



# Hampshire Bird Club, Inc. Amherst, Massachusetts

www.hampshirebirdclub.org

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## March, 2013.

In this edition:

- Program and field trip information,
- The 21<sup>st</sup> Annual **Mass Audubon Birders' Meeting**,
- Another chance to sign up for **Monhegan Island, 2013**,
- More than you could ever want to know about **Bicknell's Thrush**,
- A musing on Gyrfalcons, and
- The **Northampton CBC** results!

I hope you find some of it useful!

### NEXT PROGRAM

**Monday, March 11 at 7:30 PM**

**Mara Silver** speaks on **Swallows in the Connecticut River Valley**

Immanuel Lutheran Church; 867 North Pleasant Street, Amherst.

*Weather-related cancellations announced via the HBC email list and local media.*

Cliff Swallows and, more recently, Barn Swallows have been slowly declining in Massachusetts for decades. Using relatively simple techniques, Mara Silver has successfully attracted both species and encouraged their nesting success at several sites in the state. Come see Mara's presentation about her recent efforts to attract **Cliff Swallows** to a previously-unused site in Shelburne, Massachusetts and to enhance the **Barn Swallow** population there. Spring is around the corner. Get ready for those swallows: they will be here before you know it!

**Mara Silver** studied the same colony of Cliff Swallows in Williamsburg, MA for 20 years. She recently transferred her efforts to another site. She holds an MSc. in Wildlife and Fisheries Conservation from UMass Amherst. For her masters thesis project she inventoried Bank Swallow habitat along the Connecticut River in MA. Mara works as a production editor at a scientific textbook company.

### COMING PROGRAMS

**April 8, 2013. Joan Walsh.** Breeding Bird Atlas II – the Next Steps.

**May 13, 2013. David Spector?** (To be determined...).

**June 10, 2013. Joey Mason.** Kestrels.

### 21st Annual Mass Audubon Birders Meeting

**Birding: Past, Present, and Future. Challenges and Opportunities**

**Saturday, March 16, 2013. The LaCava Center, Bentley University, Waltham, MA**

**Registration fee** (which includes lunch): \$55 Mass Audubon members, \$62 non-members.

www.massaudubon.org/news.

## FIELD TRIP REPORTS

### Coastal Rhode Island. Saturday, January 26, 2013.

Geoff LeBaron, Stephen Baker, Andrew Magee, and Marcia Merithew braved wind chills around zero degrees this day, and were well rewarded.

#### Stops & Highlights:

1. Driving tour of Watch Hill and Misquamicut: cold & windy; **Hermit Thrush** feeding on the ground with robins, and a **Greater Snow Goose** on the snow with Canada Geese.
2. Quonochontaug Breachway: cold & windy; a **big** flock of **Dunlin** on the flats!
3. East Beach, Charlestown: cold & windy; fantastic looks at **White-winged Crossbills**.
4. Ninigret N.W.R.: cold & windy; the perennial, lovely adult Lesser Black-backed Gull, and a nice assortment of sea ducks.
5. Fort Ninigret, Charlestown: cold & windy; wonderful views of a Northern Flicker (the ground-pecker).
6. Charlestown Breachway: cold & windy; two Sanderlings in the breachway, and a lovely drake **Long-tailed Duck** just offshore.
7. Trustom Pond N.W.R.: cold & windy; wonderful light and great views of a male **Eastern Towhee** and two female-type Purple Finches.
8. Matunuck area: cold & windy; no specialties but the 1661 House was interesting.
9. Succotash Marsh and Jerusalem Harbor: cold & windy, missed crossbills and interesting gulls, but picked out some **Brant** with the Canada Geese.
10. Beavertail, Jamestown Island: cold & windy; gorgeous views of **Harlequin Ducks**, plus a whole "herd" of Brant.
11. Point Judith: cold & windy; amazing full moonrise at sunset, tons of offshore Red-breasted Mergs, and a flyby group of Black Scoter.

The overall species total was a quite respectable 60!!

