/9 (MS). An adult **Peregrine Falcon** was at BML 1/19,22 (JS) and 2 were flying together over Reading, a former hack site, 2/20 (PS). **Golden Eagles** stuck to the Kittatinny Ridge as usual, with singles at HMS 12/26 & 1/7 (JS) and an imm. at SGL 2/29 (TC).

The spring fed wetland at Milestone Rd. near BML was an oasis in a frozen landscape for mud birds, sustaining high counts of 20 **Killdeer** and 25 **Wilson's Snipe** 2/17 and 6 **Am. Pipits** 2/3 (JS). A flock of 34 **Bonaparte's Gulls** paused at LO 12/1 (SF). Huge early winter gull flocks roosting at BML and LO contained the usual rarities. **Iceland Gulls** were seen 12/21-1/11, with highs of 4 at New Morgan landfill 12/21 (F&BH) and BML 1/3 (RK). Three **Glaucous Gulls** were at the landfill 12/21 (F&BH) and a juv. at BML 12/31 (JS). Up to 4 annually occurring **Lesser Black-backed Gulls** were seen most of the winter, and 1-15 **Great Black-backed Gulls** could be found as well (m.obs.). A female **Great Horned Owl** was incubating on a Redtail nest at Gotwals pond, Oley 2/21 (RK). The only reported **Short-eared Owl** was found on the Hamburg CBC 12/28. A **Long-eared Owl** roosted in a row of white pines in Bern Twp. 12/23 only (JS).

A lingering **E. Phoebe** was found on the Bernville CBC 1/4, and the first spring migrant was singing at Baldy Hill, District Twp. 2/29 (CRE). The only reported wintering site for **Red-breasted Nuthatches** was LO, where 1-4 were seen in January (SF, MS). A male **Varied Thrush** (3rd county record) visited a fruiting crabapple

in a backyard near French Creek SP after an 8" snowfall 12/6 (CH). The bird associated with a small flock of **Am. Robins** and was last seen in late afternoon 12/7 (RK). About 1000 **Am. Robins** roosted in red cedars at BML 1/17 (JS). Two **Gray Catbirds** were still alive at LO 1/11 (SF), before the hard freeze. Adult male **Common Yellowthroats** were found by the same observers on the Reading (12/27) and Hamburg (1/4) CBC's (DK, KK). **Yellow-rumped Warblers** vacated after 1/4, but a **Pine Warbler** again wintered at suet and seed feeders at the Sensory Trail, BML, present 12/16 through March (JS). Sometimes 2 birds were thought to be present, but they were never seen together.

**Purple Finches**, an **E. Towhee** and many sparrows (up to 50 **Am. Tree Sparrows** in February) also pleased many winter birders to this easily accessible public site. Feeders in Bern and District Twp. hosted 1-2 **Chipping Sparrows** in January and February (RK, JS). **Lapland Longspurs** combed from **Horned Lark** flocks included 2 near Lyons 1/18 (MW) and 3 in the Oley Valley 2/1 (RK). After a small fall movement, **Snow Buntings** were virtually absent. Singular birds were a **Rusty Blackbird** near Hamburg 1/25 (MW), a calling **Red Crossbill** near Hamburg 12/8 (KG) and a male **Evening Grosbeak** briefly at an Eckville feeder 2/1 (SW). The huge **Common Redpoll** irruption reported to the north and east barely reached northern Berks on the Kittatinny Ridge, where 50 were seen at HMS 1/8 (LG) and 160 on 2/29 (DB). Continuing the fall, 2003 pattern, small flocks of **Purple Finches** (up to 16) and **Pine Siskins** (up to 35) favored a few feeders through February.

Observers: **Rudy Keller, 71 Lutz Rd., Boyertown, 19512, 610-845-7310, rkeller@temple.edu**, David Barber & HMS vols/staff, Ed Barrell, Tom Clauser, Catherine R. Elwell, Steve Fordyce, Laurie Goodrich, Kerry Grim, Frank & Barb Haas, Colin Hurner, Anna Kendall, Dean Kendall, Katrina Knight, Dave Kruel, Ken Lebo, Peter Saenger, Joe Scholtes, Sue Schmoyer, Joan Silagy, Matt Spence, Matt Wlasniewski.

#### **Blair County**

No Report. No Compiler.

#### **Bradford County**

Locations: CBC refers to the SE Bradford Co. Christmas Bird Count on 12/27.

In short, winter in Bradford County was cold and snowy. A **Greater White-fronted Goose** was present at a pond in Stevensville on 1/5 (JS). Twenty **Snow Geese** were observed near Laceyville on 1/8 (RK). A **Gadwall** was seen on Tamarack Pond 11/27, a **Green-winged Teal** 12/27 on the CBC at Standing Stone, and a **Bufflehead** at French Asylum 12/17 (BR). A **Common Loon** was seen on the Wyalusing Creek near Camptown on 11/29 and for a few weeks thereafter (BK), and on 1/13 at the same location (PG).

On the raptor front, things were fairly active. An **Osprey** was reported near the Susquehanna River during the first two weeks of December near Wysox (AD, TD) and also at Craftmaster's, near Wysox during the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of February (HW). **Bald Eagles** were seen frequently along the Susquehanna: an adult near Wysox on 12/20 (AB, RT), an immature on the CBC 12/27 (BR), 6 adults on the Brad. Co. Bald Eagle Survey from the NY line to Wyalusing on 1/10 (DA, BF, TG, RG, JL, AL, JP), and an incubating pair near French Asylum on 2/18 (RG). A **Northern Harrier** was observed on 12/29 at the Towanda airport (BF), and on Lime Hill 1/29 (TG). A **Red-shouldered Hawk** was near Monroeton on South Side Road 1/19 (BF). There were a number of sightings of **Rough-legged Hawks**: 1/26 at Ackla's Pond near Marshview (TG), 1/28 a dead one found in Athens (MZ), 2/2 a dark one south of Troy (BL), one observed in the Troy area frequently until the end of February (RY). A **Golden Eagle** was reported from Sugar Run 12/17 (MM). A **Peregrine Falcon** was present near Tamarack Pond on the CBC 12/27 (BR).

An **American Woodcock** was noted on the CBC 12/27 in south Herrick (BR). Delightful were the two **Short-eared Owls** seen in the East Smithfield area on 2/20 (DA), and the **N. Saw-Whet Owl**

observed on the CBC 12/27 at Spring Hill (BR). I found an **E. Screech-Owl** sitting on the snow-covered road during a snowstorm near New Era on 2/3 (TG).

There were two **Northern Shrike** sightings: 12/9 at Standing Stone (RK) and 12/27 on the CBC on Rt. 409 near US Rt. 6 (BR). Among the birds sighted on CBC 12/27 were a **Red-breasted Nuthatch**, a **Winter Wren** and a **Northern Mockingbird** (RK). Twenty **Am. Tree Sparrows** were at Ackla's Pond 1/30 and 15 near New Era on 1/14 (TG). On the CBC 12/27 a **Swamp Sparrow** and an **E. Meadowlark** were observed (RK). Also on the CBC 12/27 was a **Common Grackle** (SG, BW), and a **Red Crossbill** near Herrickville (BR). Last but not least, I was very pleased to find 35 **Common Redpolls** at my home near New Era on 1/11(TG).

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**tgswoods@epix.net** Dick Allyn, Anna Beloker, Anita Duvall, Terry Duvall, Bob Fowles, Sandy Goodwin, , Paula DeGregorio, Rich Gulyas, Brian Keeler, Rick Koval, Jim Lacek, Bruce Launius, Anthony Liguori, Mabel Morrow, Jason Petlock, Bill Reid, Judi Segebarth, Ruth Tonachel, Bob Wasilewski, Howard Watkins Jr., Ronald C. Young, Marsha Zwierlein,

#### **Bucks County**

Locations: Bedminster Twp. (BET), Blooming Glen (BLG), Bristol (BRS), Central

Bucks CBC (C-CBC), Churchville Reservoir (CVP), Delaware River (Del. R.), Hilltown Twp. (HLT), New Britain Twp. (NET), Nockamixon State Park (NSP), Peace Valley Park (PVP), Quakertown Swamp (QTS), Southern Bucks CBC (S-CBC), The Penn- Warner Tract (WNT), Tullytown (TYT), Upper Bucks CBC (U-CBC).

All three months averaged below normal in temperature. Jan. was almost 8°F below average which caused a deep-freeze of area lakes and streams. Even portions of the lower Del. R. were mostly ice covered. Rainfall for the period was 135% above average. All the excess was in Dec., which was 264% above average followed by deficits in Jan. and Feb. Snowfall came early in Dec. with more in Jan. providing almost all the 25" amount for the period. The thaw of lakes began in late Feb.

Credit Bill Etter for NSP reports unless otherwise noted. Historical references are from "Birds of Bucks County" 1998 by Ken Kitson and updates recorded since then.

Despite the frigid weather, the berry eaters were in good supply until their food ran out in early Feb. Half-hardy species we have come to expect in recent mild winters were in evidence despite the cold. The high, fast flowing water on the Del. R. reduced the number of wintering diving ducks there, e.g **Bufflehead** and **Com. Goldeneye**. Most winter seedeaters were average with the possible exception of **White-crowned Sparrow**, which continued in higher numbers from the fall. Overall, raptors and owls were a highlight of this winter.

The Upper Bucks CBC had a miserable day 12/14 with rain, snow, and sleet but managed a respectable 86 species and 19,572 individuals (fide HR). Two **Red-necked Grebes** at NSP were the main highlight. Southern Bucks CBC on 12/20 had an above average count with 99 species and 153,878 individuals (fide BMe). One **Lincoln's Sparrow** at Lower Makefield Twp. was the most unusual species reported (GC). Central Bucks CBC had great weather 12/28 resulting in a record 96 species with 44,355 individuals (fide DA). New to the count were **Palm Warbler** at New Britain Twp (CCr, ER), **Pine Warbler** at Solebury Twp. (CC), and **Rufous Hummingbird** at HLT (BE, BL).

**Gr. Wh.-fronted Goose** was found at PVP 12/13 (CR) to 12/16 (KR), CVP 12/20 to at least 1/20 (NZ), Del. R. at Washington Crossing 1/1 (DF), and again at PVP 2/28 (ER). **Snow Goose** was rare this winter making five "**Blue**" **Geese** all the more surprising 1/13 at NSP (CR). One to two "**Richardson's**" **Canada Geese** were reported frequently at PVP (CR, AM). The CBC total of 52,594 **Canada Geese** was in the expected order of magnitude for the wintering population. The only **Brant** report was of one 12/21 at Lake Caroline (DF). Two **Tundra Swans** were at PVP 1/2 (DF) and five were at NSP 1/13 (BL).

Northward bound was a nice group of 35 2/24 (JR) and 2/25 (AM), with five left 2/26 (CR). The peak **Amer. Black Duck** count of 200 was at NSP 2/21 (BE). A **Mallard** count of 1000+ at NSP 2/1 was noteworthy (BE). A peak of 38 **Canvasbacks** were at Mud Island on the Del. R. 2/22 (DF). They are usually scarce away from the lower Del. R. So, up to nine at PVP from 1/31 through the period (AM, CR) were unusual. Usually scarce or absent, **Redhead** made an extended stop at both PVP and NSP. Three were at PVP 1/17, followed by one to eight starting 1/31(CR) and staying through the period. Similarly, NSP held up to 10 starting 2/1 (BE), which stayed as well. Also unusual was a **Greater Scaup** that stayed at PVP from 1/31 through the period (CR, AM). One scoter on 12/3 and three 12/4 went unidentified at NSP. Three **Black Scoters** stopped at NSP 12/13 for a new late fall date. Four **Long-tailed Ducks** were at NSP 12/1 and one stopped at PVP 12/30 (LK). **Com. Merganser**, which has numbered in the 1000 to 2000 range at both NSP and PVP in recent years, was inexplicably down in the low hundreds. Possibly the high water levels were a factor. A **Red-breasted Merganser** at NSP 1/16 was only our second Jan. report followed by one at Bristol on the Del. R. on 1/31 (AM, CR). One was at PVP 2/7 & 2/8 (CR) for an early spring arrival date.

**Red-throated Loon** was at NSP 12/3 and 12/27. **Com. Loon** was there 12/13 & 12/17. The last, fall **Horned Grebe** was at NSP 12/1 and one was on the Del. R. at TYT 1/31 (AM, CR) for one of only a handful of Jan. reports. One **Red-necked Grebe** was at NSP 12/13 (DF) & two were thought to be there on the U-CBC 12/14. Another was picked up from a wet road in Warminster Twp. on 2/1, a new early spring date assuming it was heading north. It was determined to be healthy by the AARK wildlife rehab, and released on the Del. R. 2/2 (EC). Another was seen on the Del.R. at Bristol on 2/5 (PD), and another 2/24 at Morrisville(ABr). Three **Black-crowned Night-Heron** were found on the S-CBC (fide BMe) and were seen to at least 1/1 at BRS (DF). An **Osprey** at NSP 12/1 was the only report. **Bald Eagle** was widely reported from the major lakes and the length of the Del. R. with high counts of four at NSP 12/1 and four 1/15 at WNT (DFi).

It was another good winter for **N. Harrier** with peak single site counts of 6 to 8 near NSP 12/25 to 12/27 and five at BET 12/29 (AM, JM). The C-CBC had a record 12 (fide DA). The only **N. Goshawk** reports were one from Delhaas Woods on the S-CBC (fide BMe) and another two on the C-CBC (fide DA). An unusual rash of at least five **Red-shouldered Hawk** reports were received in the first half of Feb. from PVP, NSP, TNT, & BET (DA, AM, DF, GG). **Rough-legged Hawk** was the raptor of the winter. The first was reported 12/20 on the S-CBC and at least 10 individuals were reported thereafter into late Feb. (mobs). The highest count was on 2/12, with four at BET and one near NSP (BE). An adult **Golden Eagle** 1/10 at NSP (CR) was the county's 1st Jan. report. A count of one **Amer. Kestrel** on the S-CBC, the lowest since 1951 (fide BMe) was indicative of the general consensus of their poor numbers this winter. A **Merlin** wintered at the same location in Tinicum Twp. for the 6th winter in a row (DA) and was our only report. A **Peregrine** surveyed its domain from the Del. R. Turnpike Bridge as usual (AM, CR).

An amazing seven **Virginia Rails** were believed to be present 1/3 at QTS with four on 1/4 (DF, CR). These are our 1st Jan. reports. **Wilson's Snipe** were seen on all three CBCs, three were at Pine Run Dam 1/3 (DF) and 1/5 (CR), but two in E. Rockhill Twp. 2/9 (AM) were a surprise considering the still frozen conditions then. Two were at Pine Run 2/23 (KR). A group of 35-40 **Bonaparte's Gulls** at CVP 1/7 (CG) was a good count for Jan. The magnitude of the three CBC gull counts is always amazing, attesting to the attractive power of landfill garbage at the TYT/WNT area where most are found. The counts this year were: 18,003 **Ring-billed**; 80,745 **Herring**; 1 **Iceland**; 244 **Lesser-Black-backed**; and 5,261 **Great Black-backed**. Away from the dump, the single site high count for **Lesser Black-backed Gull** was 93 on 2/14 at PVP (AM). The high count of **Iceland Gull** was four or five at WNT 2/21 (MS) & 2/22 (DF). One **Glaucous Gull** 12/30 (KKo), 1/4 (DF), and 2/21 (MS), all WNT, were the only reports. A **Nelson's Gull** was at the WNT 1/15 (DF). **Short-eared Owl** was a highlight of this winter. The first was reported at PVP 12/20 (BG). Another was near Dublin 12/28. The best show occurred starting 12/26 in BET where several wintered with a peak of nine in late Jan. (BE,

CR). **Long-eared Owl** was also noteworthy through the period with as many as 12 at PVP (DF, AM, BE). **N. Saw-whet Owl** was reported but apparently not present in numbers compared to the last two years (DF). One **Barred Owl** report came from Nockamixon Twp. 1/5 (AB). Although, some evidence supports the feeling that **Great Horned Owl** has been seriously hurt by WNV, the C-CBC was an exception with an about par 45 (fide DA).

A **Rufous Hummingbird** that was first reported 10/25 at feeders in HLT (BT, KC), continued until the bitter cold night of 1/9 when it was seen feeding after dark under a heat lamp. Unfortunately, it was unable to survive these conditions and was found dead on the 11<sup>th</sup>. A post mortem was done (NP) confirming that it was an immature female **Rufous**. A resident **Red-headed Woodpecker** was at Haycock Twp. 1/3 (DF) and one wintering in West Rockhill Twp. continued from the fall (FM). As usual, a few **Gray Catbirds** wintered. Seven were on the three CBCs but only three more thereafter (BB, CR, PR). Two **Brown Thrashers** were on the CBCs and one was reported at PVP from 12/30 (BH) to at least 2/2 (KR). One was in BLG 1/27 (CR) and another was at Honey Hollow 2/1 (DF). Two **E. Phoebes** were on the CBCs with none reported later. **Horned Lark** was reported from BLG with a peak 113 1/4 (CR), Solebury Twp with 50 12/28 (TE), and HLT with a peak of 459 on 2/1 (AM, CR). Amazing, was the lack of any **Red-breasted Nuthatch** reports from PVP and NSP for the period and only six on all the CBCs. Only six were reported in Jan. & Feb. A **Marsh Wren** at QTS on 1/4 (DF) was our first winter record. Considering the cold, it was surprising that **Amer. Pipit** was reported several times up to Feb. 1 at HL T (CR, BG) with a peak of 12 there 12/28 (BE). Three were in Rushland 1/18 (SC).

In addition to the rare but more expected C-CBC winter warblers mentioned above, a **Cape May Warbler** at Silver Lake Nature Center from 2/21 to 3/1 was the most rare find of the season (MJ, fide DFi, BMe). This is one of a handful of winter records for the state. A total CBC count of 18 **Chipping Sparrows**, if correct, continues the more frequent winter reports of this species. **Savannah Sparrow's** status was scarce this winter with only a handful reported at PVP & BLG (CR) and only up to 1/31. A nice peak single site count of 41 **White-crowned Sparrows** was made at BET 2/28 (CR). A **Lapland Longspur** joined the Homed Larks in HL T 1/17 (AM) through 1/26 (ABr). A single **Snow Bunting** was at NSP 12/21 (RFo) and another was at HLT 2/1 (DF). The dwindling **E. Meadowlark** wintering population apparently has a good site at Tyler State Park where at least a dozen are regular (MC). BLG held up to seven (CR). Recent

reports of **Rusty Blackbird** in winter at QTS may indicate they winter in the county past the CBC dates or are only absent for a short time. Peak counts there were 61 on Jan. 4th and 48 2/4 (CR). A **Brewer's Blackbird** was reported from BET 12/7 (TB) and a second was at feeders near Perkasio 12/16 (HR), adding to the very few county reports.

A **Baltimore Oriole** was reported at NSP 12/10, an unexpected two together were at PVP 1/11 (KR, IB), and one was at a feeder in Doylestown Twp. 2/22 (BG). The large **Purple Finch** numbers declined by early Feb. as food supplies were consumed. However, a count of 31 2/21 at NSP indicated they were still in good numbers locally. One **Corn. Redpoll** flew by NSP 1/1 (DF), one flew over QTS 1/4 (CR), up to 11 were regular visitors to a feeder near Chalfont from 1/26 through the period (ER, CCR), and one was at TNT 1/18 (AM, JM). Two were at PVP 2/28 (SS, BH). One **Pine Siskin** at Rushland 12/20 (SC), three flybys in Haycock Twp. 1/3 (DF), and some at Springtown feeders (VD) were the only reports.

Exotics: Five local **Egyptian Geese** flew by PVP on 1/17 (CR).

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Hiebsch, Gail Johnson, Mick Jeitner, Ken Kitson, Karl Kosciuch, Larry Krutulis, Mike Lyman, Wendy Margolis, Don McClintock, Barbara McLaughlin, Neil Mercado, Bob Mercer (BMe), Fran Miller, Judy Mirabella, Tom Price, JoAnn Raine, Ken Rieker, Patricia Rossi, Linda Rowan, Hart Rufe, Cameron Rutt, Elaine Ryan, Matt Sharp, S. Surak, Bob Tompkins, Lesley Weisman-Cook, Gareth Williams, Leslie Yerkes, Nick Zahn.

### Butler County

Locations: Evans City (EC), Lake Arthur (LA), Moraine State Park (MSP), Slippery Rock Borough (SRB), Slippery Rock Creek (SRC), Slippery Rock Township (SRT), State Game Lands 95- the Glades (SGL 95), and Wolf Creek (WC).

The 2003 -2004 winter period (December- February ) extended the earlier cold and wet autumn trend in Butler County , although precipitation finally tapered off in February. Nevertheless, Slippery Rock Borough recorded 12 inches of snow (4 inches of rain) in December and an extraordinary 63.45 inches of rain for the year 2003, making it one of the wettest years on record. January 2004 had some of the coldest temperature recordings of the winter period with -2 degrees F. readings on January 16 and 25 and a total of 32 inches of snow (4 inches of rain) for the month. February continued cold but a few balmy days in mid-month enticed avian species to check more northern latitudes and weather conditions. In fact, avian movement and migration is probably continuous for such a large land mass as the United States and Canada. Proof for that statement is simply to watch your own backyard bird feeders as my wife and I do on a daily basis.

