

## 2017 GAAS Christmas Bird Count - Summary

The 2017 Christmas Bird Count was conducted under overcast skies on December 17. The day started with fog, a temperature of 24 degrees F with no wind and ended with a temperature of 39 degrees F and a slight S wind with gusts up to 10 mph. The ground was covered with about 1 to 2 inches of snow and standing shallow water was frozen. The 2017 weather conditions were certainly more favorable for the participants than those in 2016 when we had overall icy conditions at the start of the Count.

This year we had an increase in the total number of participants compared to last year's total of 146. The participants list totaled 159 individuals. However, 3 field participants counted birds in 2 different territories and 6 field participants did a feeder count when they returned home making the grand total of participants 150.\* For this year 56 parties of field counters spent a total of 160 hours on foot walking 142 miles and 66 hours by car traveling 563 miles. 5 parties spent 6 hours listening/looking for owls which included traveling 36 miles and 34 individuals spent 39 hours counting birds at the feeders.

Our total species number for 2017 is 82 compared to the 88 species for last year. The 82 species total, however, is pending until the 2 new species to our Count are approved by the Regional Editor, Craig Caldwell. The new species are Barn Owl and Trumpeter Swan. Our total individual number for 2017 is 216,351 which will definitely go down in our history book for the highest number of individual birds. This record total surpasses the previous record of 68,471 in 2015 and is in part a result of huge flocks of European Starlings (15,788), Red-winged Blackbirds (150,014), Common Grackles (15,004), and Brown-headed Cowbirds (5,018) counted by Larry Rosche's team in the eastern edge of our Count Circle.\*

We wish to thank all the dedicated individuals in the field and at the feeders for their continued loyalty and participation over many, many years and the new people who joined us for the first time. We could not have a successful count without the help of our participants. We look forward to the 2018 Christmas Bird Count on December 16.

Compilers  
Marie Morgan  
Bill Osborne  
Bert Szabo

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### Notes

- \* It is with sadness that we announce the death of two of our loyal Christmas Bird Count participants, Fred Fricker and Larry Morton. Long time member Fred Fricker joined the CBC when we were still know as the Cuyahoga Falls Audubon Club in 1975. He was an influential member during the time when the Club was growing and debating the benefits of becoming a full status chapter of the National Audubon Society. In March of 1976 Cuyahoga Falls Audubon Club was granted full Chapter status at which time the name was changed to the Greater Akron Audubon Society Chapter. Fred became a leader in the new Chapter, holding the offices of Treasurer, Vice-President, and President. He participated in the CBC each year as a leader/field participant for Territory 5 and a CBC feeder counter for 41 years until his death on April 23, 2017. Larry Morton with his wife, Sophia, joined the CBC in 2008 and participated as a field and feeder counter and attended the monthly meetings. He was not able to participate in the 2017 CBC because of his hospitalization. He died on January 1, 2018. We thank Fred and Larry for their loyal participation.
- \* A few days before the Count, Larry Rosche contacted me and Craig Griffin to come to Kent to see the huge flocks. We meet Larry at a parking lot on Stonewater Drive between Klaben Ford and Don Joseph Toyota dealerships and witnessed wave after wave of blackbirds coming in to roost. It was indeed an amazing and spectacular sight.

## 2017 GAAS Christmas Bird Count - Bird Species

1. Canada Goose 6622
2. Mute Swan 1
3. Trumpeter Swan 30
4. Tundra Swan 7
5. Gadwall 48
6. American Black Duck 48
7. Mallard 1360
8. Northern Pintail 5
9. Green-winged Teal 3
10. Redhead 14
11. Ring-necked Duck 100
12. Bufflehead 1
13. Hooded Merganser 35
14. Common Merganser 9
15. Red-breasted Merganser 2
16. Ruddy Duck 1
17. Wild Turkey 16
18. Pied-billed Grebe 3
19. Great Blue Heron 39
20. Northern Harrier 1
21. Sharp-shinned Hawk 2
22. Cooper's Hawk 33
23. Bald Eagle 22
24. Red-shouldered Hawk 51
25. Red-tailed Hawk 86
26. American Coot 15
27. Killdeer 5
28. Ring-billed Gull 2162
29. Herring Gull 333
30. Rock Pigeon 458
31. Mourning Dove 620
32. Barn Owl 1
33. Eastern Screech-Owl 4
34. Great Horned Owl 9
35. Barred Owl 9
36. Belted Kingfisher 19
37. Red-headed Woodpecker 1
38. Red-bellied Woodpecker 361
39. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker 2
40. Downy Woodpecker 391
41. Hairy Woodpecker 80
42. Northern Flicker 58
43. Pileated Woodpecker 58
44. American Kestrel 4
45. Peregrine Falcon 3
46. Eastern Phoebe 1
47. Blue Jay 1318
48. American Crow 4566
49. Horned Lark 12
50. Black-capped Chickadee 868
51. Tufted Titmouse 471
52. Red-breasted Nuthatch 5
53. White-breasted Nuthatch 446
54. Brown Creeper 12
55. Winter Wren 1
56. Carolina Wren 121
57. Golden-crowned Kinglet 62
58. Eastern Bluebird 215
59. Hermit Thrush 2
60. American Robin 1023
61. Gray Catbird 1
62. European Starlings 17851
63. Cedar Waxwing 310
64. Yellow-rumped Warbler 20
65. American Tree Sparrow 460
66. Fox Sparrow 2
67. Dark-eyed Junco 616
68. White-crowned Sparrow 16
69. White-throated Sparrow 181
70. Song Sparrow 200
71. Swamp Sparrow 12
72. Eastern Towhee 10
73. Northern Cardinal 716
74. Red-winged Blackbird 150216
75. Rusty Blackbird 30
76. Common Grackle 15122
77. Brown-headed Cowbird 5058
78. House Finch 357
79. Purple Finch 9
80. Pine Siskin 67
81. American Goldfinch 771
82. House Sparrow 2071