Geoff LeBaron

### Winter Birds. Sunday, February 17, 2013

Carol and John Gabranski, Andrew Magee, Bruce Hart, and Nidhin Joseph joined **Mike Locher** in birding locally, mostly around Hadley. The Gyrfalcon had been reported several days earlier, and the general lack of interesting bird reports from elsewhere in Western Mass. kept us close to home.

We started the day birding around the Honey-pot. We saw two Savannah Sparrows feeding around the transfer station (along with more numerous Song Sparrows), then moved west toward the river. We ran into other sparrows: Dark-eyed Juncos and American Tree Sparrows were out in numbers, but we couldn't locate the Clay-colored Sparrow that had been seen in the area. We found **Horned Larks** along the roadside, and got great looks at a flock of **22 Snow Buntings** that foraged along the road, then sat up on telephone wires for us to ogle. When we got to the river, we found Common Mergansers swimming happily in the chilly water, and saw several raptors (Red-tailed Hawks and a fly-by Cooper's Hawk), but no Gyrfalcon.

Crossing over to Aqua Vitae Road, we found more Horned Larks, and got good looks at a very tame **Vesper Sparrow** sitting in a bush next to the road. We got a few feeder birds at a house there, and saw a coyote walking through the fields, probably looking for hunting grounds that didn't have quite so many humans loitering nearby.

At Flayvor's of Cook's Farm we found a beautiful **American Kestrel** sitting on a roof, and finally got to add Rock Pigeon to our day's list.

From there we headed into North Hadley (where we got some Cedar Waxwings around Lake Warner), then up to Sunderland (several hawks, all Red-tailed), crossed the river to Whately and Hatfield, and finally came home. All told, we had 31 species.

Mike Locher

## COMING TRIPS

*Please note a change to the Winter-Spring-Summer Field Trip Schedule*

### **Trip Rescheduled (from June)**

**Saturday, May 18. Westover Air Force Base.** Half day.

This change is reflected in the Second Edition of the Winter-Spring-Summer Field Trip Schedule (dated February 20, 2013), which appears on the HBC Website.

**Saturday, March 9. Plum Island.** All day. Geoff LeBaron looks for migrants and residents at one of Massachusetts' premier birding locations. Call Geoff (413-268-9281) as the date approaches for meeting time and information. (E)

**Saturday, March 16. Connecticut River Waterfowl.** Half day. Bob Bieda looks for ducks and geese migrating up the Connecticut River to their breeding grounds. Meet at Stop & Shop on King Street in Northampton at 6:45. (E)

**\*Sunday, April 14. Ashley Reservoir: Early Warblers.** Half day. Mike Locher (413-585-5864) looks for early migrants like Pine and Palm Warblers, Ruby-crowned Kinglets, and Northern Waterthrushes. Meet in the Friendly's parking lot, near the Holiday Inn, close to Exit 15 ("Holyoke Mall") off Rt. 91 at 7 a.m. (E)

## OVERNIGHT TRIPS

### **Monhegan Island, 2013 with Scott Surner**

#### **Memorial Day Weekend (Friday, May 24 to Monday, May 27)**

You can see the spring migration almost anywhere, but if you have ever wanted to steep yourself in the glorious warblers of May, while losing yourself in the gentle rhythms of an idyllic island, Monhegan is for you.

We will arrive on the island on the Friday of Memorial Day weekend, without vehicles, and immerse ourselves in the gentle rhythms of island life. We'll find migrant songbirds throughout the tiny village of Monhegan, sheltering in the numerous apple trees, sometimes picking through the sea wrack on the town beach for sand fleas, or even hiding in the lobster pots piled almost everywhere. When the birding slows down, we can venture off on any of the island's numerous walking trails to Lobster Cove, the stupendous seaward cliffs, the Seal Rocks (aptly named), or the Enchanted Forest.

We'll stay at the rustic Trailing Yew, which will lay on breakfast and dinner each day, including a local lobster dinner. This is the perfect opportunity to slow down, REALLY learn the birds, and remember what life *should* be about.