The first days of December had considerable turbulent western wind storms averaging 45 m.p.h. On December 1 at least 2-4 **Pine Siskins** and 5-7 **American Goldfinches** appeared at the niger feeder only to be displaced by 3 **Dark-eyed (Oregon) Juncos** (1 adult male, 2 first-year females) on December 3. It was quite obvious that the 3 **Oregons** lacked any social influence with the local over-wintering 15 or so **Dark-eyed (Slate-colored) Juncos** that claimed our backyard edge as their own private wintering territory .The 3 **Oregons** consistently tried to snatch food from the two concrete block ground feeders but always without success. Their **Slate-colored** cousins quickly would chase the threesome into the nearby woods. Although my wife and I tried taking photographs through closed windows and doors, the strong wind, cold temperature and our own body movements prohibited that objective. However, we did make copious notes and crude sketches of the birds. The 3 **Oregons** together constituted the first record in 33 years of active birding in western Pennsylvania, although we have experienced often Oregon and other **Dark-eyed Junco** forms together over-wintering in southwest New Mexico. Unfortunately, the 3 **Oregons** were not seen the next morning, leaving on similar strong, frigid, western winds that brought them here. A detailed report of the birds was filed with PORC for their consideration.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT. The Bartramian Audubon Society's Butler County CBC, centered in Moraine State Park (MSP), was held on 12/20 with 71 species recorded, slightly above the average count of 69 species. A new high count was set for the **Eastern Screech Owl** (7), **Pied-billed Grebe**, **Great Blue Heron**, **Rough-legged Hawk** and **Northern Mockingbird** were observed during the count week (cw) but not on the count day itself. Open parts of Lake Authur allowed a concentration of water birds, such as **Canada Goose** 1017, **Tundra Swan** 42 and 14 other species of waterfowl (SB): **Gadwall** 9, **American Wigeon** 4, **American Black Duck** 4, **Mallard** 39, **Redhead** 7, **Ring-necked Duck** 38, **Greater Scaup** 3, **Lesser Scaup** 12, **Bufflehead** 30, **Common Goldeneye** 4, **Hooded Merganser** 59, **Common Merganser** 1, **Red-breasted Merganser** 9, **Ruddy Duck** 26, **Pied-billed Grebe** cw 1, **Horned Grebe** 3, **Great Blue Heron** cw 1 and **American Coot** 71 (BAS).

About 350 **Tundra Swans** on 1/15 flew low over SRB (GW, JW), undoubtedly lingering birds coming from frozen Lake Erie. Several **Common Mergansers** over-wintered on Slippery Rock and Wolf Creeks since neither stream completely froze this winter. This species has become more visible each of the past ten years and continues to do so. At the same time, the **Hooded Merganser** population seemingly

has leveled off in the county. However, each species prefers different habitats for breeding; the **Common Merganser** need fast-moving streams; the **Hooded Merganser** marshes and swamps.

The **Turkey Vulture** is rarely observed before March in the county, so the 6 low-flying birds on 2/20 over SRB (JW) and one on 2/29 over SRT (SB) were interesting. A **Bald Eagle** (adult ?) was recorded 12/20 at MSP (BAS), another 1/17 in SRT (SB, CG, DL), and an adult by its nest on 1/21 at SGL 95 (SB). The 9 **Sharp-shinned Hawks** on the 12/20 CBC and the 4 **Cooper's Hawks** that same day were greatly appreciated (BAS). Other raptors that day included 2 **Red-shouldered** and 43 **Red-tailed Hawks** and 13 **American Kestrels** making a nice list for the CBC this year. Two (a pair?) of **Red-shouldered Hawks** returned 2/20 to SRB (JW) and 2 **Red-tailed Hawks** were pair-bonding 2/29 in SRT (SB). Chicken-like birds were well represented on the CBC 12/20 with 3 **Ring-necked Pheasants**, 1 **Ruffed Grouse** and 121 **Wild Turkey** (BAS). **Mourning Doves** held their own this winter period, thanks to the abundance of corn left in the fields as illustrated by the 573 birds recorded 12/20 for the CBC.

The 46 **Red-bellied**, 80 **Downy**, 20 **Hairy** and 11 **Northern (Yellow-shafted) Flickers** on the CBC 12/20 were about average numbers but only 1 **Pileated Woodpecker** and no **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** were recorded that day (BAS). The exceptional find of the winter period, however, was the lone adult **Northern Shrike** first seen at SGL 95 in late 2003 and still there 1/21 (SB, CG, DL, LW) and on 2/4 (JB). The 226 **Blue Jays** and 362 **American Crows** on the 12/20 CBC were about average numbers but the 296 **Horned Larks**, 304 **Black-capped Chickadees**, 137 **Tufted Titmice** and 103 **White-breasted Nuthatches** were encouraging numbers (BAS). On the other hand, only 1 **Red-breasted Nuthatch**, 4 **Brown Creepers**, 17 **Carolina Wrens**, 1 **Winter Wren** and 6 **Golden-crowned Kinglets** were far below average in numbers (BAS). The 31 **Eastern Bluebirds** and 3 **Hermit Thrushes** were average but only 16 **American Robins** were a big disappointment, especially since many flocks containing hundreds of birds were observed flying over SRB and SRT in early December (GW, JW) and flocks of 32 on 1/8, 95 birds on 1/17 and 50 individuals on 1/21 at SGL 95 (GWe, SB). A **Gray Catbird** on 1/17 at SGL 95 (GWe, SB) was the only report but 2 **Northern Mockingbirds** were seen during CBC week in MSP (BAS), plus one on 12/27, 1/8, and 1/17 and 2 on 1/21 at SGL 95 (GB, SB, RC, CG, DL). Needless to say, the 9786 **European Starlings** on the CBC 12/20 represented the lion's share of the total 15,841 individual bids on the CBC (BAS). The 1 **Cedar Waxwing** on the 12/20 was the lowest number in years. Numbers gradually increased to 6 on 12/27, 33 on 12/21 at SGL 95 (SB, RC, CG, DL) and from 14 on 1/13 to 40 birds on 1/20 in SRB (GW). A **Yellow-rumped Warbler** recorded on the 12/20 CBC, was the sole report during the winter period (BAS).

A lone **Eastern Towhee** on 1/20 at SGL 95 (GWe) was a pleasant surprise. However, the 252 **American Tree Sparrows** and the 505 **Dark-eyed (Slate-colored) Juncos** on the 12/20 CBC illustrated again the relationship between cold, snowy weather in December and these species. The 8 **Swamp** and 59 **White-throated Sparrows** on the CBC were average numbers but only a few **White-throated** and **White-crowned Sparrows** remained at SGL 95 (SB) and in EC the remainder of the winter period (CT). The 7 **Common Grackles** and 117 **Brown-headed Cowbirds** were observed on the 12/20 CBC as were 13 **Purple Finches** that day and 16 on 1/21 at SGL 95 (SB, CG, DL). The big avian disappointment for this winter period was the absence of any invasion of northern boreal species, the only exception being 2-4 **Pine Siskins** 12/1-19 at SRB (GW, JW) and 2 individuals on 2/29 in SRT (SB).

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Swansiger, Sandee Swansiger, Clark Trauterman, Harvey Troyer, Jerry Troyer, Melvin Troyer, Neil Troyer, Linda Wagner, Robert Walczak, Gary West GWe), Joanne Wilhelm, Edward Wilver, Joan Wilver, Cassie Yeager, Debby Yeager, Fred Yeager, Jessie Yeager.

### **Cambria County**

Locations: Prince Gallitizin S.P. (PG).

Except for a break around the holidays, the weather during the period was brutal. Cold and lots of snow kept birding days to a minimum. A late flock of 12 **Tundra Swans** were seen at Dunlo on 1/16 by Judy Johns. **Buffleheads** were last recorded by John Salvetti at PG on 12/8. Most interesting were the large amount of hawks reported during the period. Rose Gallandy had up to 10 **Red-tails**, 2 **Rough-legged Hawks**, and a **Cooper's Hawk** on a trip to the strip mine area at Mt. Hope on 2/14. During the period Dave Gobert had sightings of an immature **Red-shouldered Hawk** at P.G. on 1/6 and up to 5 **American Kestrels** in the Patton area. The Kestrels apparently moved on because only 1 could be found by late January. **Rough-legged Hawks** and **Red-tails** remained through the period at the Potato Fields above Patton. Judy Johns had 2 **Short-eared Owls** at the Dunlo Strips on 12/27. **Horned Lark** numbers were down because of the deep snow with only 75 - 100 seen at the usual locations. Ross Gallandy had the only reports of **Red-breasted Nuthatch**, **Brown Creeper**, and **Golden-crowned Kinglet**. Feeder birds were pretty much the ordinary, except **American Goldfinches** and **Pine Siskins** were more common this year. John Salvetti and Ross Gallandy each reported good numbers at their feeders with Ross tallying the high count of 80 on 2/22.

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### **Cameron County**

No Report. No Compiler

### **Carbon County**

No Report.

**David Hawk 521 Walnut Street, Leighton, 18235, (610) 377-2407, finch@ptd.net**

### **Centre County**

Locations: Bald Eagle State Park (BESP), Black Moshannon State Park, Colyer Lake, Williams Rd, Tussey Mt Hawk watch, Centre Furnace Pond, Port Matilda, Wagner Rd, Scenery Park, Marsh Creek, Beaver Stadium, Plainfield Rd

Our winter weather showed its true colors early, with a snowstorm on 12/5 and the onset of freezing temperatures, the first week of December. Lakes, ponds, and reservoirs began to freeze early, which challenged waterfowl and drove most species from Centre Co. by 12/21. At Colyer Lake 12/6, 1 **Canvasback** and 1 **Red-throated Loon** (JY) occurred.

The snowy weather postponed the State College Christmas Count from 12/15 until 12/21. By then, we could find only 5 species of waterfowl on Count Day: **Great Blue Heron** (43), **Canada Goose** (11), **Black Duck** (1), **Mallard** (349), **N. Pintail** (1). The **N. Pintail** was discovered at the Centre Furnace Pond, which stays open all winter, by JG. Overall, the Count had 61 species, below average for the past decade. Numbers of individual birds were below average, too, as measured against averages for the past decade. For instance, numbers of **American Robins** were down 88%, and **Cedar Waxwings** were down 92% (JD, CBC co-compiler).

Amidst this gloom came the startling report by CW on 12/22 that a hummingbird had been visiting a friend's feeder on Oak St. in Port Matilda for about a week. For five days, Bird Club members visited, and were delighted to see the rare sight of a hummingbird coming to

a sugar water feeder in wintertime. On 12/27, NP reported that he was able to and trap and band the bird on 12/27, and that it was a hatching year female **Rufous** that appeared malnourished and stressed very easily. No photos were taken and it was not seen after 12/27. Its fragility may be contrasted with the durability of another female **Rufous hummingbird** that was discovered by DF at his home in Lycoming Co., on 10/19 but it survived for nearly 3 months, and was last seen 1/14.

Other kinds of birds thrived on conditions caused by our winter weather. For instance, **Northern Shrikes** were found from late Fall well into late March 2004: Black Moshannon State Park (NB), BESP 1/5 and throughout the winter (LG, BS, JA, MR).

Raptors, of course, are another story. Here we have an established hawk watch at Tussey Mt. as well as a generous share of the WRSs (Winter Raptor Surveys) held State-wide during January and February. We also enjoy careful monitoring of BESP (BS and others), and in particular, of the Park's namesake bird, the **Bald Eagle**: 12/1, 2 adult **Bald Eagles** soaring in tandem over the west end of Howard, and then over the lake up to the dam (BS); 12/26, two adults and one immature (EZ). During the winter, a **Bald Eagle** nest was discovered at BESP. Park managers promised to cordon off that part of the Lake before boating traffic returns, and to block a shore-side trail that passes directly under their nest. For WRS results, overall, GG reported that **Rough-legged Hawks** outnumbered **Kestrels**, in 2004. **Red-tailed Hawk** numbers were about average when measured against numbers from the previous 5 years. Participation in this statewide survey has grown every year and yields ever more valuable data about open country raptors.

By contrast, our local Tussey Mt. Hawk Watch yields data about the Spring Migration of **Golden Eagles** and other raptors. This year, Tom Magarian is monitoring the site, a rock strewn open area which straddles Mid-State Trail. Things began well, on 2/25, with the passage of 5 **Golden Eagles**! That first day, BF spotted a flock of **C. Redpolls** while hiking along Tussey Ridge near the hawk watch. About the same time at the hawk watch, Tom saw a flock of about 250 **C. Redpolls**. A few **C. Redpolls** had cropped up down in lower altitudes this winter (DO, JM) but a flock of that size created a sensation! Good fortune continued at the watch; 2/29, 22 **Goldens** - a steady stream between 10:15 AM and 1:00 PM with the temperature over 50 degrees.

The open field birds (**Horned Larks**, **American Pipits**, **Snow Buntings**, and **Lapland Longspurs**) seemed ever-present at favored locales during the period: Williams Rd 12/6 had flocks of **H. Larks**, one with a couple of **Snow Buntings** in it and the other had a **Lapland Longspur** (JD). At the top of the hill was a flock of **Rusty Blackbirds** and just beyond a very tame **American Pipit** that insisted on walking down the road and flying ahead of the car. One pair of **Savannah sparrows** turned up on Wagner Rd, 12/8, and possibly wintered, as two **Savannah Sparrows** appeared on Sharer Rd. on 2/20, early for Spring migration. (MH). A record number of **Snow Buntings** (25) were found on Williams Rd. during the delayed Xmas Count, held 12/21 (MH), and RF et al. found a **Lapland Longspur** on Plainfield Road, that same day, in a flock of **H. Larks**. A winter field trip, delayed by bad weather and narrowed snowy roads, was finally held on 2/22, and marked the last occasion when **Snow Buntings** (2) were recorded during the winter period.

The only warbler reported during that time was a **Pine Warbler**, first found by DO in a bayberry hedge in Scenery Park, 1/25. On 2/27, DO re-discovered a **Pine Warbler** in the same place.

What was happening with winter finches during these three months in Centre County? By 12/8, **Pine Siskins** were cropping up in foraging flocks of Am. Goldfinches in stands of hemlocks, for instance, at Colyer Lake (MH). But, in early January, **Pine Siskins** had begun to come to Niger feeders around Centre County. Many other species of winter finches, in contrast, did not appear until February. It was 2/8 before a lone **Common Redpoll** showed up at a feeder in Boalsburg (DO). **Purple Finches** remained uncommon during the period. Two **Purple Finches** visited a feeder 1/4 in the Marsh Creek area, during the BESP CBC evening. Grosbeaks were not reported at all from Centre Co., and neither were the 2 species of Crossbill. Contrast this state of affairs with a 12/4 report from McKean County (to our

Northwest) that found **Pine Siskins**, **Red Crossbills**, and **Evening Grosbeaks** in hemlocks near Indian Creek (PABirds: John and Lisa Fedak).

The stronger light and warmer temperatures of mid-February may also have inspired a pair of **Common Ravens** to begin nesting at Beaver Stadium. A raven was seen on separate occasions carrying a stick directly to the stadium (LG, GG, BS). On 2/12 GG observed two ravens come off the NW corner of the stadium and escort/harass an accipiter out of the area and then return to the stadium area.

Observers: **Molly Heath**, 234 Irvin Ave, State College, 16801, maheath@aol.com; **Bob Fowles**, P.O. Box 266, Pine Grove Mills, PA 16868, 814 238-1990 rbf@psu.edu, Jean Aron, Nick Bolgiano, Jim Dunn, David Ferry, Roana Fuller, Greg Grove, Lewis Grove, Joe Gyekis, Tom Magarian, Joel McLean, Dan Ombalski, Katie Ombalski, Nick Pulcinella, Matt Rockmore, Bob Snyder, Chuck Widmann, John Yerger, Eugene Zielinski.

### *Chester County*

Locations: Chambers Lake (CL), Coatesville Reservoir (CR), Honey Brook Township (HBT), Marsh Creek State Park (MC), Struble Lake (SL), and Valley Forge National Historical Park (VF).

Chester County was the site of a great deal of activity as rare birds appeared at local areas with open water. The second week of January was an exciting time. In an e-mail to local birders, LL reminded us that five species of Geese were found at CR: **Snow**, **Canada**, **White-fronted**, **Pink-footed**, and **Brant**. A small race of **Canada Goose** called the **Richardson's Goose** and a **Cackling Goose** (even smaller) were also present as well as albino and partially albino **Canada Geese**. LL also reported a hybrid **White-fronted X Canada Goose**.

The bird that caused most of the excitement was a **Pink-footed Goose**, a new bird for Chester County, but not for Pennsylvania. This bird was first seen at CR by Grier Saunders (GS) and Holly Merker (HM) on 1/9. LL was called to come and check the bird. The three agreed that it was a **Pink-footed Goose**. The news was circulated among birders who flocked to the area from near and as far as Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Virginia. To make finding the goose more of a challenge, CR had from 1,500 to 7,500 **Canada Geese** on it as well as various and sundry other waterfowl including **Gr. White-fronted Geese**, a **Brant**, and several species of ducks. The **Pink-footed Goose** liked to rest among all the geese. Then it decided to divide its time between CR and CL. Finding the goose at CL was easier due to less geese on the water. Birders were out in extremely cold weather for a look at this goose. Ted Drozdowski (TD) warned birders that the weather was extremely cold and windy, about 8 degrees on one morning, and that they should warm up in their cars from time to time. A newspaper article, written by Sandy Bauers, a reporter and birder, described some of the excitement and activity associated with this goose.

**Greater White-fronted Geese** again appeared at CR during the winter. Five were found on an Early Bird Nature Club trip on 12/26. Birds from 1 to 3 in number also appeared at CL and MC. They remained in the area through 2/1. Single **Snow Geese** were seen on 12/27 at CR by the Early Bird Nature Club, a blue-phase bird on 1/23 at MC (LL), and on 2/29 at CL (NP). **Canada Geese** are multiplying at an alarming rate. Lakes, ponds, parks, and golf courses are all being polluted by their droppings. Groups sized from 1500 up to 7500 have been reported from all over the county. Paul Earley, Barry Blust, Bill Etter, Robert Blye, and Ted Drozdowski, among many others, made a noble effort to count all of the birds in these huge flocks. A **Brant**, normally an exciting find, was mostly ignored while birders looked for the **Pink-footed Goose** and **Greater White-fronted Geese**. The **Brant** was seen at CR on 1/9 by LL through 1/18 by Rick Robinson (RR).

To make the birding even more interesting, a **Ruddy Shelduck** was found at CL on 1/20 (HM, LL). Even though this bird was not countable, birders made a special trip to see the very handsome waterfowl. It was last reported on 1/24 by Rick Robinson (RR).

**Mute Swans** have been more plentiful than usual. They were seen at CR, CL, MC, and Wedgewood Pond. Usually two and up to three birds were seen at one time. They are beautiful and graceful to watch but not particularly good for the health and welfare of nesting native species. Another cause of activity was a **Trumpeter Swan** (not countable) which appeared at the links at Thorndale Greene (formerly Ingleside Golf Course) and Wedgewood Pond environs. An unusual swan was first reported by Dave Simmons to LL and some other birders on 2/1. He had been seeing it in the Thorndale area for several days LL and others visited the area but could not find the swan. It then reappeared around 2/15, was identified, and was then seen by many birders. The **Trumpeter Swan** was last reported on 2/28 by Mike Chmielewski. This **Trumpeter** was wearing a wing tag "767." The tag led LL to the information that the swan was hatched in 2001. It was a male and was tagged and released on May 30, 2003 in Flesherton, Ontario. Usually, the **Trumpeters** migrate southward only to the north shore of Lake Ontario.

Ducks that made an appearance during the winter were **Gadwall**, **American Wigeon**, **American Black Duck**, **Mallard**, **Northern Pintail**, **Green-winged Teal**, **Canvasback**, **Redhead**, **Ring-necked Duck**, **Greater and Lesser Scaup**, **Bufflehead**, **Common Goldeneye**, **Hooded**, **Common**, and **Red breasted Mergansers**, and **Ruddy Ducks**. One to 5 **Gadwall** were seen through the winter at MC and Wedgewood Pond. Single **American Wigeon** up to a flock of twelve were seen during the winter at MC, CL, and CR. **American Black Ducks** were found in good numbers: 15 at Valley Forge National Historical Park VF on 1/11 (RW), 18 at CR on 1/5 (TD), 30 at CL on 1/17 by Regina Reeder and Dan Snell, 25 at CR on 1/14 by Deuane Hoffman. 25 at VF on 1/31 (RW), and 35 on 2/9-2/10 in East Coventry Township by Robert Blye. **Canvasbacks**, usually rare, were seen as either single birds or pairs at CL, MC, and in western Chester County on the Western Chester County CBC (WCCCBC). **Redheads** were the most astounding ducks for the winter. They are usually even rarer than **Canvasbacks**. This winter they were reported on the larger bodies of water from 12/27 to 2/21 as single ducks up to a flock of 10 seen on 2/12 at Wedgewood Pond (LL). Groups of 3 to 7 were reported by many birders. **Ring-necked Ducks** made their fairly common appearance. BB reported the largest flock of 52 on 2/29 at MC. **Greater Scaup** were seen at CL and MC in numbers from 1 to 5. **Lesser Scaup** were more numerous and were seen several more times than the **Greater**s. **Lessers** were seen in groups of 1 to 7 at CL and MC. The ducks that were much less numerous than usual on the lakes were **Buffleheads**. Only 1 or 2 were seen throughout the winter. However, large numbers of **Bufflehead** were seen on the Schuylkill River in VF sometimes hugging the Chester County side. Flocks varying from 25- to 100 were seen (RW) from 12/4 through 1/26; a few **Common Goldeneyes** showed up at the major bodies of water during the winter. **Hooded Mergansers** were present in groups of 1 to 8 birds. The largest congregations of **Common Mergansers** were reported at MC on 12/15 with 18 seen (NP); at GL where 18 ducks were seen (EW); and at MC on 2/29 when NP saw 44 ducks and BB saw 52. One to 3 **Red-breasted Mergansers** were seen at CL during the winter. **Ruddy Ducks**, usually found in flocks of 25 to over 100, were seen as a flock of 20 at MC on 12/7. The numbers dwindled to 10 or less by 1/15 at CR, reported by Bill Etter.

