



Chequamegon Chirps

Newsletter of the Chequamegon Bird Club

Medford, Wisconsin

February 2008

Volume 27 Number 2

NEXT MEETING:

Date: Monday, February 18, 2008

Time: 7:00 p.m.

**Location: Medford Public Library
400 N. Main St.
Medford**

**Program: Birding the Texas Gulf Coast
Gordy Ruesch, Cathy Mauer**

Food: Marcella Dums, Margaret & Clem Heindl

Please bring your own cup or mug for beverage.



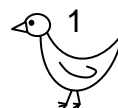
- Great Backyard Bird Count is February 15-18
www.birdsource.org/gbbc
- **REMINDER:** Club dues were payable in January. Dues are \$18.00 per mailing address. They may be paid at a meeting or mailed to Bernice Gokey, 504 N. 4th St., Colby WI 54421. NOTE: THIS IS A CORRECTION OF BERNICE'S ADDRESS.

Due to printing issues, if you get an electronic copy, you will not be getting a mailed copy this month.

Christmas Bird Counts and Club Monthly Bird Reports

Why bother counting birds? Here are just a few reasons:

- It is fun.
- It helps you hone your bird identification skills.
- It encourages you to look for birds and learn something about what habitats they use.
- Bird count results help researchers understand trends in bird populations, both numbers and ranges. Some counts have been ongoing for over one hundred years and provide long term trend data.
- Population information can be used to help understand the impact of diseases such as West Nile Virus.
- Count information can provide a warning about environmental problems such as habitat loss, effects of pesticides, or contamination of water.
- Counts, such as the Great Backyard Bird Count, that include data on snow depth and other weather information, can supply information needed to help assess the impact of weather, and perhaps climate changes, on bird populations.
- Counts can help track winter irruptions of northern finches and other birds.



2007 Summary of Christmas Bird Counts participated in by Chequamegon Bird Club Members

Summary 2007	Clam Lake 12-28	Gilman 12-22	Medford 01-05	Owen 01-01	Spencer 12-16	Willard 12-30
Party Hours	43	50.5	42.25	50.75	57.75	42.25
Total Species	24	38	40	36	41	38
Total Individuals	695	4186	6119	4309	6773	5622
Canada Goose	14		10			
Mallard	4	3*	333			
American Black Duck			3			
Ring-necked Pheasant		37*		14	9	3
Ruffed Grouse	8	45*	8	7	9	4
Greater Prairie Chicken					8	
Sharp-tailed Grouse		3				
Wild Turkey	2	150	321	242	443*	432*
Bald Eagle	1	8	4	3	5	6
Sharp-shinned Hawk		1	1	2	4*	
Cooper's Hawk			1	3	6*	2
Northern Goshawk	1	1	1			1
Merlin	1					
Red-tailed Hawk		4	4	40	39	7
Rough-legged Hawk		1	1	4	8	11
American Kestrel				3	11	2
Rock Pigeon		517	424	251	858	656
Mourning Dove		77	276	331	519	465*
Great Horned Owl			1		7	11*
Barred Owl		2	1	2	4	
Belted Kingfisher					2*	
Red-headed Woodpecker						2
Red-bellied Woodpecker		6	12	24	22	20
Downy Woodpecker	16	49	33	110	93	74*
Hairy Woodpecker	26	35	36	52	41*	27
Northern Flicker					1	1
Pileated Woodpecker	6	13	3	3	7*	5
Woodpecker Species	1				6	
Northern Shrike	4	10	7	9	22	18
Gray Jay	11					
Blue Jay	24	105	93	208	126	456
American Crow	37	154	960	380	510	538
Common Raven	68	59	15	10	2	15
Horned Lark				12	32	2
Black-capped Chickadee	339	749	765	847	502	535
Boreal Chickadee	1					
Red-breasted Nuthatch	20	22	31	26	17	24
White-breasted Nuthatch	13	62	79	95	86	72
Brown Creeper	2	1				
American Robin					2	
Eurasian Starling		1000	1201	645	950	970

continued on p. 3

Bird Reports (November - December 2007)



Checklist observers: *Gayle Davis, Connie Decker, Hildegard & Lorettra Kuse, Ken Luepke, Cathy Mauer, Gordy Ruesch, Doug and Willa Pledger, Larry Ruhde, Claire Romanak, Greg & Cam Scott*