This trip is open only to members of the Hampshire Bird Club. Registration is by deposit. For further details about the trip, contact **Scott Surner** ([president@hampshirebirdclub.org](mailto:president@hampshirebirdclub.org); 413 256 5438). For cost information and/or to register, contact Mike Locher ([fieldtrip@hampshirebirdclub.org](mailto:fieldtrip@hampshirebirdclub.org); 413 585 5864)

## BICKNELL'S THRUSH

*This article is a summary of a talk given to the Hampshire Bird Club by Chris Rimmer of the Vermont Center for Ecostudies. It is intended for readers of the Hampshire Bird Club newsletter and is NOT a peer-reviewed article.*

**Bicknell's Thrush** (*Catharus bicknelli*) was discovered in 1881 in the Catskill Mountains of New York by Eugene Bicknell. The species has very limited winter and breeding ranges, separated by an arduous and perilous migration route, and is the very definition of a species pushed to the edge by the ways of man.

**Bicknell's Thrushes spend the majority of the year in the Caribbean.** An estimated 90% of the world population of this species spends the winter on the island of Hispaniola which is divided between the Dominican Republic and Haiti. The broad-leaved forests upon which the species depends in winter have been almost entirely extirpated in Haiti. The remaining habitats, primarily in the Dominican Republic, can be broadly divided into low-altitude forests, which are generally highly fragmented and more disturbed, and higher elevation cloud forests, which are generally more contiguous and of higher quality for the birds. However, even these core cloud forest habitats are dwindling rapidly under pressure from human agriculture.

Biologists find that the ratio of male to female Bicknell's thrushes eking out a living in degraded lowland habitats is about 1:1. The significance of this apparently innocuous sex ratio becomes clear by comparison with another. In the higher-elevation cloud forests, there are four times as many male Bicknell's Thrushes as females (sex ration of 4:1). **It appears that the male BiThs are out-competing the females for the best quality habitats.** This seems to have profound implications for the reproduction and survival of the species.

**Bicknell's Thrushes that survive their first winter migrate northward to a series of coniferous (Balsam Fir dominated) forests across south-eastern Canada, and the sky islands of northern New England, and New York.** The greatest densities of BiThs are found in dense stands of regenerating Balsam Fir. These dense stands often occur as alpine areas recover from "fir waves": areas of frost-caused fir die-off which spread and heal in a dynamic equilibrium on high mountainsides. The preferred habitat is well-nigh impenetrable for all but the thrushes, and the Red Squirrels which are their primary natural nest predator. The species has a skewed sex ratio on the breeding grounds (about 2 males for every female). It is thought that fewer females survive to breeding age because of the poor quality of their wintering habitats, which likely causes mortality on the wintering grounds and in spring migration. BiTh is no longer found in a number of habitat islands formerly on the periphery of the range. Most obvious of these for those of us in Massachusetts is Mount Greylock, where the species has not bred since 1972.

**Bicknell's Thrush is polygynandrous, meaning that both males and females breed with more than one mate in a single season.** Instead of the exclusive territories which most male songbirds defend, male Bicknell's Thrushes have home ranges which overlap those of other males, and the home range of a male may contain the nests of more than one female. Females do have non-overlapping home ranges, but lay clutches of eggs which may be sired by more than one male. Multiple males may assist with the rearing of young in a single nest. This reproductive strategy is thought to be a response to limited food, since the obvious advantage is the increased number of foraging adults supporting each clutch of young.

**Bicknell's Thrush is threatened in its breeding range by a suite of sadly familiar consequences of human activity.** The high mountain environments it requires are shared with **cell phone towers** and **wind turbines** which create direct collision hazards and less direct habitat modifications through road-building. Likewise, **ski area development** threatens to diminish habitat for thrushes, but it is important to note that the edges of cleared ski runs often support dense stands of regenerating fir, and have been shown to be suitable habitat, in some cases, for Bicknell's Thrush. The dangers posed to breeding BiThs by **pollution** are less

intuitively obvious. We tend to think of high alpine environments as amongst the least polluted terrestrial environments on earth, but it turns out that the clouds which clothe our highest mountains are far from pure water. Clouds are acidified by sulfur dioxide and other products of fossil fuel combustion, and this acid precipitation is implicated in decline in some fir species. Add mercury and other heavy metals (largely from coal-fired power plant emissions) and you end up bathing alpine areas in a toxic soup. Bicknell's Thrushes have been found to carry elevated levels of mercury in their bodies and this, presumably, affects survival.