A flock (no number given) of **Wild Turkeys** was seen during the time period of 1/29-2/12 at Compass in western Chester County.

One **Osprey** was found on the WCCCBC (LL). **Bald Eagles** were seen in many parts of the county. **Northern Harriers** were reported several times. One **Northern Goshawk** was seen at Okehocking Preserve (NP) on 2/10. One **Red-shouldered Hawk** was seen on 12/27 during the WCCCBC. Thirty **Red-tailed Hawks** were counted on 1/23 (HM, Janet Crawford) on a Winter Raptor Survey in western Chester County. BB saw an unusual sight on 2/14 a **Red-tail** eating a dead gull on the ice at MC. **Amer. Kestrels** were rarely seen. **Merlins** were reported at VF by Mike Bertram and Kathy King, at CR by the Early Bird Nature Club (LL), East Coventry Township by Robert Blye, HBT (LL), and New Garden Township by Joe and Effen Sebastiani.

**American Coots** have never built up to the 150-200 commonly seen at MC before two **Bald Eagles** arrived a couple of years ago and began snacking on them. The largest number of 29 was reported on 119 (HM,GS). NP found 26 on 1/25, and BB found 26 again on 2/14. One **Common Snipe** was seen on 12/27 during the WCCCBC. Four **Common Snipe** were seen in HBT on 1/29 (LL,GS).

One **Bonaparte's Gull** was seen at SL (GS, HM) on 1/9. They found 5 at MC on the same date. **Ring-billed Gulls** began showing up large numbers on 12/13 when TO saw 3000 at SL, on 1/1 when BB saw 1500 at MC, and on 1/24 when BB saw 1400 at MC. **Lesser Back-backed Gulls** were seen often at SL (GS, TO, LL); at MC (NP, LL, HM, GS); and one was reported at CL (RR). LL found an "incredible" number of 15 **Lessers** at MC on 2/2. Small numbers of **Great Black-backed Gulls** were seen throughout the winter at MC and SL. Two rarities, **Iceland** and **Glaucous Gulls**, were seen several times during the period. One **Iceland Gull** was seen on 12/27 at SL (LL, GS, SS) on 1/14 and 1/23 at MC (LL), and two birds on 1/29-2/12 at MC (LL). A **Glaucous Gull** was seen at SL on 12/27 (LL, GS, BB); one was seen at CL on 1/18 (RR); and one was seen at MC on 2/2 (LL, GS).

**Great Horned Owls** are becoming hard to find. Is West Nile virus or habitat destruction responsible or both of them? **Barred Owls** were found in a few locations in the county (LL, GS). From 2 to 16 **Long-eared Owls** were seen at SL from 12/13 through the end of February. (LL, TO, NP, GS, SS, and Kevin Fryberger) all reported seeing them. One or 2 **Short-eared Owls** have also been seen at SL (TO, LL, GS, SS). **Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers** were reported as singles or as two birds on 5 occasions. **Pileated Woodpeckers** were seen at VF (RW): 1 on 12/21, 1 on 12/27, and 2 on 1/3.

One **Eastern Phoebe**, lingering at CL, was seen (LL, SS) during the WCCCBC on 12/27. **Horned Larks** were seen in HBT on 12/13 in 2 groups of 50-100 (NP); a flock of 100+ in HBT on 1/20 (TO); a flock of 75 in East Coventry Township on 1127 by Robert Blye; and on 2/2 and 2/3 in HBT when flocks of 300+ were seen (LL, GS). LL reported that "**Red-breasted Nuthatches** were present in moderate numbers throughout the county." Two specific reports were received; 1 was seen on 12/27 during the WCCCBC, and was seen on 2/11 in New Garden Township by Ellen and Joe Sebastiani. **Winter Wrens** were seen at VF. One was seen on 12/4 (RW), 2 were seen on 12/27 during the Valley Forge Audubon Society CBC (RW, Bruce Piecukonis, TD, and Barbara Heck), and 1 on 1/30 (RW).

**Golden-crowned Kinglets** were reported three times as were **Ruby-crowned Kinglets**. Single **Hermit Thrushes** were seen on 12/13 by Paul Earley and Mary Alice Knox while they were doing the WCCCBC, on 1/1 at MC (BB), and on 1/23 (BB) when he found a dead one on the grill of his car as he was going to work. Two **Gray Catbirds** lingered for the winter at CL, seen (LL), and in New Garden Township where they were found by Joe and Ellen Sebastiani. One **Brown Thrasher** was found on the WCCCBC (LL).

**American Pipits** were found in three locations MC where 1 was seen (NP) 12/15; western Chester Co. where 4 were seen by the Early Bird Nature Club on 1/27; HBT where 12 were seen (LL) 1/29; and HBT again where 12 were seen (GS) 2/2. **Yellow-rumped Warblers** seemed to be scarce. Two were seen at VF on 12/27 during the VF CBC. One was seen at Hibernia Park by Marita Richards on 1/4. **Pine Warblers** were found twice, one on 12/27 in western Chester Co., and 2 on 1/11 at CR (LL). One **Black-and-white Warbler** was found on the WCCCBC. A report of a **Wilson's Warbler** at Avondale was received from Dirk Robinson who saw the bird in his backyard from 12/25 though 12/30.

**American Tree Sparrows** were found in several areas, 4 on 12/27 at CL (LL EW); 1 on 1/1 at Black Rock Environmental Center (RW, EW); 7 on 1/9 at CL and 18 at SL (TO); 10 on 1/31 at SL by Kevin Fryberger; and 2 on 2/2 at Okehocking Preserve (NP). **Chipping Sparrows** were seen in late February in West Chester (NP). A **Clay-colored Sparrow** appeared at a feeder in HBT from 12/1 to 12/9 and was seen (GS, SS, HM, LL). Another was found on the WCCCBC (LL). **Field** and **Savannah Sparrows** were reported a couple of times. **Fox Sparrows** made appearances during the WCCCBC, in Upper Uwchlan Township (BB), and at Okehocking Preserve where 1 was seen on 2/2 and 4 were seen on 2/28 by NP. Only one **Swamp Sparrow** was reported at MC on 12/7 (BB). **White-throated**

**Sparrows** were seen throughout the season. **White-crowned Sparrows** were seen at Avondale by Dirk Robinson and at SL where a high number of 12 was seen on 1/31 by Kevin Fryberger. **Dark-eyed Junco** were present in good numbers throughout the county. LL found **Dark-eyed Junco**, **Song Sparrow**, **White-throated Sparrows**, **White-crowned Sparrow**, **Savannah Sparrow**, and **Fox Sparrow** at feeders directly across from the entrance to SL on 2/6. He wrote, "Not bad if you're a sparrow fan." **Snow Buntings** were found mainly in HBT. The largest group was 5.

**Rusty Blackbirds** (no number given) were seen on the WCCCBC on 12/27. A **Baltimore Oriole** was a surprise at Tel Hai Retirement Community. Phyllis and Beryl Hurlock reported seeing a female in their yard on 12/16 and again on 12/20.

**Purple Finches** were in short supply. One was reported on 12/27 on the WCCCBC. (BB) saw 2 at his feeders in Upper Uwchlan Township on 1/23; 3 at Okehocking Preserve on 2/10 (NP). **Common Redpolls** made appearances at the beginning of January; 1/1 3+ at SL (LL, GS); 3+ 1/3-1/5 in HBT (GS); one 1/10 in Oxford (LL).

Observers: **Eleanor Wolf, 148 Harvest Lane, Phoenixville, 19460, (610) 933-6414, wolfriel@voicenet.com**, Mike Bertram, Barry Blust, Robert Blye, Joshua Clapper, Mike Cmietewski, Janet Crawford, Theodore Drozdowski, Paul Earley, Early Bird Nature Tours, Bill Etter, Elverson Christmas Bird Count, Jim Fava, Kevin Fryberger, Barbara Heck, Deuane Hoffman, Jeffrey Hopkins, Tom Hopson, Jason Horn, Beryl Hurlock, Phyllis Hurlock, Gait Johnson, Doug Kibbe, Kathy King, Mary Alice Knox, Larry Lewis, Rand McLvane, Holly Merker, Martin Page, Bruce Piecukonis, Nick Pulcinella, Sharon Pulcinella, Regina Reeder, Marita Richards, Dirk Robinson, Rick Robinson, Grier Saunders, Ellen Sebasttani, Joe Sebasttani.. Tammy Serata; Dave Simmons, Andy Smith, Dan Snell., Glenn Stauffer, Sandy Stowet., Bill Tucker, Valley Forge Audubon Society Christmas Bird Count, Western Chester County Christmas Bird Count, Richard Whiteford, Rick Wittraut, Winter Raptor Survey, Eleanor Wolf, Richard Wolf.

#### *Clarion County*

Locations: Curllsville (CV), Kahle L. (KL), Leeper (LP), Mount Airy (MA), Mount Zion (MZ), New Bethlehem (NB), Rimersburg (RB), Wentlings Corners (WC).

Seneca Rocks Audubon Society, under the able leadership of Ron Montgomery, on 1/10/04 conducted its Snowbirding Event in eastern Clarion County with eleven birders split into three teams. In spite of temperatures ranging from -1 F to 12 F, they counted 867 birds in 28 species from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The most numerous species was **Dark-eyed Junco** with 176 individuals, **American Crow** next with 147, then **Rock Dove**, 125, and fourth, **Black-capped Chickadee**, 106. The area covered included Strattanville, Fisher, Game Lands #74 and vicinity. Worth mentioning are **Purple Finch** (5), **Golden-crowned Kinglet** (2), **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** (1), **Red-shouldered Hawk** (1).

The last **Am. Black Duck** of 2003 was seen at KL on 12/26 (WF). Forty-one **Am. Black Ducks** were counted on 2/13, unusually early, near RB along with 6 **N. Pintails** (CW). One **Turkey Vulture** was circling over Frogtown on 2/23 (CW). Single **Bald Eagle** sightings were had at NB on 2/1 and on the Clarion River at Canoe Ripple bridge on 2/24 (CW). One **Red-shouldered Hawk** was reported from CV on 1/24 (CW). **Red-tailed Hawks** were observed throughout the season but the especially light-phased one (so light the tail color can barely be seen) was present again this year at LP on 1/19-21 (LC). **Rough-legged Hawks** were present in high numbers (up to 14 in one day) this year (ML & CW). In contrast **American Kestrel** numbers were low or non-existent (ML & CW).

The first reported **Killdeer** was at CV on 2/26 (CW). **Short-eared Owls** stayed at CV, MZ and MA during December and January (many obs. & CBC). The rigorous winter weather kept most observers from the strip mines during February but the owls were still here in March. **Red-bellied Woodpeckers** were seen in several places not seen before. Numbers seem to be very good (WF). One **Northern Shrike** was reported for January at MZ (ML). Horned Larks at KL

were seen in flocks up to 300 on 2/1 (ML) with the first reported from there on 1/16 (WF). Two **N. Mockingbirds** overwintered successfully at CV (CW). This same farm reported more than 50 **American Tree Sparrows** coming to the feeders at the height of the bad weather on 2/03 (CW).

At KL on 12/13 two **Lapland Longspurs** were present in a flock of winter birds in newly manured fields (ML). The first **Snow Bunting** was reported from KL on 1/16 (WF). Other flocks of **Snow Buntings** were present at CV on 1/24 (CW), Turnip Hole on 1/30 (CW) and all over the county on 2/1 (ML).

The most unusual bird for this winter was the **Indigo Bunting** that turned up at Miola on the Christmas Bird Count, 12/27, seen by Ernie Aharrah. Jack and Fran Williams reported 5 **Rusty Blackbirds** were present at their feeders in Summerville for practically the whole season. The last 2 **Eastern Meadowlarks** were seen at NB on 12/8 (CW). An unusually tardy **Baltimore Oriole** came to a feeder in rural Knox on 12/7, 8, & 13 but was not seen after that (WF), photograph available. One lone **Common Redpoll** was reported from LP on 2/18 (LC). It was with 24 **American Goldfinches**. This was a big winter for **Pine Siskins** with the first seen on 12/2 at WC (WF). On 2/3 there were equal numbers of **Pine Siskins** and **American Goldfinches** at SV, ~100 of each (MB). Some days siskins outnumbered goldfinches and other days there were more goldfinches. Could that mean there were a couple of different flocks coming to the feeders? The only flock of **Evening Grosbeaks**, 10, was seen at the Olson Farm on 2/8 (WF).

Observers: **Margaret Buckwalter, 249 Maple Dr., Shippenville 16254, (814) 782-3925, buckwalter01@alltell.net** Ernie Aharrah, Rik Bohlen, Ted Buckwalter, Lois Callahan, Pat Conway, Pete Dalby, Gary Edwards, Walter Fye, Janice Horn, Ann Hunt, Mike Leahy, Judy & Ron Montgomery, Evelyn Myers, Kathy & John Pokrifka, Carl & Joan Rowe, Karl & Ruth Schurr, Fran & Jack Williams, Carole Willenpart, Margo Wimer.

#### *Clearfield County*

No Report. No Compiler.

#### *Clinton County*

Locations: Lock Haven (LH), McElhatten (McE), Mill Hall (MH), South Avis (SA), and Swisssdale (SW).

One **Horned Grebe** on the Susquehanna River at Lock Haven on 12/27 (JB). A **Pied-billed Grebe** was reported for the local CBC on 12/28 at Mill Hall (SB).

A variety of wintering waterfowl was observed in the county throughout the period, a trend first noticed during the week of the local CBC in late December. **Redhead** were seen from 1/28 through 2/13 in LH and MH (SB, DR, CCH). **Bufflehead** were reported in MH on 1/29 (SB) and 2/18 at SA (DR). **Common Goldeneye** were also seen at SA on 2/18 (DR). **Hooded Mergansers** showed up at SA on 2/19 (DR). Three Winter Raptor Surveys were conducted in the county. The first on 1/17 in the Nittany Valley area resulted in 8 **Red-tailed Hawks** being seen (TS). A second WRS done in the Loganton area on 1/31 recorded 10 **Red-tailed Hawks** and one dark phase **Rough-legged Hawk** (TS). The third WRS on 2/14, run from SW through McE, SA, Loganton, Lamar, and MH, found 10 **Red-tailed Hawks**, one light phase **Rough-legged Hawk** (Loganton) and 3 **Cooper's Hawks** (SB, WL).

Annual sightings of **Bald Eagles** in Clinton County are on the increase, giving hope that one day local nesting may occur. The first year's report, an immature bird was on 1/30 at McE (DR). Two adult **Bald Eagles** were seen at McE on 2/7 (LF). Another adult was observed at SA

on 2/20 (CCH). The first **Turkey Vulture** sighting was on 2/25 at McE (SB). Throughout February both a **Sharp-shinned Hawk** and **Cooper's Hawk** spent time in a LH neighborhood (JB). An **Eastern Screech Owl** began calling on 2/16 at SW (WL).

A bird rarely reported in the winter in the county was a **Hermit Thrush** seen on 2/23 during a hike along Tangascootac Creek near LH

(JS). Although a winter finch season was anticipated, except for a few localized flocks of **Pine Siskins**, the only other northern species reports were of **Red-breasted Nuthatches** during the last week of February at a feeder in

Woolrich (EB) and scattered reports of a few **Purple Finches** in MH (MMM) and throughout the county. **Pine Siskins** began showing up in numbers to feeders at a location in SW about 1/20, after then daily throughout February. Numbers of them peaked at approximately 60-70 on 2/21 (WL).

Observers: **Wayne Laubscher 749 E. Croak Hollow Rd., Lock Haven 17745, (570) 748-7511, wlaubsch@cub.kcnet.org** Steve Bason, JoAnn Bowes, Elizabeth Brobst, Linda Frye, Carol and Charles Hildebrand (CCH), Mel and Mary Minnich (MMM), David Rockey, Jeff Schaffer, Tom Shervinskie.

#### *Columbia County*

No Report

**Doug Gross, 144 Winters Road, Orangeville, PA 17859, (570) 458-4568, douggross@sunlink.net.**

#### *Crawford County*

No Report

**Ronald F. Leberman, 11508 Pettis Rd., Meadville, 16335, (814) 724-5071.**

#### *Cumberland County*

Certainly the most unusual species for the period was of the **Ross' Goose** observed in a flock of **Canada Geese**, made for easy finding, along Mud Level Road on the Newville CBC 1/4. The bird was photographed and observed by many interested local birders, the bird was also seen on 1/5. This sighting represents a first county record.

Extensive freezing of the Susquehanna River caused many species of waterfowl to utilize the partially open Yellow Breeches Creek. Along the creek near New Cumberland Bill Hintze observed a flock of 20+ **American Wigeon**, a single **Northern Pintail** on 2/13 till periods end. On 1/20 Bill found a collection of 15 **Common Mergansers** and 2 **Hooded Mergansers** in the same area.

A Winter Raptor Survey conducted in the western portion of the county on 1/23 by Dave Grove, Deb Gingrich, Ron Freed and Craig Houston tallied 1 **Northern Harrier**, 22 **Red-tailed Hawks** and 2 **American Kestrels**. While conducting an errand a **Merlin** seen along route 944 near Wertzville was a most unexpected treat. (CJ)

Another unusual species tallied on the Newville CBC was the **White-eyed Vireo** found at the Huntsdale Fish Hatchery. This species is a first record for the count (TJ, RK and JR). Equally unexpected for a CBC was the **Orange-crowned Warbler** found near Camp Hill on the Harrisburg CBC held 12/20. The bird was observed in excellent conditions at close range (DH and KM).

Mud Level Road near Shippensburg attracted it's usual flock of **Horned Larks** and attendants this season. High counts for the species include **Horned Lark** 350+, **Snow Bunting** 20 and **Lapland Longspur** 6.

Observers: **Deuane Hoffman, 3406 Montour St., Harrisburg 17111, (717) 564-7475, corvuscorax@comcast.net**, Ron Freed, Deb Gingrich, Dave Grove, Bill Hintze, Craig Houston, Tom Johnson, Cliff Jones, Ramsay Koury, Andy McGann, Ken Mengel, Regina Reeder, Joan Renninger, Dan Snell.

#### *Dauphin County*

Locations: East Hanover Twp. (EHT), Hershey Area Farms (HAF), Haldeman Island (HI), Hershey IBA (HIBA), Highspire Reservoir/Lisa Lake (HRL), SGL 246 near Middletown (MGL), Stony Creek Valley (SCV), Susquehanna from Ft. Hunter (SFH), Susquehanna from Harrisburg (SHB), South Hanover Twp.(SHT), Susquehanna from Marysville (SMV), Susquehanna from Millersburg (SMB),

Susquehanna River in General (SR), Susquehanna from Royalton (SRT), Susquehanna from West Fairview (SWF), Wildwood Lake (WL), Winter Raptor Survey (WRS).

**Tundra Swans** and **Snow Geese** were on the move as the quarter came to an end. More than 300 **Tundras** flew over the HIBA (PRW) while a few hundred more and about 1000 **Snow Geese** were counted along the SR 2/28 (RK, et al.). The next morning more than 4000 **Snow Geese** were seen feeding in fields along Bachmansville Rd. 2/29 (PF). In Elizabethville, in northern Dauphin Co., a couple **Trumpeter Swans** were IDed with a small flock of **Tundras** 3/1 (EE). The Tundra and Snow migration continued through much of March (many).

Although the Susquehanna was predominantly frozen from the second week of January through February small open pockets of water yielded some interesting species. At SWF a few **Redheads**, **Ring-necked Ducks**, and **Greater Scaup** were present for a couple weeks 1/27-2/7 (RS, et al.). A drake **White-winged Scoter** spent two weeks 2/1-2/15 in another pocket near the east end of the Rockville Bridge. (CNJ, TJ, et al.). **Northern Pintail**, **American Wigeon**, **Canvasback**, **Lesser Scaup**, and **Hooded and Red-breasted Mergansers** were also reported from various locations along the SR in early to mid-February.

By late February the first **Common Loon** 2/20 was observed SWF and a **Pied-billed Grebe** was found 2/28.(RK, JR). **Gadwall** returned to WL by 2/7 (RR,DS) and by 2/22 both **Wood Duck**, and **Green-winged Teal** were also back (JC).