## 2017 GAAS Christmas Bird Count - Field Participants

### **Jay Abercrombie (46)**

Deedra Allen Zwisler  
Claudia Anders  
Ken Andrews  
Heather Berenson  
John Bergvall

### **Mike Bowler (26)**

Pete Bowler  
Andy Brown  
Sandy Brown  
Ellen Brown-Armstrong  
Bob Burns  
Sherilynn Burns  
Ann Burris  
Tamara Chandler  
Ann Chasar

### **Dwight Chasar (54)**

Kay Clark  
Frank Comodeca  
Kim Cook  
Patricia Cook  
Jeff Cordi  
Matt Courtman  
Patrick Coy

### **Vicky Croisant (25&28)**

Greg Cudworth  
Jami Cutlip  
Sally Deems-Mogyordy  
Jodi Delamatre  
Ned Delamatre  
Lindsey DeNelsky  
Keith Devlin  
Fred Dinkelbach  
Troy Dunn

### **Mike Edgington (29)**

Peter Getzinger  
Craig Griffin  
Bill Gruber  
Ann Gulbransen  
Marty Gulbransen  
Mark Hancock  
Nancy Howell  
Mary Lou Hura  
Betty Indriolo  
Diane Johnson  
Maria V. Jorge

Barbara Kaplan  
Keith Kohnke  
Rachel Kohnke  
Wendy Kohnke  
Gene Kovach  
Linda Kovach  
Jeff Kraus  
Marian Kraus  
Duane Kurapka  
Rita Labbe  
Pat Lanese  
Jim Lindway  
Maureen Lindway  
Fred Losi  
Doug Marcum  
Michelle Marr  
Dale McCain  
Rosemary McCain  
Jim McCarty  
Jerry Miller  
Sara Miller

### **Kathy Mock (35)**

Fred Montague  
**Marie Morgan (46)**  
Nan Moyers  
Sue Nelson  
George Novosel

### **Bill Osborne (41)**

Michael Pasek  
Joyce Pelz

### **Wolfgang Pelz (23)**

Ron Phillips  
**Pat Pickard (26)**

Doug Piekarz  
Emily Piekarz  
Ed Pierce  
Maddie Reitz

### **James Reyda (51)**

David Richards  
Eric Rodic  
Mary Ann Romito  
Tom Romito

### **Larry Rosche (57)**

Jim Rudick  
Autumn Russell  
Diane Salisbury

Ron Salisbury  
Michelle Schisler  
Judy Semroc  
Austin Shaffer  
Dylan Shaffer  
Daniel Sheffer  
Therese Sheffer  
Steven Sheppard  
Marty Sickinger  
Claire Staph  
Dave Stover  
Sandy Striff  
Joe Sudomir  
Rob Swaney

### **Bert Szabo (26)**

Karin Tanquist  
Brian Tinker

### **Jim Tomko (34)**

Alex Tosi  
Dan Toth  
Jeanne Utter

### **Steve VanAuken (31)**

Linda VanFossen  
**Doug Vogus (36)**  
Michelle Vogus  
Jeff Wert

### **Janet Wertz (29)**

### **John Wilkinson (26)**

Judy Wilkinson  
Joe Wojnarowski

Territory Leaders and their Territory Totals are in Bold Type

## 2017 GAAS Christmas Bird Count - Feeder Participants

Susan Bielinis  
Alan Casanova  
Debbie Casanova  
David Cesaratto  
Cecil Dobbins  
Joann Dobbins  
June Dobbins  
Craig Griffin  
Annemarie Hansen  
Joe Henninger  
Sue Henninger  
Mark Hudak  
Barbara Klewe  
Lyman Klewe  
Beth Kowalski  
Gail Manning  
Bill Meyers  
Elizabeth Miloscia  
Bill Miloscia  
Becky Monegan  
Lew Monegan  
Sophia Morton  
Kathy Richards  
Grace Rymer  
Paul Schweigert  
Anita Szegvari  
Tim Verdoun  
Doug Vogus  
Michelle Vogus  
Janet Wertz  
Gail Wild  
John Wilkinson  
Judy Wilkinson  
Larry Williams