**By far the least tractable threat to Bicknell's Thrush comes from climate change.** Fir species are climate-dependent, and, as temperature increases, appropriate stands of fir are replaced by other species. It is estimated that for every 1 degree (Celsius) increase in mean July temperature, the minimum elevation for breeding BiThs will increase by about 154 metres. As the climate warms, many of the sky islands upon which the species depends will simply be inundated, as it were, by rising temperatures.

A word or two on evolutionary genealogy. Bicknell's Thrush is morphologically almost identical with the Gray-cheeked Thrush, of which it was formerly considered a sub-species. When Bicknell's Thrush was recognized as a species, it was naturally assumed that its closest evolutionary relative was the Gray checked. **However, recent genetic and biochemical studies suggest that Bicknell's Thrush may be more closely related to the Veery than to any other species.** Curiouser and curiouser!

Bicknell's Thrush declined in the southern part of its range by 7% per year between 1993 and 2003. In New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, between 2002 and 2009, the decline was even more catastrophic: around 15-17% annually. **By any measure, this is a species on the brink.** Saving Bicknell's Thrush is, as with so many species, an international effort, addressing habitat degradation in the wintering grounds and multiple threats in our part of the world. **The International Bicknell's Thrush Conservation Group is helping thrushes on multiple fronts. You can read more about these efforts, and contribute to them at [www.bicknellsthrush.org](http://www.bicknellsthrush.org).**

*This article summarizes a talk given to the Hampshire Bird Club by **Chris Rimmer** of the **Vermont Center for Ecostudies**. The text was prepared by the HBC editor. It is intended for readers of the Hampshire Bird Club newsletter and is NOT a peer-reviewed article.*

If you are interested in the recent exploits of our January speaker, Chris Rimmer, you might want to check out <http://vtcostudies.blogspot.com/2013/02/hope-for-haitis-montane-forests.html>

## **Athol Bird and Nature Center Programs**

**Bark: Get to Know Your Trees: Michael Wojtech**

March 13, 7-8:30 p.m. Liberty Hall in the Athol Town Hall, 584 Main St.

**Bark: Get to Know Your Trees: Michael Wojtech (field walk).**

March 16, 9:30am-12:30pm. At Northfield Mountain.

*For more details, including meeting places, go to [www.millersriver.net](http://www.millersriver.net) or call (978) 248 9491. Unless otherwise noted, indoor programs meet at the Millers River Environmental Center, 100 Main Street, Athol.*

I think, with all the brouhaha over the Gyrfalcon, we could all use a little levity. Hence.....,

### **Arctic Dreams (A Play in One Act)**

*The curtain rises on a bucolic landscape in Western Massachusetts. It is late December, 2012. Two birds are sitting in a cottonwood just west of the Calvin Coolidge bridge.*

*“Aw, c’mon mom, there’s cars from Texas down there! Just let me make one more pass. It’s such fun!”*

“Now Rufous, dear, I think we’ve had quite enough shenanigans for the day. That Maryland couple look about ready to pass out and the Kestrels are starting to talk. Let’s put it away and preen your coverts for dinner.”

*“Aw mom, there’s nothing else to do. The other buteos are so boring and the Sharp-shin kids just wanna hang out at the feeders all day. Besides, I ain’t hungry. If I have to look at another lousy meadow vole I’m gonna throw up.”*

“Rufous, dear, you know the costume was to be used for the Raptor Rampage only. You had your chance to impress that Rough-legged girl from up north, and, from what I hear, you were most ungentlemanly toward the end of the night. No, these endless falcon fantasies are really quite unseemly, and teasing the poor Hoomans like this is quite beneath you.”