**Northern Harrier** and **Rough-legged Hawk** were more numerous than usual throughout this season. As many as four **Northern Harriers** (S&SR) and one **Rough-legged** spent time this quarter at the HIBA (GB, et al.). **Rough-legged Hawks** were also observed near Linglestown 12/13 (DY), at Fort Hunter 12/20 (JC), and in EHT 12/20 (RS). In addition five **N. Harriers** and six **Rough-legs** were counted on a WRS in the northern part of the county 1/30 (RK, et al.). Individual **Merlins** were reported near Middletown 12/12 (PF) and at WL 2/22 (JC). **Bald Eagle** observations along the SR and **Peregrine Falcon** sightings near Harrisburg were regular (many). The former has begun its 15th nesting season on HI while the latter has returned for its 5th season on the Rachel Carson State Office Building in Harrisburg. Undoubtedly the most unusual raptor of the quarter was a white phase **Gyrfalcon** seen soaring over EHT 2/14 (NC).

Ten **Bonaparte's Gulls** paid an unusual winter visit 1/7 to SWF (RS), and a **Lesser Black-backed Gull** was seen flying with some **Ring-billed Gulls** over SHT 3/1 (TJ). Both **Long-eared** and **Short-eared Owls** remained through the season with the most interesting report coming from an Elizabethville residence where five **Short-eared Owls** roosted for much of January and February (EE). A **Barn Owl** was heard the evening of 2/26 in SHT (EJ, TJ).

We define a "good winter walk" in many ways. One way might be observing six species of "woodpecker". On 2/22, walking through WL and the nearby south face of Blue Mt., **Downy**, **Hairy**, **Red-bellied**, **Pileated**, **Northern Flicker**, and **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** were all found (JC).

The **Rufous Hummingbird** that arrived at a Middletown residence in mid-fall, banded 12/16 (SW, JG) and enjoyed by many birders, remained into early January. Despite providing a fresh feeder daily and a 100 watt light bulb for warmth it did not return after 1/10 (GH). At a Lower Paxton Twp. residence a **Varied Thrush** entertained many from 12/6 to 12/13 (JW, et al.). (Photos of both of these species were submitted with the "fall" report.)

Feeding with small flocks of **Horned Larks** were one or more **Lapland Longspurs** in LDT 1/28 (PF), and in the HAF 1/2, 1/10, and 2/8 (CBt, RK, SR respectively). A **Vesper Sparrow** was among the interesting finds during the Curtin CBC 12/29 (PF). A month later 1/29 a **Savannah Sparrow** was reported SRT (PF). The most unusual sparrow of the quarter was a **Clay-colored** that made a brief appearance at a SHT feeder 2/14 (P&RW). After a few reports in November and December of small flocks of **Common Redpolls**, **Pine Siskins** and **Evening Grosbeaks**, few remained during the quarter. A **Common Redpoll** was photographed at a Middletown feeder 2/8 (KK), and observed again on 2/21 (PF); while a lone **Pine Siskin** was

reported near Middletown 2/23 (N&CJ). Another single **Pine Siskin** made occasional visits to a Carsonville feeder, also in late February (J&JF).

Some other mid-winter discoveries included a **House Wren** SHT 1/29 (TJ), and a **Killdeer** and a **Wilson's Snipe** on the northern WRS 1/30 (RK, et al.). Early "spring" arrivals included a flock of 30 **Common Grackles** 2/2 and two **Red-winged Blackbirds** 2/14 SHT (P&RW).

Observers: **Richard and Patricia Williams**, 3 Parkside Dr. Hummlestown 17036, (717) 566-6562, [rwpuuffin@aol.com](mailto:rwpuuffin@aol.com), Chuck Berthoud (CBt), Scott Bills, Carolyn Blatchley, Gerry Boltz, Greg Burgdorf (Gbd), Joe Church, Nancy Cladel, Bernie Crist, Edward Engle, Jodi & Pete Fox (JPF), Joan & Jim Funck (JFF), Jan Getgood, Glenn Hicks, Deuane Hoffman, Ernest Johnson, Tom Johnson, Nancy & Carl Juris (NCJ), Arlene Koch, Ramsay Koury, Karl Kugle, Sandy Lockerman, Cara Musser, Sharon & Steve Rannels (SSR), Regina Reeder, Joan Renninger, Dan Snell, Rosemary Spreha, Jane Webster, Dennis Yoder Sally & Rich Zaino (SRZ).

### Delaware County

Locations: Delaware River (DR), Glenolden Christmas Bird Count 12/20 (CBC)

Winter's grip on Delaware Co. tightened in December and never let up. Though snowfall was only half of last year's amount, a snowy crust covered the ground for more than a month. Nighttime temperatures were consistently in the teens and once they fell below zero. Standing water and some streams froze and in January an ice breaker kept the Delaware River shipping channel open. Consequently, limited habitat increased the concentration of species, resulting in surprisingly high counts of birds that simply didn't have any place else to be: 77 **Tundra Swan** on the DR 1/6 (AG), 170 **Canvasback** on the DR on 1/25 (DM), 212 **Common Merganser** on Darby Creek, 48 **Eastern Towhee** (CBC), or 9 **Chipping Sparrow** (CBC). The **Canvasback** rafts were most likely the two groups frozen off the traditional winter sites in Fairmount Park and at the Baxter Water Treatment Plant in Philadelphia Co. Are there 48 **E. Towhee** in the county in winter? Probably, since it's a big county, but we don't get to count them 16 at a time as I did along an Aston powerline cut on the CBC.

These conditions led to feeder counts in the hundreds with 20 species (only the expected species, not the winter finches) or more at a feeder (SS, JD, SD, DM). In addition to 2 **Ruby Crowned Kinglets** "ravaging" JP's suet feeder, **Gray Catbird**, **Hermit Thrush**, and **Fox and Chipping Sparrows** were reported.

In spite of the cold, the 82<sup>nd</sup> Glenolden CBC (partly in Philadelphia Co.) on 12/20 had some nice finds. Along the DR 3 **Surf Scoter** were a 2<sup>nd</sup> count record since 1957 (NF). **Ruddy Duck** once numbering in the tens of thousands on the CBC was missed and not reported for the period. **Double-crested Cormorant** outnumbered **Great Cormorant** on the CBC and in general.

An **Osprey** hung around Springton Reservoir from late Nov. and was a new count species when KB found the bird in a tree on 12/20. Ten **Cooper's Hawk** were 3<sup>rd</sup> highest and 110 **Red-tailed Hawk** were 2<sup>nd</sup> highest, just under the 117 of 2001. A **Red-shouldered Hawk** at RCSP was a nice find. (TM, AM, BR). On 1/6 Jeff Gordon from Delaware (the state) had a **Rough-legged Hawk** fly past him at Naaman's and Foulk Rds, a corner of the county rarely visited by birders. A **Merlin** on it's way to Indian Orchards in Middletown was seen on 1/22 (NP). Shorebirds with the exception of a **Killdeer** (12/20) were not reported.

Two **Horned Lark** (NF), 2 **American Pipit** (JF) and the 6<sup>th</sup> count record for **Blue-gray Gnatcatcher** (AG) behind the Philadelphia Int'l Airport were great finds given the conditions on 12/20. **Red-breasted Nuthatch** continued at Tyler Arboretum pinetum, but were scarce at feeders. For the CBC **Eastern Bluebird** reached a new high of 130 (115 in 1999) and again Bob Bodine and his trail monitors from the Birding Club of Delaware Co. are credited with the increase. Late warbler reports in Secane were a **Wilson's** and an **American Redstart** seen in Secane 12/4. The **Wilson's** was also present in the previous week.

**Purple Finch** were our most numerous winter visitors. A handful of **Pine Siskin** sightings here and there throughout the county and a single **Common Redpoll** in Concord Twp on 12/20 (NP) were the only other northern birds.

Observers: **Doris McGovern, 209 Dogwood Rd. Media, 19063, (610) 565 8484 mcgovern@masca.museum.upenn.edu.** Kate Brethwaite, Norman Famous, John Freiburg, Jeff Gordon, Al Guarente, Sheryl Johnson, Tom McParland, Alison Mostrom, Jamie Pugliese, Nick Pulcinella, Tom Reeves, Bill Roache, Alice Severeid, Steve Strawbridge

#### *Elk County*

No Report. No Compiler

#### *Erie County*

A fairly lackluster season with few notable birds reported for the period. Winter arrived in late December and hit hard putting ice on Presque Isle Bay and blanketing the county with over two feet of snow in some areas. Ice and snow persisted unbroken until the last week of February when the first thaw triggered small numbers of early spring migrants. Invaders from the north were few with the exception of **Rough-legged Hawks**, which were more numerous than usual. **Northern Shrikes** were limited to one or two adjoining townships and the only northern finches reported were a sprinkling of **Common Redpolls** and **Pine Siskins** scattered throughout, mainly at feeding stations. The following unusual birds were recorded from Presque Isle State Park unless noted otherwise.

Four **Common Loons** were quite late on 1/20 (JM) and a single **Red-necked Grebe** was observed in the bay on 12/8 (BC). The only **Snow Goose** reported for the season was one white bird on Edinboro Lake from 12/2-5 (LC, DS). Two **White-winged Scoters** made a brief visit from 2/25-27 (BC). **Rough-legged Hawks** were more common than usual with at least 13 individuals reported from various parts of the county (m.ob.). A total of four **Merlins** were reported from the Erie International Airport, Millcreek Twp., and Presque Isle (JM, BC, RS). Always unusual in winter was a **Peregrine Falcon** on 12/22 (RF). A **Sandhill Crane** was seen briefly flying over a wooded area in Waterford (JSC). Four **Killdeer** on 12/21 in Millcreek Twp. (DS) were late as was the **Wilson's Snipe** on 2/19 in Fairview (JM). Rarely reported in Erie County was a **Nelson's Gull (Herring X Glaucous Gull)** on 2/ 27 (BC). Other rare but regular gulls reported for the season were **Thayer's-type Gulls** with a total of at least five birds from 1/8-24 (BC, JM), a total of at least seven **Iceland Gulls** from 12/28 through the period (BC, JM), at least four **Lesser Black-backed Gulls** from 12/20-2/25 (BC, JM), and five **Glaucous Gulls** from 1/11-2/25 (BC, JM). The **Snowy Owl** found on 2/17 near McKean could not be relocated despite diligent searching (LM). A single **Long-eared Owl** was located on 12/28 (DD) and a single **Short-eared Owl** was seen perched in a tree on 2/28 in Greenfield Twp. (BC). A single **Northern Shrike** was discovered on 12/22 at Presque Isle (RF) and at least five different individuals were present from 1/4- 2/14 in Greene and Greenfield Twps. (CK., BC, JM). Rarely reported in winter was a **Northern Mockingbird** on 2/9-10 in Millcreek Twp. (BC). **American Pipits** have been reported in Erie County in winter only a couple of times until this year when at least 21 different birds were reported from various places along the south shore of Lake Erie through 12/26 with a single bird remaining to 1/3 (BC, JM). Not always easy to find in winter were two **Eastern Towhees** on 2/8 in Greenfield Twp. (BC). A total of four **Lapland Longspurs** were present from 12/6-1/14 at Fairview and Presque Isle (J.M.).

Observers: **Jerry McWilliams, 3508 Allegheny Road, Erie 16508, (814) 868-3059, jerrymcw@aol.com,** Louise Chambers, Ben Coulter, Jean Stull Cunningham, Dave Darney, Rick Fridell, Craig Kern, Linda McWilliams, Don Snyder, Randy Stringer, m.ob.-many observers.

#### *Fayette County*

Location: Jacob's Creek Lake at Jacob's Creek County Park (JCL)

A **Tundra Swan** was at JCL 12/30 (MF). Two **Snow Geese** were found on the Monongahela River near LaBelle 2/1 (MM). Other waterfowl reported included 9 **American Black Duck** at Labelle 2/1 (MM), 2 **Gadwall** 12/2 at JCL (MF), a **Canvasback** at Labelle 2/1 (MM), 5 **Hooded Mergansers** at Jacob's Creek Lake 12/2 (MF), and 15 **Common Mergansers** on the Youghiogheny River 2/1 (MM).

A group of 150-200 **Ring-billed Gulls** made a brief stop at JCL 12/2. The flock appeared out of nowhere spiraling down to the lake. They gathered on the water for a few minutes, then lifted off and moved on (MF).

Two **Rough-legged Hawks** were seen near Connellsville 2/1 during a Winter Raptor Survey. A **Red-shouldered Hawk** and 6 **Northern Harriers** were also recorded on the survey (MM).

Two **Selasphorus sp. Hummingbirds** reported in the fall period remained into the winter. The bird at Belle Vernon (first reported 11/10), was last reported 12/12 (CZ, GZ). The bird in South Connellsville (first reported 10/21) was last seen 1/10 (JA, JH, DW, GM, MV, MF). Unfortunately neither bird could be captured and banded to determine the species (an attempt was made to schedule the capture of the Belle Vernon bird, but severe weather resulted in the cancellation of that attempt), however both were photographed.

**Carolina** and **Black-capped Chickadees** were reported in the county (MM, WS, DS). Both species are resident with Black-capped in the higher elevations in the county.

Rather unusual at this time of year, an **Eastern Towhee** was reported 2/1 (MM). Two **Purple Finch** were found at Ohioyle State Park 2/14 (WS, DS).

Observers: **Mike Fialkovich, 805 Beulah Road, Pittsburgh, 15235, (412) 731-3581, mpfial@earthlink.net,** Joanna Adams, Joyce Hoffmann, Mark McConaughy, Geoff Malosh, Dana Shaffer, Walt Shaffer, Charles Sherwood, Mark Vass, Dave Wilton, Christine Zerambo, George Zerambo.

#### *Forest County*

**Bald Eagle** reports include an adult seen on 12/15 near Tionesta (FM), and another on 2/27 (BT). The U.S. Army Corp of Engineers (Tionesta Lake) conducted a mid-winter survey on 1/9 and found 2 immature and 2 adult **Bald Eagles** along the Allegheny River near Tionesta. (RD, AKW, PS)

**Common Ravens** were noted on 12/13, 12/30 and 1/3 near Tionesta. A pair of **Red-bellied Woodpeckers** and a **Red-breasted Nuthatch** were regulars at feeders near Tionesta throughout the period. A **Varied Thrush** was reported near Tionesta on 2/27. (BT). Hopefully documentation will be received and forwarded to PORC for this unusual sighting. An **Eastern Bluebird** was seen near Tionesta on 12/31. (F&JM)

At feeders near Tionesta: a flock of **American Tree Sparrows** was regular throughout the reporting period, with a high of 7 on 12/30, while a **White-throated Sparrow** was noted on 12/6 and 1/13. **Dark-eyed Juncos** were regular, with a high of 26 on 1/7 (F&JM).

A **Red-winged Blackbird** was reported from the Pigeon Hill area on 2/27. (BT). A **Common Grackle** and a **Brown-headed Cowbird** were seen on 12/6, and a **Purple Finch** was observed on 12/18 and 12/30, while 3 were seen on 12/31 at feeders near Tionesta. (FM). Two **Common Redpolls** were reported from the Endeavor area on 2/21. (LI). A small flock of **Pine Siskins** was regular throughout the period at feeders near Tionesta, with a high of 5 on 1/7.

Observers: **Flo McGuire, HC 1 Box 6A, Tionesta, 16353, (814) 755-3672 mcguire@usachoice.net,** Rodney Daum, Lisa Imperiale, Amy Keitzer-Wallace, Flo & Jim McGuire, Parks Swartzfager, Bob Toman.

#### *Franklin County*

Locations: Zullinger Area (ZA), Farm Fields near Kauffman's Station(KS), Greencastle Reservoir(GR), Shady Grove(SG), St.Thomas Area(STA), Willow Hill(WH), Warm Springs Rd.(WS), Heisey Rd.(HR),

CBC- Chambersburg Christmas Bird Count, CHAM- Chambersburg area

Various locations in the county produced the following birds from December through February; **Sharp-shinned Hawks, Cooper's Hawks, Red-Tailed Hawks, American Kestrels, Killdeer, Eastern Bluebirds, Dark-Eyed Juncos, Tree Sparrows, White-Throated Sparrows, White-Crowned Sparrows and Common Grackles.**

Highlights of the 12/20 CBC included: 3 **Green-winged Teal**, 1 **N. Pintail**, 3 **Am. Wigeon**, 1 **Osprey** (no details), 9 **Wilson's Snipe**, 7 **Red-breasted Nuthatch**, 2 **Lapland Longspur**, 1 **Snow Bunting**, and 1 **Evening Grosbeak**. New high count species included **Great-horned Owls** (11) and **American Pipits** (17).

A **Common Goldeneye** made a brief stop at the GR 2/22. Note: The GR is open water much of the winter due spring water being fed into it. A single **Common Merganser** was seen along with 250 Canada Geese (DS, RR) at Fannettsburg Lake 1/3.

Only two sightings of a **Northern Harrier** were at STA on 12/30 and 1/17, near Ridge Road, hunting the fields. On 1/26 in the area of WH a **Northern Harrier**, **Cooper's Hawk**, and a juvenile **Golden Eagle** were sharing territory with 2 **Red-tailed Hawks** (DH, ML, JY). A light-phased **Rough-legged Hawk** was seen hunting a field north of CHAM near the Army Depot on Christmas Eve (DS, RR)

Water birds were much more difficult to find with **Wilson's Snipe** sightings near Clay Hill at a farm spring and at KS in December through early January and only one **Ring-billed Gull** at GR. A dozen **Wilson's Snipe** were found feeding along Country Rd east of CHAM on 1/15 (BK). On 2/7 a **Wilson's Snipe** was observed feeding along a stream on McDowell Rd, STA (JSc, PSc).

**Eurasian Collared Doves** are observed regularly in SG at a feeder and near Klines Store and Hades Church Road.

In STA **Barn Owls** were observed in a barn nesting box at various times throughout the period. They often can be observed with a scope from the road through the outside entrance opening. A nesting **Great Horned** was found along the Grindstone Hill Road and it will be monitored until young are born and leave nest. A **Great Horned Owl** was seen building its nest 12/20 in the Scotland area (DMc). The most exciting bird in the county for this period (and still is) was the **Snowy Owl** at WH. This female **Snowy Owl** was present in the area of PA Route 75 and PA Turnpike Willow Hill exit (mile #189). The bird was first noted and photographed 1/5 by local resident Anna Swailes and observed by many after 1/22 when it became to the general birding community. Unbelievably, the bird was relocated in the same area in late March. **Red-headed Woodpeckers** and **Yellow-Bellied Sapsuckers** have been observed at different times near SG. The **Red-headed Woodpeckers** at a feeder (EM) and the **Sapsucker** (1/17) in a wooded area

A **Brown Creeper** was reported in ZA by CG 1/26. He also sighted a **Ruby-crowned Kinglet**, 2/1-2/26, **American Robins**, 2/20-2/29, a **Red-winged Blackbird** 2/20, and a **Pine Siskin**, 12/5-12/9. A feeder in New Franklin attracted 2 **Red-breasted Nuthatches** regularly the first week of December (JSc). **American Pipits** were reported 1/26 near Clay Hill. They visited the area sporadically during the report period. A concrete storm drain at GR was refuge from the snow for an **American Pipit** on 1/30 (DS, RR). On 12/20, two **Lapland Longspurs** and one **Snow Bunting** were observed near KS along with a large number of **Horned Larks** (350 +). These birds were in the area until late February.

An **Eastern Meadowlark** was seen in a field along Swailes Rd, WH 1/26 (DH, ML, JY). On 2/7, eight **Eastern Meadowlarks** and 3 **Snow Buntings** were found feeding along Myers Rd (JSc, PSc). Four **Rusty Blackbirds** made a quick stop at a feeder near (SG) 2/4. Up to 11 **Purple Finches** visited a feeder near CHAM throughout the winter (JSc). Ten females and one male **Purple Finches** were regular visitors to a feeder at JS along Warm Springs Road.

Observers: Dale Gearhart, PO Box 155, Shady Grove, 17256, (717) 597-3979, gear@innernet.net, Carl Garner, Kenneth Gabler, Dan Hinnebusch, Bob Keener, Mike Lohr, Eric and Marvin Martin, Denise McWilliams, Regina Reeder, Joyce Schaff, Phil Schaff, Dan Snell, and Anna Swailes,

## Fulton County

Locations: CREP1- Plum Run survey route, CREP2- Pleasant Grove survey route, CREP3- Hustontown survey route, CREP4- Buck Valley survey route.

The winter of 2003-04 season will be noted for the snow cover that persisted for the majority of the quarter. Highlights for the county included winter raptor survey Golden Eagle, seasonal survey high counts for Rough-legged Hawk and Northern Harrier.

Using the PA Game Commission CREP Routes, four winter raptor survey routes were run in the county. Each route averaged between 12 to 15 miles in length. On 1/22 CREP1 netted 8 **Northern Harriers**, 2 **Cooper's Hawks**, 7 **Red-tailed Hawks**, 2 **Rough-legged Hawks**, 1 **American Kestrel**, and a juvenile **Golden Eagle** (MS, DS). The Golden Eagle was observed soaring over Dickey's Mountain. Also later on 1/22, 5 **Red-tailed Hawks** and a **Rough-legged Hawk** were detected along CREP2 (MS, DS). 1/24 CREP3 survey results included 2 **Black Vultures**, 1 **Cooper's Hawk**, 1 **Red-tailed Hawk**, 1 **Rough-legged Hawk**, and 2 **American Kestrels** (CN, RR, DS). On 1/31, CREP4 netted 1 **Cooper's Hawk**, 5 **Red-tailed Hawks**, and 2 **American Kestrels** (ZG, RR, DS).