Total Number of Species Observed this month is: 56

- Canada Goose, American Black Duck (Davis / Decker / Luepke), Mallard
- Ring-necked Pheasant, Ruffed Grouse, Greater Prairie-Chicken (Luepke), Wild Turkey
- Bald Eagle, Northern Harrier (Decker), Sharp-shinned Hawk, Cooper's Hawk, Northern Goshawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Rough-legged Hawk, American Kestrel
- Rock Pigeon, Mourning Dove
- Great Horned Owl, Barred Owl, Belted Kingfisher (Davis / Romanak)
- Red-headed Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker (Decker / Luepke / Romanak), Pileated Woodpecker
- Northern Shrike, Gray Jay (Mauer / Ruesch), Blue Jay, American Crow, Common Raven, Horned Lark
- Black-capped Chickadee, Red-breasted Nuthatch, White-breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper
- Townsend's Solitaire * (Decker / Luepke / Romanak), American Robin, Varied Thrush (Decker / Luepke / Romanak)
- European Starling, Bohemian Waxwing (Decker / Luepke / Romanak), Cedar Waxwing
- American Tree Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow (Ruhde), White-crowned Sparrow (Kuse), Dark-eyed Junco
- Snow Bunting
- Northern Cardinal, Pine Grosbeak, Purple Finch, House Finch, Common Redpoll, Hoary Redpoll ** (Romanak), American Goldfinch, Evening Grosbeak (Scott), House Sparrow

Christmas Bird Count Summary continued from p. 2

Summary 2007	Clam Lake 12-28	Gilman 12-22	Medford 01-05	Owen 01-01	Spencer 12-16	Willard 12-30
Bohemian Waxwing			177			1
Cedar Waxwing					3	
American Tree Sparrow		73	14	25	176	50
White-crowned Sparrow			1			
White-throated Sparrow				1		
Dark-eyed Junco		16	39	33	152	170
Snow Bunting		130	372	3	403	95
Northern Cardinal	2	26*	52	45	92	76
Red-winged Blackbird		2*				
Pine Grosbeak	79	4	16	16	1	2
Purple Finch				2	3	
House Finch		5	22	35	39	24
Common Redpoll		110	199	47	24	21
Pine Siskin		5				13
American Goldfinch	15***	84	167	228	197	405
Evening Grosbeak		35	1			
House Sparrow		582	351	551	1332	406

CW indicates count week species

* is high count

** is new species for this count

*** is unusually low

You can view and compare all of the 108th year Christmas Bird Counts on the internet at

www.aubobon.org/bird/cbc/ Click on current year's results.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the counts this year.

This summary compiled by Ken Luepke.

Editor, Chequamegon Chirps
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Medford WI 54451-9376



«NAME»
«ADDRESS»
«CITY_STATE_ZIP»

Club Officers 2007-2008

President – Gayle Davis

Vice-president – Connie Decker

Secretary – Hildegard Kuse

Treasurer – Bernice Gokey

Other Club Contacts

Web site: www.sws-wis.com/cbc

Email: info@chequamegonbirdclub.org

Newsletter Email: newsletter@chequamegonbirdclub.org

Bird sightings: Connie Decker

February - March Outdoors

- February 15-18 Great Backyard Bird Count
- Woodpeckers are drumming
- Full moon – February 22
- Canada geese and sandhill cranes begin arriving
- Mink, bobcats, snowshoe hares mating
- Maple sap begins flowing
- Wild turkeys begin gobbling
- Robins, bluebirds, and red-winged blackbirds arriving
- Chipmunks emerge from hibernation
- Gray squirrel young and fox pups being born



Stamps for Birds

As part of a fund raiser for the Audubon Center for Birds of Prey, located in Florida, the Florida Audubon Society collects foreign stamps, all U.S. commemorative stamps, other U.S. stamps with a face value of at least \$1, all mint stamps, duck and migratory bird stamps, and all postcards from anywhere with stamps on them. The stamps are sorted and sold to stamp collectors.

The Center treats injured and orphaned raptors, releasing more than 40% of them back into the wild. The Center handles the largest volume of eagles, owls, falcons, hawks, and kites east of the Mississippi River--averaging more than 650 admissions, or injured or orphaned birds of prey, each year. It is a leader among all North American rehabilitation centers for specialized eagle care and is a nationally renowned research institute.

The CBC is once again collecting stamps, as described above, to help support the Center. You may bring stamps to meetings. For more information, please contact Willa Pledger.