*“It’s no fantasy, mom. When I grow up I’m gonna BE a Gyr, just you wait and see. Just take a look down there- I’m famous already.”*

“Rufous! How dare you speak so! You will grow up to be an honest perch-and-drop buteo just like your father and I and all the jamaicensis family. We’ve had quite enough of this hurtling about the Honey-pot for one winter. And besides, with your tail feathers starting to turn, you won’t be able to pull it off for much longer. I will *not* have my son the laughing stock of Cemetery Road.

Oh, and it’s pronounced ‘ger-falcon’, dear, not ‘jeer.’ The Harriers are a nice family, but we don’t need to speak like them. And didn’t your father expressly FORBID you to trim your primaries?”

*“I’ll trim whatever I want, mother. I’m running away to the tundra for good. I’m sick of you people.”*

“Well, if you do, you ungrateful little scamp, don’t expect a lemming buffet or anything. The Snowies got first dibs on those, and you do NOT, repeat NOT want to mess with a Snowy. No, young man, you will be just like all the other wannabe Gyrfalcons scratching a living off shorebird chicks and dreaming of trees. I guarantee you will be back here before you can say ‘ptarmigan,’ and if you expect your father and I to postpone our Florida retirement on your behalf, you are sadly mistaken!”

“Harlan, HARLAN! It’s about time you stopped slumming around over the transfer station like some albino Turkey Vulture and started parenting this rotten little miscreant. He’s been going downhill ever since your embarrassing Goshawk impersonation last fall. Oh look, see! He’s off again. Right over the top of that Connecticut Audi. Whitewashed it too, just for laughs!”

“Well that does it. I’m off to mother’s in the West Meadows. Feel free to call if and when you discover a neuron between the pair of you!”

*The birds exit: one stage right and the other stage left as dusk descends.*

*Curtain Falls.*

## HITCHCOCK PROGRAMS

**Cozy Living for Less** (Energy efficient homes): *Katelyn Tsukada*

Wednesday, March 7th, 7-8:30pm.

**Salamander Tunnel Maintenance Day**

*A Saturday in March determined by the weather.*

**What Do Squirrels Do?** *Sarah Partan*

Saturday, March 9, 10am-12pm.

**Henry Thoreau's Journey West: A Travelogue:** *Corinne Smith*

Thursday, March 14, 7-8:30pm.

**Green House Tour:** *Sara Ross*

Saturday, March 16, 10am-12pm.

*For details and registration for all Hitchcock programs, please contact the Hitchcock Center for the Environment, 525 South Pleasant St., Amherst MA 01002. Telephone (413) 256 6006, or on the web at [www.hitchcockcenter.org](http://www.hitchcockcenter.org).*

## FACEBOOK

For those hip enough to do social media, don't forget that Hampshire Bird Club is on **Facebook**.

To simply take a look at the Facebook page, you can hit the Facebook symbol on the HBC Website at

[www.hampshirebirdclub.org](http://www.hampshirebirdclub.org).

To begin to interact with the HBC Facebook community, (post, comment etc.) you need to become a **member of Facebook**, which you can do at [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com). If you are a member, just search for "Hampshire Bird Club" and press the "Like" button when you get to our page.

That's about it for now.

We will leave you with a summary and lots of detail on the Northampton CBC.

Until next month, talk softly and carry a big scope!

David Peake-Jones, Editor

529 9541

[newsletter@hampshirebirdclub](mailto:newsletter@hampshirebirdclub)

## Northampton Christmas Count

This 79<sup>th</sup> year of the Northampton Christmas Count proved to be exceptional! Totaling 90 species, we fell one short of tying our all time high of 91 (set in 1999 and 2008). However, we had an impressive 5 new count species and high counts for 6 species. A record 133 of us took to the field - 24 owlers ventured out in the early hours of the morning and 8 people added to the tally by watching their feeders. We were pleased to welcome 19 new people to the count.