A pair of **Bald Eagles** was observed flying over Barnett's Run Bridge near Needmore on 12/26 (DG). Dennis was able to watch them fly south of Needmore for 2-3 miles. A juvenile **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** was found 1/3 at Camp Sinoquie (DS). During CREP1, 8 alternate plumage **Eastern Meadowlarks** were flushed by a **Northern Harrier** 1/22 (DS). A Davis Rd feeder on CREP3 hosted 23 **Brown-headed Cowbirds** on 1/24 (CN, RR, DS). Since mid-February to the end of the quarter, up to 6 **Pine Siskins** and 2 **Purple Finches** have frequented a Harrisonville feeder (MN).

Observers: Dan Snell, PO Box 653, Shippensburg, 17257, (717) 530-8313, dan\_snell@hotmail.com, Zachary Geyer, Dennis Gordon, Christopher Newell, Mike Newell, Regina Reeder, Marilyn Snell.

## Greene County

Locations: Aleppo Twp. (AT), Bell Farm Morgan Twp. Pollock Mill Rd. (BF), Carmichaels (CRM.), Center Twp. (CT), Center Twp. Route 21 (CT 21), Cumberland Twp. N. Market Street (CMB.), Cumberland Twp. Route 88 (CMB.88), Enlow (SGL 302), Franklin Twp. (FRK), Homeville Rd. Morgan Twp. (HVR), Hopewell Ridge (HR), Jefferson Twp. Goslin Road (JT), Kern Farm Morgan Twp. Kennel Rd. (KF), Rogersville Area (RGS), Perry Twp. Big Shannon Run (WT)

For Greene County this winter was not an exceptional birding season for non-resident over-wintering species. When asked what birds they had seen at their feeders or elsewhere, most birders replied, "Nothing special-just the usual." We sometimes get tired of watching the feeder and seeing nothing but Cardinals and Juncos, and Juncos, and Juncos, but it never fails to amaze me at how hardy these tiny creatures must be to survive the cold and snow and bitter conditions that they contend with all winter.

The first **Great Blue Heron** was seen 2/24 by KR in CT21 with 1-2 inches of snow cover. Eagles seemed to have discovered western Greene County. MM found 1 adult **Bald Eagle** in AT on 2/10 which remained until 2/13. An adult **Golden Eagle** was seen from 2/25 through 2/28 in AT by several observers (JH, MJ, DC, PB, and LTR). The birders in the western part of the county are finding eagles regularly the last few winters. RKB reports his wintering **American Kestrel** at BF began calling 2/7 and continued for several days. While RKB states the numbers of **Wild Turkeys** reported to him on various counts are down over all this year, he did have 10 in his yard at BF on 2/4. ML reported a flock of 30 **Wild Turkeys** visited her yard at WT from mid-January on. JW reported 2 **Killdeer** near CRM on 2/19. On 2/23 at 4:00 AM, RKB heard 3 **Great Horned Owls** conversing at BF. RKB also reports his resident **Northern Flicker** and **Pileated Woodpecker** called many days in February. ML at WT had 30+ doves at her feeders during the reporting time. On 2/8, two **Common Ravens** flew over BF reports RKB. A mixed flock of 6 **Horned Larks** and 1 **Lapland Longspur** were reported in AT on 1/24 by JH, MH,

PB and LTR. **Red-breasted Nuthatches** were scarce this winter, but DW found one on HR on 2/15. KR reported a **Brown Creeper** at her feeders from 12/16 through 1/17 in CMB. On 1/30 RKB reported 5 **Eastern Bluebirds** at BF which are not as many as in previous years.

Seems like most winters **American Robins** are around somewhere. RKB reported 9 in his yard at BF on 1/05 and KR reported them in her yard in CMB on 2/21. RKB has had 22 **Yellow-rumped Warblers** roosting nightly in his holly trees all season. RKB reports a high of 8 **White-throated Sparrows** at his feeder at BF. KK reports 6 **White-crowned Sparrows** visited her feeders at KF. KK also had 1 **Tree Sparrow** briefly at her feeders on 1/30 and 1/31 at KF. She also reported 25 **Dark-eyed Juncos** on 2/13 at KF. There was no shortage of **Northern Cardinals** reported this winter. RKB counted 31 in mid-February at BF and KR found 15 males and 12 females at CMB on 2/15.

One begins to "think spring" when the blackbirds start showing up at the feeders. JW had the earliest on 2/22 at JT when 2 **Red-winged Blackbirds** showed up at his feeder. A **Rusty Blackbird** was found by KR at a feeder on HVR on 1/21 and again on 1/26 and KK reported 1 at her feeder at KF on 2/29. KR had 2 **Eastern Meadowlarks** on JT on 1/21. RKB reported the first **Common Grackle** on 2/14 at BF. **Brown-headed Cowbirds**, a total of three, were seen by KR in the RGS area on 2/17. KR had a **Purple Finch** at her feeder since 12/6 in CMB. And RKB reported seeing 3 on 1/5 and seeing singles leaving their favorite roosting tree many mornings at BF. Many folks are noting that the number of **House Finches** is definitely down this year. RKB states he banded only 10 last year at BF compared to 1051 banded in 1988. ML at WT also states she had "very few" **House Finches** this year which is a change from previous years. **American Goldfinches**, however, are another story. ML reports having 30+ at her feeders at WT on any given day. ML also sends us something to smile about...an old nest found in a shrub contained the usual grasses and twigs along with a 6 inch strip of 35 mm film! The birds must have had a Kodak moment going on!!

Observers: **Kathy Kern, 322 Kennel Road, Waynesburg, 15370, (724) 627-5376, n3xsj@alltel.net**, Ralph Bell (RKB), Paul Braddock (PB), David Crowe (DC), Jerry Howard (JH), Marjorie Howard (MH), Mary LaPlante (ML), Mick McVay (MM), Kathy Reeves (KR), Terry and Lillian Ronzio (LTR), Doug Wise (DW), Jerry Wolfe (JW).

### *Huntingdon County*

Locations: Huntingdon (HU), Juniata River (JR), Lake Raystown (LR), McAlevy's Fort (MF).

Waterfowl numbers on the Juniata River peaked on 1/31 with 50 **Amer. Black Ducks**, 50 **Bufflehead**, 40 **Common Mergansers** and 8 **Common Goldeneyes** (GG). On 1/4 DK found 4 **Hooded Mergansers** and female **Northern Pintail** also on the JR. DK also observed at LR, 3 **Gadwall** and a **Greater Scaup** on 1/11, and 35 **Bonaparte's Gulls** on 12/27.

**Golden Eagles** were recorded on both sides of the count period. Stone Mountain had one southbound eagle on 12/1 and Tussey Mountain recorded 22 heading north on 2/29 (TM). A **Northern Harrier** was spotted near Markelsburg on 12/10 (DK), and another on 1/24 at Shirleysburg (GG). Other raptor highlights included 9 **Black Vultures** in HU on 12/26, a pair of **Red-shouldered Hawks** in courtship display on 1/11 over Shaver's Creek Valley and a pair of adult **Bald Eagles** near the LR Dam on 2/28 (DK).

Eleven **Wilson's Snipe** were found at Shirleyburg on 1/14 (DK) and 2 near MF on 2/7 (GG).

An **Ovenbird** was observed (RC) during the 12/21 HU Christmas count, as well as **Eastern Towhee** and **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** (DK). New Year's day birding turned up **Winter Wren** in HU, and an **Eastern Phoebe** and **Ruby-crowned Kinglet** near LR (DK).

GG observed 4 **Eastern Meadowlarks** on 1/24 at Shirleysburg, and a **Field Sparrow** near MF on 1/3. Also seen around MF on 2/7, 40 **Horned Larks**, 8 **Rusty Blackbirds** and a **Snow Bunting** (GG).

Feeding stations in MF attracted an immature **White-crowned Sparrow** (DW) and **Purple Finches** throughout the count period (DG,GG). **Pine Siskins** began appearing as early as 12/25 at the Klyer's feeders and from early January on in MF.

Observers: **Doug Wentzel, Shaver's Creek Environmental Center, 3400 Discovery Road, Petersburg, 16669, (814) 863-2000**. Rob Criswell, Deb Grove, Greg Grove, David Kyler, Trudy Kyler, Tom Magarian.

### *Indiana County*

Locations: Brush Valley (BV), Clymer (CM), Indiana (IN), Saltsburg (SB), Shelocta (SH), State Game Lands (SGL), West Lebanon (WL), Winter Raptor Survey (WRS), Yellow Creek (YC).

Two **Greater White-fronted Geese** arrived with a flock of Canadas at the pond owned by David and Mary Ann Dunmire in SB 2/29 (DD,MAD,DL); this is the same pond that has harbored *Indiana's* only **Black-bellied Whistling Ducks** and Ross's Goose. **Canada Goose** maxima included 322 at YC 12/9 (LC,MH,SS,LW) and 260 at Two Lick Reservoir 1/9 (PJ). A **Mute Swan** at Blacklick 2/17 (MS) was the lone report. A lone **Tundra Swan** lingered at YC through 1/6 (LC,SG,CG,MH,DL,SS,LW) when it was observed departing; a flock of 35 was noted overhead near Thomas Bridge 1/15 (MH,RH). YC yielded a raft of 29 **Am. Black Ducks** 12/23 (LC,MH,SS) while Mahoning Creek produced 15 1/22 (CG,MH,PS). With the area's lakes and ponds being frozen, **Mallards** were infrequently reported; 20 near BV 12/16 (AJ), 23 at YC 12/23 (LC,MH,SS), and 6 at WL 1/17 (EF,MF) were the high counts. Sixteen **Northern Pintails** were found at YC 1/3 (LC). One **Green-winged Teal** lingered at YC 12/23 (LC,MH,SS). Two **Canvasbacks** 12/16 (LC,MH) and 1 on 12/26 (GL,GS) and 3 **Redheads** 12/3 (LC) were the only reports for these species. **Ring-necked Duck** records included 8 on 12/9 (LC,MH,SS,LW) at YC, where the last 3 were noted 1/3 (LC). A lone **Lesser Scaup**, the only report, 5 **Buffleheads**, and 7 **Hooded Mergansers** were YC's last on 12/16 (LC,MH). Two **Hooded Mergansers** were found near North Point on Mahoning Creek 1/22 (CG,MH,PS). **Common Merganser** reports included 4 at YC 1/02 (RG), 5 on Little Mahoning Creek 1/15 (NS), and 3 on Mahoning Creek 1/22 (CG,MH,PS). Two **Red-breasted Mergansers** appeared at YC 12/26 (GL,GS). A **Ruddy Duck** was last noted 12/30 (LC,CG,MH,PJ,LW) at YC.

**Ring-necked Pheasant** reports included 4 near Five Points 1/31 (MH,RH) and 1 near BV 2/10 (RH). Five **Ruffed Grouse** were found near CM 12/28 (EB) while YC produced 4 on a winter walk 1/13 (LC,CG,MH,SS); singletons were listed 2/8 (NS) at Smicksburg, 2/24 (LC,MH,SS,LW) at SGL 248, and 2/27 (AB) at Nolo. Best **Wild Turkey** counts included 46 near Home 1/17 (PS), 33 near Creekside 1/14 (MH,RH), and 22 near SH 2/10 (EB).

Nine **Common Loons** was a high CBC count 12/26 (GL,GS) at YC. Two **Pied-billed Grebes** were last noted at YC 12/26 (GL,GS). The CBC also produced the season's last 4 **Great Blue Herons** (v.o.).

Last **Turkey Vulture** was spotted at Two Lick Reservoir 12/26 (PJ); 2 had returned to the area just west of BV by 2/22 (EF,MF). N. **Harriers** included 2 near CM 12/4 (EB) and 2 at WL 12/23 (SS), where a male was seen 1/9 (SS) and 1/10 (MH,RH). **Sharp-shinned Hawks** were noted at 9 locations; **Cooper's Hawk**, at 5 (v.o.). Two **Red-shouldered Hawks** were listed, one 1/20 (LC,CG,MH,SS) at YC and the other on 2/24 (LC,MH,SS,LW) at SGL 248 where the individual was feeding on a deer carcass. The county's two WRS routes yielded only 15 and 18 **Red-tailed Hawks** on 1/31 (MH,RH) and 2/1 (MH,RH), respectively. This was a good year, however, for **Rough-legged Hawks** in our county with the first of 15 reports on 1/16 of a dark morph near SH (MH,RH) and 2 light near ER (SS). The WL-Elders Ridge area yielded as many as 5 individuals (3 light, 2 dark) between 1/16 and 2/22 (v.o.). WRS Route No. 2 and 1 respectively listed 2 (1 of each morph) and 5 (all light) rough-legs and 2 and 3 **Am. Kestrels** on 1/31 and 2/1 (MH,RH).

The highlight of the IN CBC 12/26 (MH,RH) was a **Virginia Rail** found poking its bill into the mud, probing repeatedly, and feeding voraciously on small tidbits as it moved along through a streambed at YC. The rail was relocated 1/02 (MH) and photographed

that day by RG. It was seen later that day by others (LC,EF,MF,DL). Ten **Am. Coots** remained at YC through 1/3 (LC). Last and first **Killdeer** were listed near Clymer 12/7 (EB) and 2/27 (EB). First arriving **Am. Woodcocks** were 2 at Timber Lake 2/5 (AB) and 1 at Nolo 2/24 (AB,GL). One **Ring-billed Gull** at IN 1/18 (MS) was first; 16 appeared at SB 2/20 (SS); YC yielded 52 on 2/24 (LC,MH,SS,LW), the same day 35 were at IN (MH,LW). A red morph **E. Screech-Owl** was found peering from a tree cavity near SH 1/10,16 (MH,RH). **Great Horned Owls** were noted at 10 locations (v.o.). A single Barred Owl was calling near SH 1/21 (CG,MH,DL) and 2/2 (MH,RH); MA heard 2 near Creekside 2/19 and 4 on 2/27. A **Short-eared Owl** was observed at WL 12/23 (SS); 6 were counted there 1/9 (SS) and 5 on 1/16 (LC,SS). **Belted Kingfishers** seemed to withdraw from our area this winter with reports only on 1/15 (NS) on the Little Mahoning and 1/22 (CG,MH,PS) near Smicksburg. Single **Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers** visited feeders near IN 1/02, 4, 31 (DJ); in White Twp., 1/11-31 (CG); and near Homer City 1/10 - 2/14 (LC); DJ's IN feeder yielded 2 sapsuckers 2/1. **N. Flicker** was recorded only at YC 12/16 (LC,MH) and 1/3 (LC), near SH 1/5, 14 (MH,RH) and 1/21 (CG,MH,DL), and near Creekside 1/18 (MH,RH). **Common Ravens** noted included single birds at SB 12/26 (SS) and at YC 1/29 (LC).

Ten **Horned Larks** were found near Marion Center 1/31 (MH,RH) and 86 near Denton 2/1 (MH,RH); 7 flew over YC 2/10 (LC,CG,MH,SS,LW). One to 2 **Red-breasted Nuthatches** continued near SH (MH,RH), but singletons were also found near IN 1/02-2/8 (DJ) and another near Homer City 2/29 (LC). **Carolina Wrens** were noted at 8 locations (v.o.) during the season. A **Winter Wren** was found at YC 1/02 (RG,MH); another was spotted in another area of the park 2/24 (LC,MH,SS,LW). Best respective **Golden-crowned Kinglet** and **Eastern Bluebird** counts were 7 and 10 both at YC 12/26 (MH,RH). YC yielded the only **Hermit Thrushes** with reports of 2 birds between 12/16 (LC,MH) and 1/20 (LC,CG,MH,SS). With very few wintering robins this year, all **Am. Robin** reports but one, 3 on 1/1 (MH,RH) near Smicksburg, involved single birds. A **Gray Catbird** was a surprising find at YC 2/1 (LC). **N. Mockingbirds** were listed near SH 12/9 (EB), in Center Twp. 12/28 (BM), at Clarksburg 1/22 (RH), near Marion Center 1/31 (MH,RH), and at Margus Lake 2/10 (CG,MH,LW). The only **Cedar Waxwings** this season were the CBC's 3 (v.o.), 16 on Reservoir Hill 1/23 (PJ) and 20 in IN 2/3 (RZ). SH yielded 1-3 **Yellow-rumped Warblers** 12/23 (MH,RH) through the end of the period.

An **E. Towhee**, present throughout the period, wintered successfully at SH feeders (MH,RH). **Am. Tree Sparrow** maxima included 25 near WL 1/19 (MH,RH) and 13 near BV 2/3 (AJ). Two **Chipping Sparrows** arrived at a Reservoir Hill feeder 1/22 (PJ) and remained through 1/27. A **Field Sparrow** near CM 2/3 (EB) was the lone report. A **Savannah Sparrow** wintered in Center Twp. through 1/23 (BM). The season's last **Swamp Sparrow** was observed 1/2 (MH) at YC. **White-throated Sparrows** were found in smaller numbers than usual (v.o.). A **White-crowned Sparrow** in Center Twp. 1/23 (BM) was the lone report. **Dark-eyed Junco** maxima included 100 north of Grafton 2/17 (MS), 89 near SH 1/11 (MH,RH), and 53 near BV 2/3 (AJ). A flock of 45 **Snow Buntings** n. of Grafton 2/17 (MS) were the only ones sighted. Single **Red-winged Blackbirds** returned 2/28 both near CM (EB) and near SH (MH,RH). **E. Meadowlarks** included 1 near CM 12/13 and 3 near WL 1/19 (MH,RH). First **Rusty Blackbird** was found near Edgewood 2/29 (MH,RH). A flock of ~ 100 **Common Grackles** descended on feeders in Center Twp. 1/23 (BM). A **Brown-headed Cowbird** was spotted near Dixonville 1/31 (MH,RH) and 7 were on WRS 1 on 2/1 (MH,RH). Top **Purple Finch** tallies included 10 near IN 1/25 (DJ) and 15 at YC 1/20 (LC,CG,MH,SS). Single **Pine Siskins** were present near IN through the end of the season (CG), near Lewisville 1/14 (MC), on Reservoir Hill 1/14-23 (PJ), at SB 1/21 and 2/25 (SS). **Am. Goldfinches** flocked to feeders in large numbers this season with high tallies of 77 at BV 1/19 (AJ) and 65 near SH 1/23 (MH,RH).

Observers: **Margaret Higbee, 3119 Creekside Rd., Indiana, 15701, (724) 354-3493, bcoriole@twd.net**, Morris Anderson, Alice Beatty, Eli Beiler, Lee Carnahan, Marcy Cunkelman, David Dunmire, Mary Ann Dunmire (MAD), Evelyn Fowles, Mike Fowles, Ross Gallardy,

Carol Guba, Roger Higbee, Dory Jacobs, Anna Jennings, Pat Johner, Gloria Lamer, Dennis Lauffer, Beth Marshall, Marilyn Moore, Matt Sarver, Nancy Smeltzer, Patrick Snickles, Scott Speedy, Georgette Syser, Linda Wagner, Robin Zawrotny.

#### *Jefferson County*

No Report. No Compiler

#### *Juniata County*

No Report.

**Toby Petersheim, RR2, Box 539, Mifflintown, 17059**

#### *Lackawanna County*

No Compiler

I had two records of special interest in Lackawanna County during this time period.

The first special bird was seen on 12/28. In the early afternoon I stopped at Gravel Pond which was almost totally frozen except for one small open area fairly near the road. There, closely jammed together in the open water or on the nearby ice, were hundreds of gulls which, perhaps, were resting there after coming from a nearby landfill. A crude attempt to count indicated that there were about 500 **Ring-billed Gulls** there, along with about 20 **Herring Gulls**, and a single young **Great Black-backed Gull**. There was also one other gull there. It was about the size of a Herring gull. Fortunately for me, it was standing on the edge of the ice and was one of the few gulls (except for some standing nearest me on the ice but facing the water and never showing their fronts) which were completely in view. The bird was seated at first, but then stood and remained standing, mostly with its right side toward me.

The gull was dark-backed, but not black like the ends of its primaries were. It had lighter underparts with distinct (not blurry) streaking, and its head was light-colored. Two things stood out with the bird. Its bill was a slim bill and was completely black, and its legs were bright yellow. This was a puzzler. The young Lesser black-backed gull has a slim black bill, but its legs are not yet yellow. On the other hand, the adult has bright yellow legs, but its bill is no longer black. The bird was about 100 feet from me, and I watched it about 15 minutes with 7 X 35 binoculars and with my Nikon glasses at about 16 power. I discussed the bird with one of PA's birders who has seen hundreds of Lesser black-backs, and he said that the plumage is unusual, but he felt that the bright yellow legs just developed early and were distinctive. Therefore, I have accepted my initial thought and listed the bird as my first **Lesser black-backed Gull!**

On checking when I got home, I ruled out several other rare gulls: The Yellow-footed gull would be larger, would have a heavier bill, and has white underparts. The Western gull would not have yellow legs at any stage, and it has dark underparts. The Slaty-backed gull never has yellow legs, nor does it have distinct streaking on the underparts. Also, the Herring gull never has yellow legs, and the young bird does not have the distinct streaks.