The new count species were: Ruddy Duck, Red-throated Loon, American Coot, Blue-headed Vireo and Hoary Redpoll. A count week Gyrfalcon was sighted December 13.

New high counts were recorded for Hooded Merganser, Common Merganser, Eastern Screech-Owl, Barred Owl, Horned Lark, and Savannah Sparrow.

Jan Ortiz and Janice Jorgensen  
(Detailed results follow, compiled by the editor).

## Northampton Count 2012 and Historical (unofficial)

High counts in bold

New species in bold italics

Unusual Species\*

(Name) = no recent records, hopeful...

| Species                  | 2012      | High Year | High Count | Species                   | 2012      | High Year | High Count |
|--------------------------|-----------|-----------|------------|---------------------------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| Gr'ter Wh'-fr'ed Goose   | 0         | n.a.t.    |            | Northern Harrier          | 9         | 2010      | 11         |
| Greylag Goose            | 0         | n.a.t.    |            | Sharp-s'd Hawk            | 5         | 2007      | 22         |
| Snow Goose               | 0         | n.a.t.    |            | Cooper's Hawk             | 21        | 2010      | 26         |
| Brant                    | 0         | n.a.t.    |            | Northern Goshawk          | 0         | n.a.t.    |            |
| Canada Goose             | 4535      | 1999      | 7,977      | <i>Red-s'd Hawk*</i>      | 1         | n.a.t.    |            |
| Cackling Goose           | 0         | n.a.t.    |            | Red-tailed Hawk           | 130       | 2010      | 149        |
| Red-breasted Goose       | 0         | n.a.t.    |            | Rough-l'd Hawk            | 0         | 1989      | 12         |
| Mute Swan                | 7         | 2002      | 29         | American Kestrel          | 3         | 1974      | 31         |
| Wood Duck                | 9         | 2010      | 19         | Merlin                    | 2         | 2008      | 4          |
| <b>Gadwall</b>           | <b>6</b>  | 2012      | 6          | <i>Gyrfalcon*</i>         | <i>cw</i> | n.a.t.    |            |
| American Wigeon          | 0         | n.a.t.    |            | Peregrine Falcon          | 0         | 2011      | 4          |
| Am. Black Duck           | 205       | 1992      | 286        | Virginia Rail             | 0         | n.a.t.    |            |
| Mallard                  | 543       | 1994      | 1,338      | <i>American Coot*</i>     | 1         | n.a.t.    |            |
| Northern Pintail         | 1         | 1991      | 10         | Killdeer                  | 0         | n.a.t.    |            |
| Green-winged Teal        | 0         | n.a.t.    |            | Wilson's Snipe            | 0         | n.a.t.    |            |
| Canvasback               | 0         | n.a.t.    |            | <i>American Woodcock*</i> | 1         | n.a.t.    |            |
| Ring-necked Duck         | 0         | n.a.t.    |            | Ring-billed Gull          | 333       | 2006      | 1,088      |
| Greater Scaup            | 0         | n.a.t.    |            | Herring Gull              | 13        | 1986      | 2,196      |
| Lesser Scaup             | 0         | n.a.t.    |            | Iceland Gull              | 0         | n.a.t.    |            |
| White-winged Scoter      | 0         | n.a.t.    |            | Lesser Black-backed Gull  | 0         | n.a.t.    |            |
| Long-tailed Duck         | 0         | n.a.t.    |            | Glaucous Gull             | 0         | n.a.t.    |            |
| Bufflehead               | 0         | n.a.t.    |            | Great Bl'-b'd Gull        | 1         | 1994      | 367        |
| Common Goldeneye         | 6         | 1992      | 109        | Rock Pigeon               | 616       | 1988      | 2,778      |
| Barrow's Goldeneye       | 0         | n.a.t.    |            | Mourning Dove             | 1,990     | 1998      | 3,904      |
| <b>Hooded Merganser</b>  | <b>60</b> | 2004      | 30         | <b>E. Screech-Owl</b>     | <b>94</b> | 2006      | 82         |
| Common Merganser         | 227       | 1991      | 180        | Great Horned Owl          | 36        | 2003      | 48         |
| Red-b'd Merganser        | 0         | n.a.t.    |            | (Snowy Owl)               | 0         | nrr       |            |
| Ruddy Duck               | 2         | n.a.t.    |            | <b>Barred Owl</b>         | <b>19</b> | 2010      | 15         |
| Ring-n'd Pheasant        | 1         | 1996      | 196        | Long-eared Owl            | <i>cw</i> | 2004      | 3          |
| Ruffed Grouse            | 2         | 1966      | 37         | Short-eared Owl           | 0         | n.a.t.    |            |
| Wild Turkey              | 197       | 2010      | 187        | N. Saw-whet Owl           | 2         | 2006      | 5          |
| <b>Red-throated Loon</b> | <b>1</b>  | new       |            | Selasphorus sp.           | 0         | n.a.t.    |            |
| <i>Common Loon*</i>      | 1         | n.a.t.    |            | <b>Belted Kingfisher</b>  | <b>24</b> | 2001      | 23         |
| Pied-billed Grebe        | 0         | n.a.t.    |            | Red-b'd Woodpecker        | 120       | 2010      | 159        |
| Horned Grebe             | 0         | n.a.t.    |            | Yellow-b'd Sapsucker      | 0         | 2007      | 22         |
| Do'-c'd Cormorant        | 1         | n.a.t.    |            | Downy Woodpecker          | 361       | 2004      | 452        |
| (Great Cormorant)        | 0         | nrr       |            | Hairy Woodpecker          | 101       | 1974      | 192        |
| Great Blue Heron         | 9         | 2006      | 27         | Northern Flicker          | 35        | 1990      | 77         |
| Green Heron              | 0         | n.a.t.    |            | Pileated Woodpecker       | 26        | 2010      | 34         |
| Turkey Vulture           |           |           |            | Eastern Phoebe            | 0         | n.a.t.    |            |
| Bald Eagle               | 10        | 2009      | 9          | Western Kingbird          | 0         | n.a.t.    |            |
| adult                    | 8         |           |            | Northern Shrike           | 1         | 1995      | 15         |
| immature                 | 2         |           |            | (White-eyed Vireo)        | 0         | nrr       |            |
|                          |           |           |            |                           |           |           |            |
|                          |           |           |            | Continues, next page      |           |           |            |