My second record on interest was found by my wife, Margaret, on 1/18. We had eaten at Cooper's Restaurant on N. Washington Street in Scranton, and were in the parking lot getting into our car. My wife looked at the Church of the Holy Family Church across the street where we were and said, "There's a bird sitting on the cross up there". Thinking that it was probably a rock dove, I got my binoculars and saw the distinctive moustache on the bird and knew that it was an adult **Peregrine Falcon**. (Thanks, Marge!) I've looked at the tops of tall buildings in Scranton every time I've been there since, but have not seen it again. I can't help wondering if they might be nesting here as in Wilkes-Barre and Pittston.

Observer: Bill Reid.

#### *Lancaster County*

Locations: Susquehanna River, Long Level (SLL), Middlecreek WMA (MC)

The season started with several snow storms, but most of the winter was actually rather uneventful as far as the weather was concerned. The Solanco Christmas Count was originally scheduled for December 14, but inclement weather caused postponement to December 21. Forty-six participants managed to record 100 species, three of which were considered rare for the count—**Ross' Goose**, **Lesser Black-backed Gull**, and **Glaucous Gull**. Other highlights included: 38 **Bald Eagles** (14 ad., 17 imm. & 7 unknown age), 3 **Peregrine Falcons**, **Greater Scaup**, **Barn Owl**, 4 **Long-eared Owls** (2 at Octoraro Lake and 2 in the Serpentine Barrens), 2 **Saw-whet Owls**, **Eastern Phoebe**, **Brown Thrasher**, 23 **Eastern Towhees** and 3 **Pine Siskin**. The Lititz count was held on December 28 and identified a total of 88 species with 47 people participating. The highlights included: 3 **Wood Ducks**, 3 **Bald Eagles** (1 imm. & 2 ad.), **Rough-legged Hawk**, **Merlin**, 55 **Wild Turkeys**, 3 **Short-eared Owls**, **Red-breasted Nuthatch**, 12 **American Pipit**, **Vesper Sparrow**, 2 **Fox Sparrow**, 26 **Eastern Towhees**, 12 **Eastern Meadowlarks**, and 16 **Rusty Blackbirds**. The Lancaster Count was held on January 3 and 23 people participated to find 75 species. This year, both the number of birds and the numbers of species were in short supply.

Late winter is usually highlighted by large numbers of waterfowl in Lancaster County and this year was no different. A pair of **Mute Swans** was present regularly at MC once the ice began to open in February. This species has been regular in Lancaster County in recent years. **Tundra Swan** numbers built to 2000 birds by 2/29, but the real news this year was the ever increasing hoard of **Snow Geese** present at MC and throughout the county. **Snow Geese** were present off and on throughout the season at MC and Muddy Run and they began to build in numbers about the middle of February. On 2/13 there were 1000 **Snow Geese**, and one **Ross' Goose** at MC (TJ, RK), but by 2/22 the **Snow Geese** had built to 45,000 and included 3 **Ross' Geese** (RM et al). On 3/2 there were between 150,000 and 170,000 **Snow Geese** (Game Commission Estimates). These are the highest numbers ever reported in Pennsylvania and during this same time there were at least 20,000 **Snow Geese** residing at Muddy Run. This flock included one **Ross' Goose** on 2/29 (MV). During this time there were many reports of **Ross' Geese**, but the highest count reported was of seven birds on 2/27 at MC. This group was reported to be traveling together and included two adults of the blue phase and one immature blue phase. Over the years there have been scattered reports of blue phase **Ross' Geese** in Lancaster County, but none have ever been photographically documented. Given the possibility of hybrids, photographs of this rare color phase would be especially desirable.

Without doubt the rarest bird of the season, a **Pink-footed Goose** found and photographed at the Greenfield estates on 2/29 provided Lancaster County with its first record of this species (JK). The bird was seen briefly the next morning (DH), but unfortunately did not remain after that.

In addition to the hoards of geese, most of the common species of waterfowl such as **Gadwall**, **American Wigeon**, **American Black Duck**, **Mallard**, **Northern Shoveler**, **Northern Pintail**, **Green-winged Teal**, **Ring-necked Duck**, **Lesser Scaup**, **Bufflehead**, **Hooded Merganser**, **Common Merganser** and **Ruddy Duck** were also present (m.ob.). Other scarcer sightings included 5 **Redheads**, 11 **Greater Scaup** and a high count of 100+ **Common Goldeneye** at SRL 2/15 (JH) as well as one **Canvasback** at MC 2/11.

**Red-shouldered Hawks** were spotted several times at MC during February and **Rough-legged Hawks** were present through February near New Holland and also at MC. Twelve birds were counted at MC on 2/14 (JBi, SF). A **Peregrine Falcon** was observed flying across Rockvale Road just east of the town of Lancaster on January 9 (JH).

A **Red-headed Woodpecker** was reported on 12/22 along Miller Road west of Elizabethtown (JW). The bird remained in the area and was seen later in January as well.

A small flock of 7 **Snow Buntings** was seen near Leola close to the intersection of Balmerstown and south Farmersville Roads on 1/31

(JH). Three **Snow Buntings** were still near this area on 2/1 (BB). Eight **Snow Buntings** were seen along Chiques Road on 12/5 (KM, RM).

Feeders and a yard located 0.3 miles north of Route 372 on Pencroft Drive near Holtwood attracted what was reported to be a female **Blue Grosbeak** on 1/7 (JS). This species breeds regularly in the southern part of the county, but I am not aware of any previous reports in the winter.

On 2/21 one of two adult male **Yellow-headed Blackbirds** associating with a group of 150,000 to 200,000 **Red-winged Blackbirds**, **Common Grackles**, and **Brown-headed Cowbirds** was photographed in southern Lancaster County (GM). This is the same group of blackbirds that has been known for a few years to winter in the general area near Rt. 222, when there is no snow cover.

Finally, there was a report of 4 **Common Redpolls** feeding on Black Birch and Poplar seeds near New Providence on December 14 (BS). This was the only report of this irruptive species in Lancaster County this year.

Observers: **Jonathan Heller**, 716 Bentley Ridge Blvd., Lancaster, 17602, (717) 940-6067, rheller@paonline.com Barry Blust, Jerry Book, Jim Binder (JBi), Ann Bodling, Devin Bosler, Justin Bosler (JBo), Bruce Carl, Larry Coble, Les Eastman, Jeff Fisher, Dave Ferry, Ron Ferry, Scott Fisher, Tom Garner, Barb Haas, Frank Haas, Deuane Hoffman, Tom Hopson, Ramsay Koury, Tom Johnson, Geoff Malosh, Kate Miller, Kelly McKinne (KMc) Randy Miller, Peter Robinson, Bob Schutsky, Jim Smith, Mark Vass, Richard Williams, Patricia Williams, Eric Witmer, Jan Wilcox.

#### Lawrence County

No Report.

**Randy Stringer**, 409 Shady Drive, Grove City, 16127, rcstringer@gcc.edu

#### Lebanon County

Locations: Memorial Lake S.P. (MLSP), Middlecreek WMA (MC) Second Mtn. Hawk Watch (2<sup>nd</sup> Mtn.), S.G.L.145, Swatara S.P. (SSP)

**Snow Geese** were seen from mid-December throughout the quarter with a peak of 170,000 the last week of February. **Ross's Geese** were found from 2/21 at Colebrook with 2 (RM) with a peak of 7 found in a flock at Willow Pt. Parking area at M.C. There were 2 adult white, 1 imm white, 2 adult blue, and 1 imm blue. Also in the flock was a "**Richardson**" **Canada Goose** smaller than the **Snow Geese** (RM). Ten **Tundra Swans** were seen flying over Lebanon on 12/14 (FH). They also reached their peak numbers the last week of February with 9,000 at MC (M.ob)

A new high of 752 **Am. Black Duck** was seen on the Lebanon County side of MC on 12/24 (RM). **N. Shovelers** were found only in 12/24 with 6 at MC (RM). **Buffleheads** were seen at MLSP with a peak of only 3 on 1-1 (KM, RM). **Common Mergansers** set a December record with 27 on the Christmas count.

**Great Blue Herons** were hardy with sightings almost all quarter. Highlights of 2<sup>nd</sup> Mtn. Hawk Watch includes new seasons high of **Black Vultures** - 511, **Bald Eagle** - 77, and **N. Harrier** with 250. A new one day total of 11 **Golden Eagles** was seen on 11-21. **Rough-legged Hawks** were seen the entire quarter with 3 dark phase seen from 2<sup>nd</sup> Mtn Two on 11-8 and one on 12/26 two light phase were seen around lawn (MA, GB) and one dark phase was found on the winter raptor survey (GB). MC hosted up to 5 which included 3 light phase and 2 dark phase. (mob.)

A **Golden Eagle** was seen at SSP on 12/19. Six **Killdeer** were found up to 1/10 near Annville for a good January count (JL, RM, RS). Three **Wilson's Snipe** were found near Bachman's Run on 1/10 (RS, JL). **Am. Woodcock** were found on SGL 145 on 2/21 (RM). A 1<sup>st</sup> year **Iceland Gull** was found with 640 **Herring Gulls** at MLSP. Also in the flock were 8 **Lesser Black-backed Gulls** and 68 **Greater Black-backed Gulls**, both new county highs.

**Barn Owls** were in two locations in Lebanon Co where nest boxes were put up (LC, RM). A roost of 3 **Long-eared Owls** were

found on SGL 145 for my first record of this area on 2/21. **Short-eared Owls** were found all quarter at MC, stop # 3 with 5 being seen there (Mob). Another was found west of Mt. Gretna 1/17 (AB).

An **E. Phoebe** on 2/15 in Lawn was a little early (MA). Three **C. Ravens** in Stony Valley on 1/3 was a good find. (RM, KM). **Horned Larks** were found throughout the period with a high county of 1,800 from 4 different flocks on 2/1 (RM). A **Gray Catbird** at MLSP on 1/1 was nice. Another was found on SGL 145 on 2/28. (KM, RM).

A flock of 12 **Am. Pipit** on 1/24 was a good find (GB, Mob). The first **E. Towhee** was found on 1/7 in Lawn (MA). A total of 88 **Am. Tree Sparrows** were found on the Leb. Christmas Count in 12/14. A new high count 506 **White-throated Sparrows** was found on the Leb. Christmas Count. On 1/31 a **Lapland Longspur** and a **Snow Bunting** were found on Hostetter Rd. (CB). Four **E. Meadowlarks** on 2/9 along Crooked Rd set a new early date (RS).

Observers: **Randy Miller, 607 Woodland Dr., Manheim, 17545, (717) 664-3778** Mike Adams, Chuck Berthound, Ann Bodling, Gerry Boltz, Bruce Carl, Larry Coble, Morris Cox, Leon Gerbarich, Fritz Heilman, Gary Koppenhaver, Gayle Lawrence, Ken and Jane Light, Richard Light, JC Logan, Kate Miller, Steve Rannels, Dave Schwenk, Rosemary Spreha, Susan Wheeler, Fred Wilcox, Em Williams.

### *Lehigh County*

A **Greater White-fronted Goose** (JH) was seen on 1/15 at the Fogelsville Quarry. Also at the Fogelsville quarry on 2/15 were **Pied-billed Grebe**, and **Wood, Ring-necked and Am. Black Ducks** (JL). An immature **Northern Harrier** (ML,JL) was seen on the ground near Leaser Lake on 2/21. A flock of about 150 **Horned Larks** were also seen near the Harrier. Another **Northern Harrier** (JO) was spotted in Lowhill Township on 2/3. Three **Black Vultures** (DW) were observed in the Whitehall area during the first week of February over busy MacArthur Road. An immature **White-crowned Sparrow** (JL) was seen at a feeder in Lower Macungie Township on 2/23. **Common Redpolls** (JH) were seen at feeders outside Emmaus on 1/15. The most exciting bird of the winter was a probable **Hoary Redpoll** (BM, PM) seen 12/14 at feeders near Macungie. Unfortunately the bird was only seen a short time. **Pine Siskins** (JH) were seen at feeders near Emmaus during the second week of February. Other bird news from Lehigh County were the usual flocks of **Horned Larks** (mobs) seen on Smith Lane and an immature **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** (JL) that was visiting a feeder all winter in Lower Macungie Township.

Observers: **Jon Levin, 1899 Aster Rd., Lehigh, 18062, (610) 366-9996, levin@apic.com**, Jason Horn, Merrilee Levin, Bernie Morris, Pauline Morris, Jane Ostroski, Dustin Welch.

### *Luzerne County*

No Report

**Rick Koval, 305 William St., Plains 18705, (570) 829-4381, unibirder@aol.com**

### *Lycoming County*

December started out with Dan Pinkerton reporting 75-100 **Snow Geese** flying over his home in South Williamsport. On 12/7, Dave Ferry saw a **Peregrine Falcon** feeding on the southeast corner of the Genetti Hotel in Williamsport. On 12/20, Dave Ferry led a field trip through Cogan House Township and reported a remarkable sighting of a **N. Goshawk** that attacked a **Rough-Legged Hawk** off Cemetery Road.

On 12/6 and 12/7, two reports of **Brewer Blackbird** were reported. The first report came in from Ed Reish, who had 1 male at his feeder. The second report came from Dr. Joe Lipar, Joe Yoder, and Dave Ferry, who reported a single bird at Cogan House Township, Route 184, Cemetery Road and Caldwell Road. Also noted were 150 **Horned Larks**, 20 **Brown Headed Cowbirds**, and 20 **Common Ravens**.

Observers: **Steve Pinkerton, 1852 Log-Run Rd. Williamsport, 17701, (570) 494-1308, stevepinkerton@suscom.net**, Dave Ferry, Dr. Joe Lipar, Dan Pinkerton, Ed Reish, Joe Yoder.

### *McKean County*

It has been an uneventful winter in McKean County. It started off exciting with 10 **Pine Siskins**, 6 **Red Crossbills**, 20+ **Evening Grosbeaks**, and 1 dark morph **Rough-legged Hawk** being seen near Eldred on 12/1. Then on 12/5, Len Groshek reported a **Short-eared Owl** near Farmer's Valley. Then it went downhill from there. Winter finches were either very sporadic or nonexistent the rest of the reporting period. A luecistic **Mourning Dove** was seen and photographed in Bradford on New Year's Day. A total of 5 **Rough-legged Hawks** were observed near Turtle Point on 1/18 and persisted through the period. On 1/20, 5 **Ruffed Grouse** were observed feeding on buds or fruits in what looked to be a Sassafras tree in the Allegheny National Forest off Rt. 59. Near the same area on 1/24, two flocks of **Pine Siskins** were observed on Rt. 59 that totaled 104 individuals. **Pine Siskins** were seen again in Bradford on 2/3 along with American Goldfinches and 1 **Red-breasted Nuthatch**. On 2/5, in Bradford, 3 **Common Ravens** were seen soaring in the company of an immature Golden Eagle. On 2/8, a **Common Merganser** was reported on Potato Creek near Farmer's Valley.

Jim Evers reported an adult **Bald Eagle** flying over his house in Marshburg. The first **Turkey Vulture** made it's appearance on 2/22 in Bradford with new snowfall on the ground. A sure sign that spring was on it's way in the winter! Len Groshek reported 2 **American Robins** near Farmer's Valley and 1 **Horned Lark** was observed on 2/22 as well. A **Common Redpoll** made an appearance on 2/25 along with 21 **American Goldfinches** and 4 **Pine Siskins** in Bradford. **Common Redpolls** (4) and 11 **Pine Siskins** were observed again near Clermont on 2/28. A **Northern Goshawk** was seen soaring over Smethport with 2 **Red-tailed Hawks**. The same day, 2 **Red-breasted Nuthatches** were seen in Bradford. With the extra day in the reporting period, 4 **Common Ravens**, 2 **Sharp-shinned Hawks**, 1 **Red-tailed Hawk**, 6 **American Goldfinches**, 3 **Purple Finches**, 2 **Red-breasted Nuthatches**, and 9 **Rock Pigeons** made an appearance in my yard in Bradford. With the 2nd Breeding Bird Atlas underway, I want to state again that McKean is an underbirded county and much help will be needed to cover the county as well as it deserves. Let me know if you are coming up and let me know what atlas blocks you would like to tackle! Good birding.

Observers: **John Fedak, 26 Race St., Bradford, 16701, (814) 275-4086, jfedak@charter.net**, Jim Evers Lisa Fedak Len Groshek

### *Mercer County*

Locations: Shenango R. Res. (SRR), Williamson Rd. (WR).

The birds were out there, even during the frigid, icy winter. The ice was 13" thick on SRR in the middle of Feb., but substantial melting occurred later in the month.

Nine **Great Blue Heron** were found at SRR 2/2 on the winter raptor survey, run by Suzanne Butcher and Linda Wagner. One was also recorded at Beatty School Rd. 1/17 (NT). Twelve late migrating **Tundra Swan** were at SRR 12/2, 5 were at WR 12/12, and 10 at WR 1/5. A Special Area Project at SRR 2/28 (GB, SB) produced 4 **Common Goldeneye**, 2 **Hooded**, 34 **Common**, and 12 **Red-breasted Merganser**. Four **Am. Black Duck** were at SGL 130 1/10 (T).

The pair of **Bald Eagle** near the PA Game Commission Hdq. Building at SRR have abandoned their old nest site atop the Osprey platform, and have built a huge nest in a nearby wooded area. This new site is more secure, secluded and private. The WRS located another pair at a nest on Pew Rd., and an imm at an Amish farm off Rt. 318 (SB, LW). It was a winter for **Rough-legged Hawk** sightings. 8 were seen on the WRS 2/2; 6 were light morph, and 2 dark morph (SB, LW).

A **Killdeer** 2/9 and another 2/23 at Stock Farm Rd were early (NT). Two **Wilson's Snipe** were at an Amish area.

Two **Red-headed Woodpecker** were at the beaver dam area of SRR, both 2/2 (SB, LW). A flock of 395 **Horned Larks** foraged at the corner of Garret and Anderson Rd. 2/2, with 75 still there 2/4 (GB, SB, MB, HT, JT, NT). Two **Red-breasted Nuthatch** were reported from County Line Rd. 12/12 (NT), and 1 from Grove City 1/2 (HB). One **Brown Creeper** (scarce lately) was seen at Coolspring Rd. 1/1 (NT). **N. Mockingbird** sightings gradually increased, with 4 reported 2/2. One **E. Towhee** hung around at SRR 1/10, then finally went South or perished.

The first **Am. Tree Sparrow** appeared 12/3 at SRR, and 30 were counted on the WRS 2/2. A feeder at WR supported a **Chipping Sparrow** 12/15-12/24, and a winter plumaged **Clay-colored Sparrow** 12/24-12/29 (NT). Two **White-crowned Sparrows** at SR RD began the New Year for NT. Two **Lapland Longspur** and 26 **Snow Bunting** joined the **Horned Larks** (mentioned above) 2/2-2/4. Twenty six Rusty blackbird 2/2 on Flat Rd were noteworthy.

"Winter finches" consisted of 2 **Purple Finch** 1/14 at Fredonia-Hadley Rd., 1 **Common Redpoll** 1/7-9 at Carey Rd., and 4 **Pine Siskin** 1/10 at SGL 130 (all NT).

A final note: How E. Bluebird and Carolina Wren survived the winter (and they did!) One can only guess.

Observers: **Marty McKay, 841 East Lake Rd., Transfer, 16154, (724) 962-7476**, Harriet Bauer (HB), Greg Butcher (GB), Suzanne Butcher (SB), Marvin Byler (MB), Harvey Troyer (HT), Jerry Troyer (JT), Neil Troyer (NT), Ruth Troyer (RT), Linda Wagner (LW).

### *Mifflin County*

No Report.

**Note: New Compiler beginning with Spring Report. J. Irvin Zook, 132 Beech Tree Lane, Belleville, 17004, knjzook@pa.net**

### *Monroe County*

Locations: Delaware Water Gap (DWG), Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area (DWGNRA), Monroe County Environmental Education Center (MCEEC).

The season was marked by early December snowfalls and an extended period of sub-freezing temperatures and snow cover. **Black Vultures** were reported near the town of DWG 2/14 (DS) and a **Greater White-fronted Goose** was an excellent find 2/17 in Brodheadsville (MS). A flock of 300 **Snow Geese** passed over MCEEC 12/5 in a snowstorm (BH).

The DWGNRA mid-winter eagle survey 1/10 tallied 20 **Bald Eagles** (11 ad, 9 im) and 2 **Golden Eagles** (AA). Adult **Red-shouldered Hawks** were found in Kresgeville 1/9 and Stroudsburg 1/20 and 1/31 (BH), and Analomink in mid-February (PB). A light morph **Rough-legged Hawk** was seen 2/8 in the Brodheadsville fields where last year's **Snowy Owl** was found (CH) and another light morph was reported from Cherry Valley 2/26 (DS). A road-killed **Long-eared Owl** was discovered in the Brodheadsville area in January (CH).

The **Red-headed Woodpecker** colony remained active in the swamp at DWGNRA headquarters near Bushkill (RW) and a **Northern Shrike** was a good find in Kresgeville 2/8 (CH). Feeders in Saylorsburg attracted one **White-winged Crossbill**, one **Common Redpoll** and 70 **Pine Siskins** through the period (RW), and 2 **Evening Grosbeaks** were at Spruce Lake feeders near Canadensis in late January (JA).

Observers: **Brian Hardiman, MCEEC. 8050 Running Valley Rd, Stroudsburg, 18360, (570) 629-3061. monroecd@Qtd.net**. Allan Ambler, Jana Atwell. Pedro Baena, Claus Herrmann, Mike Schall. Darryl Speicher, Rick Wiltraut.

### *Montgomery County*

The winter season brought below average temperatures and modest amounts of snow to Montgomery. Extensive ice-cover made for

low numbers of waterfowl, but a good raptor year was adequate compensation for area birders.

Although **Canada Goose** numbers were high, waterfowl variety was below average. A **Gr. White-fronted Goose** was at Hill Road Green Lane Reservoir 1/25-1/27 (Andrew Curtis, Kevin Crilley). Two more (?) were found at Church Road, GLR 2/22 (Jon Parker, mobs). Small numbers of **Snow Goose** (Blue and White morph) were found sporadically throughout the period. Other waterfowl reported at GLR included **Gadwall**, **Northern Pintail**, **Green-winged Teal**, **Bufflehead**, and **Hooded Merganser** (all in single digit numbers).(mobs) Returning spring migrants in late February included a **Common Goldeneye** 2/28 (Kathy Stagl).

A **Red-necked Grebe** was found on the Schuylkill River in Valley Forge National Park 1/31, and was our only report for the season (Ron Grubb).

After several lack-luster years, this winter was the "season of the raptors" at GLR and elsewhere. Judging from the number of meadow-vole "runways" in area fields, this should not have come as a surprise. **Rough-legged Hawk** made its debut 1/12 at Church Rd, GLR (George Franchois), and things got interesting in the weeks that followed. **Rough-legged** numbers peaked at 7 birds there 2/9, as they "kettled" with 3 **Red-tailed Hawks**! This high count included one dark morph bird. (KC, Michelle Crilley). The last of GLR's birds departed around 2/27. (mobs). **Rough-legs** were also observed in Franconia and New Hanover Townships (1 each) on 1/25 (August and Judy Mirabella). Yet another was at Pennypack Trust for several weeks beginning 1/22 (Paul Driver, mobs). **Northern Harrier** also had a good showing with up to 4 birds at Knight Road, GLR 2/9 (KC), and smaller numbers from scattered locations (A&JM, PD, mobs). The **Bald Eagle** pair at GLR began incubation 2/23 (Steven Rothenberger), and hopes are running high that they nest successfully this year. Another amazing raptor find was a **Northern Goshawk** near Zieglerville 1/28 (Steve Lawrence). Always a good find in Montgomery were **Red-shouldered Hawk** at Walt Rd, GLR 2/7-2/29 and another at Pennypack Trust through the period (GAF, PD). Rounding out the incredible winter season for raptors was a **Merlin** at Walt Rd, GLR 2/19 ! (GAP).

The only gulls of note at GLR were up to 8 **Lesser Black-backed** through most of the period. (GAF, mobs). Our counts continue to be dwarfed by those in neighboring Bucks County.

Up to 3 **Short-eared Owls** took advantage of meadow vole numbers at Church Rd, GLR., beginning 12/28. (GAF,mobs). Another was at Pennypack Trust 1/10 (PD). **Long-eared Owls** were numerous at several locations in western Montgomery (mobs). After an absence of several years, a pair of **Barred Owls** were calling in February in western Montgomery (Beth Allen). Another was at Pennypack Trust through most of the period (JoAnn Raine, mobs).

Another nice surprise was a **Brown Thrasher** at a feeder near GLR 12/6-1/30 (GAP). A **Gray Catbird** was at Fort Washington State Park on 1/25 (SL), and 2 were at Gwynedd Preserve 1/1 (A&JM). Given the severity of the weather at that time, a flight of 4,000 + **American Robins** over Pennsburg 1/25 was quite unexpected. (GAP). While this species winters in Montgomery, all other counts this season were in the low 100s! Small numbers of **Hermit Thrush** were at Walt Rd, GLR, and Fort Washington State Park. (GAP, SL).

While they were missed in Western Montgomery, **Red-breasted Nuthatches** were reported from Pennypack Trust (up to 4 birds all period), Gwynedd Preserve, and FWSP (PD,A&JM, SL,mobs). **Winter Wren** were few and scattered, with reports from Gwynedd Preserve, Haverford College, and the Unami Creek Valley (A&JM, Sheryl Johnson, GAF).

A **Palm Warbler** at Church Road, GLR 12/31 was yet another surprise find.(GAP). Sparrows had a good showing with several half-rarity species over-wintering. A high count of 8 **White-crowned Sparrows** were in a hedgerow near Zieglerville 1/25 (SL) and up to 6 were at a feeder near GLR throughout the period (GAP). A season-high count of 6 **Fox Sparrows** were at a Sumneytown feeder 1/25 (RG). Smaller numbers were found in the Unami Creek Valley, and at both Walt Rd and the Nature Center at GLR. (KC,GAP,mobs). A **Vesper Sparrow** at Walt Rd, GLR 12/9 and a **Swamp Sparrow** at Church Rd 12/31 were good winter finds.(GAP) At least 7 **Savannah**

**Sparrows** wintered in the grasslands of Pennypack Trust (PD). A **Chipping Sparrow** spent the entire season at FWSP. (Bill Murphy). An **Eastern Towhee** was found in the Unami Creek Valley in a snowstorm 12/14 (KC, AC, SR), and two were at Pennypack Trust 12/20 (PD). The best sparrow report was that of a **Harris's Sparrow** at a feeder near GLR throughout the period! (Dan Hall, photos, video). The bird was first seen in late November, but did not come to my attention until late February. Documentation will be submitted to the P.O.R.C.

Despite much anticipation, "winter finches" never amounted to much in Montgomery this season. A private feeding station near GLR attracted up to 75 **Purple Finch** in January (Paul & Anita Guris). Smaller numbers (25-40) were at other feeders in western Montgomery (mobs). Our only **Pine Siskin** report was of 2 birds at a feeder in Sumneytown 12/20-22 (KC,MC).

Observers: **Kevin Crilley, PO Box 100, Sumneytown, 18084, (215) 234-6867, great-gray@att.net**, Beth Allen, Michelle Crilley, Andrew Curtis, Paul Driver, George Franchois, Ron Grubb, Paul and Anita Guris, Dan Hall, Sheryl Johnson, Steve Lawrence, August and Judy Mirabella, William Murphy, Jon Parker, JoAnn Raine, Ken Reiker, Steven Rothenberger, Kathy Stagl.

### **Montour County**

Waterfowl, including **Common Mergansers, Am. Black Ducks, Mallards**, and **Canada Geese** were present on Lake Chillisquaque until the lake iced over on 1/10.

**Northern Harriers** were present throughout December and January, but numbers fell in February. **Rough-legged Hawks** appeared in mid-December and remained throughout the period with at least nine present in the northern part of the county. Two **Rough-legged Hawks** were observed frequently hunting the same fields with a **Northern Harrier** and a **Red-tailed Hawk**. **Short-eared Owls** also used this same area. While the winter roost of **Short-eared Owls** along Stamm Road was active again this winter, the number of owls using the roost was much lower than last year. The deep snow and icy layer, combined with an increase in diurnal raptors at this location might have had an impact on the number of owls the area would support. **Short-eared Owls** were observed from several sites within three miles of this roost throughout the winter. A **Cooper's Hawk** frequented Montour Preserve from December through January.

A **Carolina Wren** wintered at PPLs Montour Preserve. It was observed frequently in the shrubs around the buildings and occasionally at the preserve's bird feeders. Bill Fait observed a mature **Bald Eagle** over the Susquehanna River at Danville on the 2/21 and **Red-Winged Blackbirds** returned to Montour Preserve on 2/29.

Observers: **Jon D. Beam, Montour Preserve, 500 Preserve Rd., Danville, 17821, (570) 437-3131, jdbeam@pplweb.com**

### **Northampton County**

Locations: Martins Creek (MC).

Birders flocked to Stone Church from across Pennsylvania and several nearby states to see a **Harris's Sparrow** in February. Other big finds were a **Barrow's Goldeneye**, **Thayer's Gull**, and **Long-eared Owl**. A **Greater White-fronted Goose** found in November on the Northampton Quarry was re-found 12/20 (MS). High counts for **Canvasbacks** (4) and **Redheads** (4) were on the MC Fly Ash Basin on 2/9 (MS). On 12/22, a female **Barrow's Goldeneye** (4<sup>th</sup> county record) was seen from the Portland footbridge (BW, JW, MS). There was a **Red-necked Grebe** (new county early date) on the Delaware River below the Belvidere Bridge on 2/2 (MS, mobs). Up to 4 **Great Cormorants** were at the MC quarry in late December (BW). The quarry and other bodies of water froze in January and the cormorants and other lingering waterfowl left the area.

A dark-morph **Red-tailed Hawk** was at the MC power plant on 1/18 (SB). This is the 15<sup>th</sup> straight year that it was seen in the county during winter. Two **Peregrine Falcons** were seen on 1/10 at the Arrow Island Overlook of the Delaware Water Gap (SL, MS). At least

one was seen here on several dates thru February on its preferred ledge. Hopefully, this year will be a nesting success story. A good variety of gull species began showing up in December. On 1/17, an adult **Thayer's Gull** (3<sup>rd</sup> county record) was found at the Chain Dam (DD). At least 6 different **Iceland Gulls** were seen. The first was found during the Wildcreek-Little Gap Christmas Bird Count in Wind Gap on 12/21 (RW). At the Chain Dam, two 1st winter birds were seen on 1/14 (MS), two on 1/19 including an adult "**Kumlien's**" **Iceland Gull** (MS, GJ), one adult on 1/20 (DD, BW), and a different **Kumlien's Gull** on 1/24 (RW, JH, BM). Also found at the Chain Dam was a 1<sup>st</sup> winter **Glaucous Gull** on 1/19 (MS, GJ) and a **Nelson's Gull** (**Glaucous X Herring Gull** hybrid) on 1/20 (DD, BW). Winter conditions of snow and ice in late January forced many gulls to leave the county.

During the Merrill Creek-Martins Creek Christmas Bird Count, a **Long-eared Owl** was found near the MC power plant (JD, JDZ, KS, MS). This winter roost site held up to 3 **Long-eared Owls** (2/9) into March. A **Short-eared Owl** was seen in Williams Township on 1/28 (AK). The big draw this winter has to be the adult winter **Harris's Sparrow** found at Stone Church on 1/31 (RW, mobs). The sparrow continued throughout the period allowing many birders a chance to see this bird that typically winters in the south-central United States. The ESU ornithology class reported seeing 8 **Lapland Longspurs** on Miller Rd on 1/23 (TM). A **Common Redpoll** was at Little Gap on 12/19 (MS) and a flock of 4 **Common Redpolls** and 14 **Pine Siskins** were at Little Gap on 12/21 (BS). **Pine Siskins** were also at a North Bangor feeder on 12/6 (SL).

Observers: **Michael Schall, 1149 Mickley Ave., Whitehall, 18052, 610-435-2781, mdtjschall@yahoo.com**, Steve Boyce, Dave DeReamus, John Drabic, Joe Dzedzina, Jason Horn, Gail Johnson, Arlene Koch, Sherri LaBarr, Terry Master, Bernie Morris, Kathy Sieminski, Brad Silfies, Billy Weber, Judy Weber, Rick Wiltraut.

### **Northumberland County**

No Complier. No Compiler

### **Perry County**

A winter of sustained cold temperatures and deep snow cover kept bird records to a minimum in the county this season. The only reports of significance come from the scheduled yearly surveys, the New Bloomfield CBC and a Winter Raptor Survey conducted in the northeastern section of the county.

The New Bloomfield CBC was held on 12/27 in excellent weather conditions, a far cry from last year's wind event! Count participants recorded 82 species, the second best total ever. Record high counts were recorded for eight species. Most impressive in this group was the amazing total of **American Goldfinches**. The previous **American Goldfinch** total had been 285, this year counters tallied an impressive 601! Ramsay Koury reported having over 200 in one sunflower field!

The most unusual species for the count was the **Tree Swallow** found by Pam Parson. The swallow was found in a flock of **Eastern Bluebirds** along the Juniata River near Amity Hall. The bird confirmed as a **Tree Swallow** and not the more hoped for **Violet-green Swallow**!

Other interesting species and numbers for the count includes: High counts in four woodpecker species, **Red-bellied Woodpecker** 96, **Hairy Woodpecker** 18, **Northern Flicker** 57 and **Pileated Woodpecker** 32. Mimids of note on the count consisted of four **Gray Catbirds** and a single **Brown Thrasher**. One **Northern Shrike** was a pleasant addition. The only "northern" finches tallied consisted of one **Common Redpoll** and two **Pine Siskins**.

Benign weather and extra effort paid off for owling in the Perry section of the Harrisburg CBC. Andy McGann and I tallied 4 species along Idle and Lamb's Gap Road. In addition to the expected **Eastern Screech** and **Great Horned Owl** we located **Barred Owl**, 5 and **Northern Saw-whet Owl**, 5.

A Winter Raptor Survey conducted 1/30 in the northeastern section of the county by Dave Grove, Don Orris and Gene Wagner tallied 25 **Red-tailed Hawks**, 4 **Rough-legged Hawks**, 3 **American Kestrels**, 1 **Cooper's Hawk**, 37 **Turkey Vultures** and 4 **Black Vultures**.

Following a WRS on 2/11 in *Juniata* I made a pass through Pfoutz Valley in extreme northeastern Perry. In the valley I found 2 **Rough-legged Hawks** and a large manure spread near the hamlet of Nekoda. Attending the manure spread were about 400 **Horned Larks**, 7 **American Pipits**, 29 **Snow Buntings** and 4 **Lapland Longspurs**.

**Observers:** Deuane Hoffman, 3406 Montour St., Harrisburg, 17111, (717) 564-7475, [corvuscorax@comcast.net](mailto:corvuscorax@comcast.net)

#### *Philadelphia County*

Locations: Art Museum (AM), Benjamin Rush State Park (BRP), Delaware River (DR), John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge at Tinicum-Philadelphia portion (TI), Philadelphia International Airport (PHL), Schuylkill River (SR), Wissahickon Creek (WC)

After a mix of snowy and moderate days in early December, extreme cold dominated the season, including 4°F and 20 mph winds on 1/10, the day of the 18<sup>th</sup> Philadelphia Mid-winter Bird Census (PMWBC) organized by Keith Russell. In spite of the extreme conditions, 29 groups of birders recorded 96 species, tying the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest total. Highlights were 35 **Red-breasted Merganser** flying over the WC (DB, et al.), a **N. Goshawk** near PHL (CW), an **Iceland Gull** at a trash transfer station along the DR (DC), and a **Lesser Black-backed Gull**, once rare on the count, but recorded as one or two birds regularly since mid-1990s, in contrast to the hundreds regularly found just across our northern border in Bucks County. A **Long-eared Owl** at the Andorra Nature Center (KR, KS) was a good find since the bird at Benjamin Rush State Park was a no show. Notable among passerines were 15 **Common Redpoll** at Penn Treaty Park (DC) and **Pine Warbler** at FDR Park (SB, RH).

Common dabbling ducks were present in low numbers. **Wood Duck** disappeared even before the extreme conditions occurred. Divers congregated on open water allowing high counts like the 248 **Common Mergansers** at TI on 1/3 (DM). With 29 parties searching on 1/10 only 272 mergansers were tallied. A lone **Canvasback** was found on the DR on 1/10 since the East Park Reservoir and Pennypack St. impoundments were frozen. **Common Loons** were scarce and **Pied-billed Grebes** at FDR and TI were the only grebes reported. **Double-crested Cormorant** overwintered in greater numbers than usual, often outnumbering **Great Cormorant**, as on the PMWBC when 44 **Double-crested** outnumbered 28 **Great Cormorant** for the first time.

Of the 6 **Great Egret** that were present on 12/2 at TI, three survived into early February and 29 **Great Blue Heron** congregated on Darby Creek on 1/10. A pair of **Red-shouldered Hawks** were present at TI (DM, m.obs.) and another was found at Walnut Lane Golf Course on 1/7 (JMCK). An adult **Lesser Black-backed Gull** sat on the ice behind the falls at the Art Museum on 2/2 (MS). Ned Connolly found a **Barred Owl** at TI on 1/28 and the bird remained through February to the delight of many observers.

**Eastern Phoebe** (CH), **Brown Thrasher** (DM, AS), and **Chipping Sparrow** (AB, BF, BM) were good finds on the PMWBC. On the census **American Crow** numbers decreased by 95% over previous years to a new low of 86. **Fish Crow**, not thought to be as susceptible to West Nile Virus, also declined. Only 216 **Carolina Chickadee** were found. Three parties found a total of 18 **White-crowned Sparrows**. This could be called the winter of the Tree Sparrow which were widely reported in good numbers, and 126 **American Tree Sparrow** on the census set a record.

**Observers:** Doris McGovern, 209 Dogwood Rd., Media, PA 19063; 610 565 8484 [mcgovern@masca.museum.upenn.edu](mailto:mcgovern@masca.museum.upenn.edu), David Belford, Adrian Binns, Stijn Brand, Denis Brennan, Brian Byrnes, Skip Conant, Ned Connolly, Dave Cutler, Steve DuPont, Bert Filemyr, Gregg Gorton, Chuck Hetzel, Rich Horowitz, Ken Januski, Jim

McKinney, John Miller, Bill Murphy, Edie Parnum, Tom Reeves, Keith Russell, Alice Severeid, Matt Sharp, Kate Somerville, Judy Stepenaskie, Chris Walters, Brett Wolfe.

#### *Pike County*

Location: Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area

This report is based on the data collected around PEEC by PEEC staff and visitors of the center.

**Common Goldeneyes** and **Hooded Mergansers** on the Delaware River were reported on 1/4 (SH, MB, JM). An early **American Woodcock** was seen on the Two ponds Trail 2/27 (PSr).

A pair of nesting **Red-Shouldered Hawks** were observed during the whole winter period over PEEC's Main Building 12/3 (EH), 12/27 (EH) and near the Briscoe Mountain Road 2/15. **Bald Eagles** wintered along the Delaware River. **Bald Eagles** were seen from the Tumbling waters lookout, over the Delaware River valley 2/15 (SQ), and also right near the river, near the Bushkill boat launch 1/18 (DR) and around PEEC 2/20 (EH), 2/26 (MB). **Golden Eagles** were registered once on Rt. 209 near Toms Creek 12/25 (SM) and once near the cornfields of Rt. 209, North of Rt. 739 2/4. **Sharp-Shinned Hawk** was seen at PEEC over the Pickerel Pond 2/20 (EH) and 1/2 mile west of PEEC 2/23 (EH, SQ).

Rare for PEEC, a **N. Saw-whet Owl** was found flying across the Emery Road on 1/14 (EH). **Northern Ravens** were observed from the Tumbling waters lookout 2/14 (SQ), 2/18 and 2/23 (EH).

**Carolina Wren** was observed near bird feeders during this winter 12/9 (MB), 2/21 (EH). A rarely seen bird, the **Winter Wren** was seen on the Tumbling waters trail 2/24 (EH). **Brown Creeper** was found singing in the Pine Plantation on the Two Ponds Trail 2/29 (EH). A small number of thrushes were found wintering around PEEC: **Hermit Thrush** was seen at Lake Lomond 12/16, near the front pond at PEEC 12/29 and 1/3 (MB)). **Eastern Bluebirds** were registered at PEEC near the Dining Hall pond 2/14 (MB).

Noticeably high was the number of **Pine Siskins** near PEEC's birdfeeders as siskins were reported during the whole winter 12/7 (KG), 12/29 (MB), 2/16 (MB). Another rare winter finch **Common Redpoll** was reported on the birdfeeder 1/19 (PS).

**Observers:** Mike Brubaker, RR 2 Box 1010, Dingmans Ferry, PA 18328, [mikebru@ptd.net](mailto:mikebru@ptd.net), Kristen Garvin, Steve Hawk, Ethan Huner, Josh Markovci, Shannon Queen, Dave Reese, Pat Scheuer (PS), Patti Schreiner (PSr).

#### *Potter County*

No Report.

**David Hauber**, RR 2 Box 153, Coudersport 16915, (814) 274-8946, [haubers3@penn.com](mailto:haubers3@penn.com)

#### *Schuylkill County*

Locations: Hawk Mountain Sanctuary (HMS), Landingville Dam (LVD), Swatara State Park (SSP)

Two extremely late **Green Herons** were seen migrating near LVD on 1/3 (VC), a record late date for the county. Waterfowl were somewhat down for the period, although **Common Mergansers** did show a significant increase at both LVD and SAL by the end of February.

**Bald Eagle** reports were fairly reliable from the beginning of January through the end of February at various county locations. **Northern Harriers** were reported in significantly higher numbers than usual, especially in the western sectors of the county. **Rough-legged Hawks** were most abundant, eclipsing the numbers from the mid-eighties, with at least 62 reported through the end of February, the majority of which were in the western farmland sectors of the county, especially near the village of Mabel. Perhaps the most significant event of the period was the appearance of **Short-eared Owls**, especially the 7 near the village of Mabel throughout the months of February and March (DK, BC, TC, et al.). The initial discovery was made by Dave Krueel on 2/14. Another **Short-eared Owl** was seen near the HMS Acopian Center on 2/17 (SG), as well as

one near Pine Grove (DK, JP). The Mabel owls were observed by numerous birders, as they were roosting in an apple orchard before emerging to hunt a nearby field at dusk.