| Species                  | 2012         | High Year | High Count | Species                 | 2012      | High Year | High Count |
|--------------------------|--------------|-----------|------------|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| <i>Blue-headed Vireo</i> | <b>1</b>     | 2012      | 1          | <b>Savannah Sparrow</b> | <b>61</b> | 2000      | 46         |
| Blue Jay                 | 485          | 1977      | 1,686      | Fox Sparrow             | 2         | 1943      | 20         |
| American Crow            | 1,922        | 1997      | 5,836      | Song Sparrow            | 222       | 1992      | 559        |
| Fish Crow                | 1            | 2008      | 6          | Lincoln's Sparrow       | 0         | n.a.t.    |            |
| Common Raven             | 12           | 2010      | 13         | Swamp Sparrow           | 2         | 1992      | 23         |
| <b>Horned Lark</b>       | <b>3,222</b> | 1993      | 2,504      | White-t'd Sparrow       | 329       | 2009      | 1,008      |
| Black-c'd Chickadee      | 1,301        | 2005      | 2,096      | White-c'd Sparrow       | 11        | 1999      | 9          |
| Tufted Titmouse          | 403          | 2006      | 894        | Dark-eyed Junco         | 3,503     | 2006      | 3,585      |
| Red-b'd Nuthatch         | 52           | 1993      | 295        | Oregon Junco            | 0         | n.a.t.    |            |
| White-b'd Nuthatch       | 372          | 2005      | 489        | Pink-sided Junco        | 0         | n.a.t.    |            |
| Brown Creeper            | 21           | 1973      | 53         | Lapland Longspur        | 1         | 1989      | 31         |
| Carolina Wren            | 65           | 2006      | 96         | Snow Bunting            | 5         | 1989      | 706        |
| House Wren               | 0            | n.a.t.    |            | Northern Cardinal       | 580       | 2004      | 649        |
| Winter Wren              | 5            | 1998      | 7          | Indigo Bunting          | 0         | n.a.t.    |            |
| Golden-c'd Kinglet       | 78           | 2001      | 332        |                         |           |           |            |
| Ruby-c'd Kinglet         | 1            | 1973      | 6          | Dickcissel              | 0         | n.a.t.    |            |
| Eastern Bluebird         | 277          | 2006      | 474        | Red-winged Blackbird    | 66        | 2008      | 304        |
| Hermit Thrush            | 6            | 2005      | 9          | (Eastern Meadowlark)    | 0         | nrr       |            |
| American Robin           | 2,043        | 2006      | 7,555      |                         |           |           |            |
| Gray Catbird             | 0            | 2005      | 5          | Rusty Blackbird         | 0         | 2008      | 100        |
| N. Mockingbird           | 101          | 1999      | 238        | Common Grackle          | 0         | 2006      | 501        |
| Brown Thrasher           | 0            | n.a.t.    |            | Brown-h'd Cowbird       | 61        | 2006      | 876        |
| European Starling        | 4,587        | 1985      | 94,630     | Baltimore Oriole        | 0         | n.a.t.    |            |
| American Pipit           | 25           | 2010      | 66         | Pine Grosbeak           | 81        | 1954      | 217        |
| (Bohemian Waxwing)       | 0            | nrr       |            | Purple Finch            | 0         | 1976      | 221        |
| Cedar Waxwing            | 193          | 2007      | 2,194      | House Finch             | 427       | 1994      | 2,215      |
| Yellow-r'd Warbler       | 0            | n.a.t.    |            | Red Crossbill           | 7         | 1969      | 25         |
| Palm Warbler             | 1            | n.a.t.    |            | White-w'd Crossbill     | 0         | 1977      | 98         |
| Eastern Towhee           | 0            | n.a.t.    |            | Common Redpoll          | 652       | 1959      | 1,069      |
| Amer. Tree Sparrow       | 856          | 1992      | 2,637      | <b>Hoary Redpoll</b>    | <b>2</b>  | 2012      | 2          |
| Chipping Sparrow         | 0            | 1974      | 11         | Pine Siskin             | 1         | 1993      | 372        |
| Clay-c'd Sparrow         | 0            | n.a.t.    |            | Amer. Goldfinch         | 667       | 2006      | 2,094      |
| Field Sparrow            | 3            | 1982      | 58         | Evening Grosbeak        | 0         | 1969      | 3,000      |
| Vesper Sparrow           | 0            | n.a.t.    |            | House Sparrow           | 1,577     | 1961      | 2,662      |

In the event of equal high years, the most recent is shown.

**n.a.t.** = now and then. Species recorded in small numbers in fewer than five (5) years between 1999 and 2012. Some species (e.g. Pine Grosbeak), occur infrequently, but are not described as "n.a.t." since they irrupt in high numbers. This folksy terminology is used DELIBERATELY to avoid any confusion with official CBC terminology.

Some species seen rarely and not since 1999 have been excluded. These include Northern Bobwhite, Great Cormorant, American Bittern, Osprey, Sora, Black-headed Gull, Barn Owl, Snowy Owl, Red-headed Woodpecker, Black-backed Woodpecker, Loggerhead Shrike, Gray Jay, Boreal Chickadee, Sedge Wren, Marsh Wren, Varied Thrush, Orange-crowned Warbler, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Pine Warbler, Ovenbird, Common Yellowthroat, Wilson's Warbler, Green-tailed Towhee, Spotted Towhee, LeConte's Sparrow, Harris's Sparrow, Brewers Blackbird, Bullocks Oriole, and Brambling.