A deceased **Rufous Hummingbird** was found near a window of the Williams Valley High School in Tower City on 1/3 (SW). The hummingbird was a banded bird which had apparently originated in the Baltimore area. A **Northern Shrike** was seen in the Ringtown area on 1/26 (MG), which is a species not often reported in the county. **Horned Larks** were very plentiful for the period, with hundreds being seen, mostly in the wester sectors of the county.

**Hermit Thrushes** continued to winter in the county, being fairly regular at various county locations. **Fox Sparrows** first made their appearance on 2/5 (TC), and were fairly common thereafter. Only one **Lapland Longspur** was reported for the period, which was seen near Pitman on 1/17 (DK). **Snow Buntings** were reported in very low numbers, with less than ten seen, all in the western sectors. **Eastern Meadowlarks** seemed to be making a nice comeback in the county, with encouraging numbers reported, mostly from the western farmland sectors of the county. Fringillids were not reported in the numbers expected for the period, with relatively few **Purple Finches** and **Pine Siskins** seen, as well as only one **Common Redpoll** report, which were 55 birds seen at HMS on 1/9.

Observers: **Tom Clauser, 213 Deerfield Dr., Pottsville, 17901, (570) 622-1363, Birdline (570) 622-6013, skua01@Comcast.net**, Todd Bauman, Linda Beard, Nevin Beard, Barb Birosik, Amy Bourque, Ed Chubb, Joshua Clapper, Aaron Clauser, Brian Clauser, Viv Connor, John DeBalko, Jonathan DeBalko, Dave Dolinsky, Laurie Dolinsky, Denise Donmoyer, Brenda Fessler, Scott Fisher, Susan Gallagher, Marilyn Gamble, Laurie Goodrich, Ellen Grim, Kerry Grim, Kevin Grim, Sue Guers, Anne Hurst, Mark Hurst, Barb Jucker, Rudy Keller, Doris Klint, Brittany Kramer, Dave Krueel, Carole Laughlin, Ann Marie Liebner, Bill Malarkey, Joan Morgan, Kirk Moulton, Lois Moulton, Joanne Purcell, Pat Santee, Joe Scholtes, Dan Schwartz, Joan Silagy, Karen Smith, Beth Swartzentruber, Nancy Trout, Janie Ulsh, Mike Ward, Scott Weidensaul, Sally Weisacosky, Matt Wlasniewski, Doug Wood.

#### **Snyder County**

More than 100 **Tundra Swans** were found in a field on the Isle of Que, Selingsgrove 3/1; and in the following week hundreds more and thousands of **Canada Geese** joined them in their northward journey (MB). A **Red-necked Grebe** was reported at the boat launch on Front St. in Selingsgrove from 1/30-2/5 (MB). Inland waters, such as Faylor and Walker Lakes, remained frozen to end of this quarter.

The highlight of the Winter Raptor Surveys in the county was the number of **Rough-legged Hawks**. Six were tallied on the western survey 1/22 (P&RW) and another four were counted on the eastern survey 2/2 (MB). A **Golden Eagle** was observed in December and a **Bald Eagle** was recorded near Selingsgrove for the eastern WRS 2/2 (MB). On 1/18 a **Merlin** was found along Flint Valley Rd. but could not be relocated on subsequent days (MB).

"Good numbers" of **Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers** were noticed during the winter, while one **Yellow-rumped Warbler** lingered to 1/31 near Selingsgrove. One or two **Purple Finches** paid irregular visits to a backyard feeder in Middle Creek Twp. and the first **Fox Sparrow** arrived as the new quarter began 3/1 (MB).

Observers: **Richard and Pat Williams, 3 Parkside Ave., Hummelstown, 17036, (717) 566-6562, RWPuffin@aol.com** Mick Brown.

#### **Somerset County**

Locations: Allegheny Plateau Audubon Christmas Bird Count (APAS-CBC), Berlin Area (BA), Payne Property (PP), Somerset Lake (SL), Quemahoning Reservoir (QR).

This winter season was generally harsh with cold temperatures and deep snows except for a few days in early January. Winter raptors

were good, finches mostly disappointing, with some interesting waterfowl.

Probably the bird of the season honors go to an adult **Ross's Goose** found in a flock of **Canada's** near Roxbury on 1/4 (JP, LP) then refound at Indian Lake (RG) and in nearby fields (CP, MP) until 1/11. Poor weather and viewing conditions precluded a good identification until the last few days seen (details to PORC). The usual large flocks of **Canada's** wintered at several places in the county and were only slightly thinned by hunting efforts. Five **Snow Geese** and 7 **Tundra Swans** were at Indian Lake for the APAS CBC on 12/14. Two late **Wood Ducks** were near Shanksville 12/20 (fide AM) while 4 **Gadwall** were at QR on 12/4 (AM). Other CBC ducks included **Am. Blacks**, 400+ **Mallards**, 2 **Ring-necked Ducks**, **Lesser Scaup**, **Ruddy**, and **Bufflehead**. Noteworthy were up to 20 **N. Pintails** at Indian Lake and in surrounding fields from 1/5 to 1/11. Two hardy **Green-winged Teal** wintered at BC. Seven **Long-tailed Ducks** were at QR on 1/4 (RG) while one **C. Goldeneye** was at Indian Lake on 1/5 (JP). Mergansers included 4 **Common** at QR on 12/14 and 1 **Red-breasted** there on 1/14 (AM).

A **Horned Grebe** was still at QR on 1/4 (RG). A **Great Blue Heron** was at Roxbury 1/5, with the only other heron reports being late **Green Herons** at SL 12/6 and QR on 12/3 (AM). Vultures were absent through the period.

**Northern Harriers** were seen up to 1/18 at Roxbury then disappeared until the end of the season. Hidden Acres Farm had a **N. Goshawk** visiting their feeder birds in January (SD, TD). A **Red-shouldered Hawk** was a nice find for the AP AS-CBC (many observers). Winter raptor surveys found up to a maximum of 5 **Rough-legged Hawks** 1/8 on a route with probably three times that number being present in the county at that time.

A freshly killed **Barn Owl** from a silo unloader accident near Jennerstown was turned into PGC LCO Cliff Guindon on 1/3. Hopefully Atlas efforts will turn up breeding in the county. **Long-eared Owls** were reported from a roost (SB). **Short-Eared Owls** were reported near Rockwood through December (AM), one was on APAS CBC at the Flight 93 crash site, and 3 wintered despite deep snow at a CRP grass project near Roxbury This area was rich with meadow voles this winter. A pair of **Great Horned Owls** was calling at PP on 1/27. A second good "feeder" bird at Hidden Acres farm was a **Northern Shrike** in January (TD, SD).

A **Red-breasted Nuthatch** was seen through the season at PP. A **N. Mockingbird** was eating winter-dried serviceberries 1/22 at PP (LP). **Am. Tree Sparrows** were in good numbers throughout the season. Three hardy **Swamp Sparrows** were at the waters edge at BC on 1/17(JP), while a late **White-crowned Sparrow** waited for the CBC on 12/14. **Lapland Longspur** singles were found 12/14 and 1/5 in the Berlin Area with 2 **Snow Buntings** present 12/4 and one on 1/5. Four **Eastern Meadowlarks** were still at the Flight 93 site on 12/14. The main notable finch was **Pine Siskins** that were present through the season with an impressive 150 present on PP on 2/15. **American Goldfinch** was also present in good numbers.

Observers: **Jeff Payne 9755 Glades Pike, Berlin, 15530 (814) 267-5718**, Scott and Jill Bastian, Tom and Sally Dick, Pete and Ross Gallardy, Cliff Guindon, Anthony Marich, Retta and Matt and Chris Payne

#### **Sullivan County**

No Report. No Compiler.

#### **Susquehanna County**

No Report  
**Robert W. Blye, Jr., Hidden River Farm, 300 Sanatoga Road, Pottstown, 19465, 610-327-2010, rblye@audubon.org**

#### **Tioga County**

No Report.

Jeff Holbrook 2631 King Circle, East Corning, NY, 14830, (607) 936-5059, myceteria@stny.rr.com

#### Union County

No Report. No Compiler

#### Venango Co.

Locations: Buttermilk Hill Nature Sanctuary (BHNS), Windy Hills (WH).

With nearly all waters frozen because of the very cold weather, waterfowl were understandably scarce. There were some areas of the Allegheny River which remained open all winter. All waterfowl notes are from the Allegheny River unless noted. Highlights include a **Pied-billed Grebe** on 1/1, a late **Double-crested Cormorant** 12/13, a female **Canvasback** from 1/25- 2/8, **Greater Scaup**, not common at any time here, from 1/25-2/21 and a **White-winged Scoter** on 1/25. Also, like many areas of the state we have a resident flock of **Mallards**, many of which have hybridized with domestic and other ducks. In Franklin the flock below where French Creek empties into the Allegheny usually numbers about 100. On 2/21 there were about 300 **Mallards** present, with about 25 **Am. Black Ducks**. This number grew to well over 600, with 60-75 **Am. Black Duck** by 2/23. These appeared to be a much wilder flock than the residents, showing none of the characteristics of hybridization present in the resident flock. By 2/27 this flock had moved on and only the resident flock could be found.

Raptor highlights were a **N. Goshawk** on 12/22 at Buttermilk Hill Nature Sanctuary (BHNS). A maximum of 9 **Rough-legged Hawks** at Windy Hills (WH) on 1/31 and again on 2/18. Two **N. Saw-whet Owls** were present the whole winter period at BHNS. A **Long-eared Owl** was present in Clintonville Fields from 1/2-2/29. And we received a report of 22 **Short-eared Owls** at Barkeyville Fields, by 2 workers at the sawmill who counted them at dusk in early January.

**Horned Larks** were present in good numbers at Kahle Lake all winter. Unusual for our area were two February reports of **Cedar Waxwing** 2/2 & 2/14. A **N. Mockingbird**, always scarce in Venango was seen on 1/31 near Necartine. **N. Shrike** was observed at WH 12/28-29 and another at the other end of the county on 2/27 and well into March.

**White-crowned Sparrow**, scarce in winter here, was observed at a feeder from 1/1-31. **Lapland Longspur** and **Snow Bunting** were both present in small numbers in the flocks of **Horned Larks**. **Purple Finches** seem to be low in numbers this season. **Common Redpolls** appeared briefly at 2 feeders on 1/7 & 2/23.

Observers: Gary Edwards, 224 Meadow Rd., Apt 9, Seneca, 16346, (814) 676-3011, gedwards@csonline.com

#### Warren County

Locations: Lander (LA), Saybrook (SA), Sugar Grove (SG).

The 61<sup>st</sup> Warren Area CBC on 12/20 had a record high 1056 **Canada Geese**, 346 **Tundra Swans**, almost double the previous high, 12 **Cooper's Hawks**, the first **N. Saw-whet Owl** since 1969, 6 **Fox Sparrows**, a **White-crowned Sparrow**, and a high of 621 **Am. Goldfinches**.

Two **Rough-legged Hawks** were seen near LA 12/14. A **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** has been in SA since 12/7. There has been a **Harris's Sparrow** near SG from 12/7 into January (SS, m.ob). This is a new county record. **Common Redpolls** and **Pine Siskins** have been in several locations through the period. The only **Evening Grosbeak** reported was a single at SA 12/1.

Observers: Ted Grisez, 10 Belmont Dr. Warren, 16365, (814) 723-9464, Majorie Neel, Scott Soleson, Don Watts.

#### Wayne County

No Report. No Compiler

#### Westmoreland County

Locations: Beaver Run Reservoir (BRR), Derry Lake (DeL), Donegal Lake (DoL), Powdermill Nature Reserve (PNR), Trout Run Reservoir [Latrobe Res.] (TRR)

A **Common Loon**, an unusual winter find in the local mountains, lingered at Trout Run Reservoir near Ligonier through 12/29 (Bob Leberman). Never before recorded in winter as anything more than a great seasonal rarity, **Turkey Vultures** were scattered about the county (especially in the Ligonier Valley) both as singles and in flocks of up to 10-15 birds all season (m. ob.). Two **Snow Geese** (1 white, 1 blue) were local rarities at DeL 2/8-2/16 (Mark McConaughy, Mike Fialkovich). Twenty was a good count for **American Black Duck** at Beaver Run Reservoir 1/10 (MM). A **Northern Pintail** was able to find open water at BRR 1/10 (MM), providing a rare mid-winter record. A late **Green-winged Teal** was unusual at Trout Run 12/29 (BL), as was one at BRR 1/10 (MM). A **Greater Scaup** was a good mid-winter find at DoL 12/29 (BL).

Mike Lanzone spotted an early migrating **Golden Eagle** along Laurel Summit near Jones Mills 2/20. A **Sandhill Crane** was an exceptional late winter/early spring rarity near Murrysville 2/22 (TK). A **Killdeer** was a good mid-winter find at Crabtree 1/10 (MM). The winter's first **Short-eared Owl** (always a good find in this county) appeared near Laurelville 11/27 (MS); 2 **Short-ears** were a good find at strip-mines near Mammoth 1/9 (Dick Byers), one was at Crabtree 2/8 (MM), and up to 3 spent much of the season just n.e. of Ligonier (BS, Robin and Jeff Hunt m.ob.).

McConaughy found a flock of 100 **Horned Larks** near Crabtree 1/10 – a good count for this region. An exceptionally late **Rose-breasted Grosbeak** was at a feeder at Murrysville as late as 12/1 (Louis Skrabec, photograph). Perhaps the find of the season, however, was the 3 (a male and 2 females) **Brewer's Blackbirds** at Crabtree 1/10-1/11 for a first county record of the species (MM, DB, MF, J. Hoffmann, D. Wilton, G. Malosh, M. Vass, M. & R. Higbee). **Brown-headed Cowbirds** were regular at CT, with a high count of 20, 2/16 (MF). Three **Common Redpolls** appeared at a Powdermill feeder 2/22 (ML, Bob Mulvihill), and a few were spotted at the Reserve sporadically thereafter – but no large flocks were reported in the county this season. Small flocks of **Pine Siskins** were spotted occasionally throughout the county (m. ob.)

Observers: Robert C. Leberman, Powdermill Nature Reserve, 1842 Route 381, Rector, 15677 (724) 593-6021; rcleberm@charterpa.net, Dick Byers, Mike Fialkovich, Margaret and Roger Higbee, Joyce Hoffman, Robin and Jeff Hunt, Tom Kuehl, Mike Lanzone, Mark McConaughy, Geoff Malosh, Bob Mulvihill, Matt Sarver, Bob Shaw, Mark Vass, Dave Wilton.

#### Wyoming County

A total of 58 species was recorded on the Tunkhannock CBC on 12/14. The highlight was a **Red-throated Loon** found on Lake Carey (LC) by JH and RK. This was the only new species for the count.

Among the ducks seen at LC were 1 **White-winged Scoter**, 12/10 (WR), 149 **Common mergansers**, 12/10 (WR).

**Rough-legged Hawks** were seen several times at Sordoni's Farm SF by JF and others, and one was seen at Baker Rd on 1/21 (WR). There were several reports of **Northern Harriers** through the period. There are still many **Wild Turkeys** in the county, but their numbers seem lower than in previous years.

Two **Short-eared Owls** were found at SF on 12/7 (JH), but they were only seen for a couple of days. They seem to come generally in early December and to leave with the first steady snowfall.

There were 225 **Horned Larks** on the CBC (JH, RK, et al), but they pretty much disappeared after the first of the year.

A very late **Common Yellow-throat** was seen in Lemon Twp on 11/12 (WR). A few **Snow Buntings** were found in LT in December (JH, RK, WR) but, along with their **Horned Lark** companions, they were mostly gone by the New Year.

At least four species of winter finches were found in Wyoming Co. They were in order of totals reported: **Pine siskin**, **Common Redpoll**, **Red Crossbill**, and **White-winged Crossbill**. I was able to find all four species in my favorite birding sites, but it was also a frustrating time. It was frustrating because there were never more

than 5 reported of any species, and those that were around were very sporadic. The most dependable of the four species were the siskins which came to feeders, but even they were often here one day, gone the next. Like the old Brooklyn Dodgers, they were consistently making us think, "Well, maybe next year!" But it's always good to see those that come around.

Observers: **William Reid, 73 W. Ross St., Wilkes-Barre, 18701, (570) 836-2734**, Mark Catalano, Bob Daniels, Joe Demarco, Sandy Goodwin, Jim Hoyson, Edwin Johnson, Rick Koval, Bob Wasilewski..

### **York County**

Locations: Codorus State Park (CSP), Gifford Pinchot State Park (GPSP), Lake Redman (LRED), Lake Williams (LWMS), Long Arm Reservoir (LAR), Rocky Ridge County Park (RRCP), Sheppard-Myers Reservoir (SMR), Spring Valley County Park (SVCP), Wrightsville (WRIT).

There were 108 species reported during the winter season, including 21 waterfowl species. Highlights include a continuing **Rufous Hummingbird**, and a male **Painted Bunting**. The 21 participants in the December 20th Christmas Bird Count tallied 82 species, including 14 species of waterfowl.

A roost of about 150 **Black and Turkey Vultures** was found near Dover (PK). At the old landfill near Stewartstown there was a flock of 20 to 25 thousand **Snow Geese** on 2/25 (RP). That is a lot of Snow Geese for York County, which borders, but does not include any of the Susquehanna River. Two **N. Shoveler** and one **N. Pintail** were found 12/20 (CBC). **N. Pintail** were found again in February at LAR, with 7 on 2/9 (PJR), and 8 on 2/21 (KL). There were 2 reports of **Canvasback**, 4 at CSP on 2/8 (KL), and 8 at LAR on 2/9 (PJR). There were 4 sightings of **Redhead**, and 5 reports of **Common Goldeneye**. A single **Ruddy Duck** was found 12/20 (CBC).

An adult **Bald Eagle** was first noticed at LAR on 1/24 (RP), then a pair were seen regularly during the rest of the winter season, but nesting has not yet been confirmed. There was a good showing of **N. Harrier**, with 7 reports. Single **Rough-legged Hawks** were seen 1/28 on Biesecker Rd. (BF,StW) and 1/31 along Graybill Rd. (BF).

Seven **Wilson's Snipe** 2/7 in a flooded field near Glenville were a nice find. On 2/12 a "bag of owls" found dead beside the road was delivered to the CSP Environmental Center by a Penn DOT employee (KL). The bag contained 2 **Screech Owls**, a **Great Horned Owl**, and a **Barred Owl**, which were probably hit by cars while looking for a meal along the road when there was a hard crust on snow covered fields. The only **Short-eared Owl** report was a single bird 1/25 on Biesecker Road (BF,StW).

The **Rufous Hummingbird** that showed up 10/10 at a feeder in New Freedom stayed until 1/23. It was banded at the feeder at which it was first reported, but stopped showing up there mid-December. Then it was learned that there was a second feeder about half a block away that the bird had been frequenting the whole time, where it stayed until 1/23. A total of 17 **Red-headed Woodpeckers** were found 12/20 (CBC), there were a number of reports of **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** during the winter period, and on 2/17 there were 16 **N. Flickers** at a spot on Bair's Station Rd. (KL).

A 10-minute stream of about 1250 **Am. Crows** were observed flying south near I-83 in the city of York on 2/16 (LC). There were a number of reports of **Horned Lark**, with a high of 200 in the southeastern part of the county on 2/7 (RP). The only three **Red-breasted Nuthatch** reports were 4 on 12/20 (CBC), 1 on 1/10 at LWMS, and 2 on 2/11 at SMR (PJR). The only **Winter Wren** reports were 2 on Gut Rd. 12/14, and 1 at LWMS on 1/13 (PJR). A very late **Blue-gray Gnatcatcher** was seen 12/4 at Wrightsville (JE). A **Brown Thrasher** was found in New Freedom on the unexpected date of 2/14 (BF). A nice flock of 80 **Cedar Waxwings** was at CSP 2/13 (KL). A **Pine Warbler** 12/20 was a nice addition to the CBC. Two **Lapland Longspurs** 2/2 along Admire Rd. (BF, StW) were the only ones reported. **Snow Buntings** found were 12 at Hoff Rd. 1/22 (KL), and 1 at Biesecker Rd 2/4 (LC).

A male **Painted Bunting** was first seen at a feeder in the village of Saginaw on 2/7. No one in the PA birding community learned

about it until 3/24, but it stayed and divided its time between 2 feeders in the neighborhood for another month until 4/22, long enough for 150 or more birders to see it. This bird was less than 2 miles from the mouth of Codorus Creek where a **Painted Bunting** was found 27 May 1946.

The only **Purple Finch** sightings were one 12/20 (CBC) and 2 in Glenrock 12/21 (RP). **Pine Siskins** were scarce — one was found 12/20 on the CBC, and 2 to 5 were at a feeder in the city of York from late Dec. until 1/25 (DH). No **Evening Grosbeaks**, **Crossbills**, or **Redpolls** were found.

Observers: **Peter Robinson, P. O. Box 482, Hanover, PA 17331, (717) 632-8462 pabirder@hotmail.com**, Lou Carpenter, Christmas Bird Count, Jack & Lil Downs, Jim Elliot, Bruce Fortman, Dan Heathcote, Phil Keener, Karen Lippy, Bob Moul, Ann Pettigrew, Randy Phillips, John & Jean Prescott, Beth Pugliese, Al Spiese, Scott Weidensaul (ScW), Steve Wildasin (StW).

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