

# Chequamegon Chirps



Medford, Wisconsin  
Number 1

January, 2016

Volume 35

NEXT MEETING January 18 7 PM at the Medford Public Library

PROGRAM: CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS: SUMMARY, TRENDS AND TIDBITS.

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The six Christmas Bird Counts conducted from December 20, 2015 through January 2, 2016 with the help of many Chequamegon Bird Club members were successfully completed. The final numbers are included with this issue. Fifty seven individual species were identified along with one gull species. Volunteers donated 267.25 hours and many miles to survey over 1,000 square miles within the six circles included in these counts and documented 23,406 birds.

Common Goldeneye, Sharp-tailed Grouse, Cooper's Hawk, Gull specie, Belted Kingfisher, Red-headed Woodpecker, Gray Jay, Song Sparrow, Tufted Titmouse, White-throated Sparrow, Harris's Sparrow, Common Grackle, and Red Crossbill were recorded on only one of the six counts.

On the other extreme, Ruffed Grouse, Wild Turkey, Bald Eagle, Mourning Dove, Downy Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Pileated Woodpecker, Northern Shrike, Blue Jay, American Crow, Common Raven, Black-capped Chickadee, Red-breasted Nuthatch, White-breasted Nuthatch, American Tree Sparrow, Common Redpoll and American Goldfinch were recorded on all six counts.

Just because a specie appeared on all six or only one count doesn't necessarily mean they are in trouble or doing well. These are among the topics that can be discussed Monday night. Do you know which specie was documented for the first time ever on any of the six counts? There is even a good photograph to record this happy event.

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## GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT

Friday, February 12 to Monday, February 15, 2016

If you missed out on the Christmas Counts or would like contribute useful information to the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and Audubon from your backyard, contact [birdcount.org](http://birdcount.org) to find out how to submit your information. You can count your feeder or backyard birds for 15 minutes or up to all four days if you wish. Data from this and other counts helps to answer such questions such as:

- # How does weather influence bird populations?
- # Where are finches and other interruptive species?
- # What differences exist in rural, suburban, city and natural areas?

**2015 Audubon Christmas Bird Counts organized by local compilers**

<b>Summary 2015</b>	<b>Clam Lake 12-18</b>	<b>Gilman 01-01</b>	<b>Medford 01-02</b>	<b>Owen 12-26</b>	<b>Spencer 12-20</b>	<b>Willard 12-27</b>
Party Hours	31.75	44.25	42.75	48.75	64	35.75
Total Species	25	36	36	36	42	35
Total Individuals	449	2260	4038	6229	6717	3713
Canada Goose					320	12
Mallard			132		3	
Common Goldeneye	1					
Ring-necked Pheasant		8			6	
Ruffed Grouse	11	8	6	2	3	3
Sharp-tailed Grouse		7				
Wild Turkey	10	81	117	28	111	20
Bald Eagle	3	20	16	26	32	10
Northern Harrier				9	4	14
Sharp-shinned Hawk		2	1	2	2	
Cooper's Hawk					1	
Northern Goshawk			1	1		
Accipiter Species			1			
Red-tailed Hawk		3	10	13	26	12
Rough-legged Hawk		33	19	9	4	21
Buteo sp.						2
American Kestrel		2	3	6	13	5
Hawk sp.						1
Gull sp.					1	
Rock Pigeon		99	305	959	775	508
Mourning Dove	12	67	97	209	168	106
Eastern Screech Owl						1
Great Horned Owl		2		1		1
Barred Owl		3			1	1
Belted Kingfisher			1			
Red-headed Woodpecker					2	
Red-bellied Woodpecker		9	12	21	25	22
Downy Woodpecker	9	41	44	84	50	42
Hairy Woodpecker	10	40	42	42	40	7
Pileated Woodpecker	2	6	9	4	6	4
Woodpecker species	1		2			2
Northern Shrike	3	8	7	3	2	1
Gray Jay	1					
Blue Jay	30	164	183	177	146	238
American Crow	22	299	474	575	426	397
Common Raven	20	38	19	2	3	24
Horned Lark			3	12		
Black-capped Chickadee	210	499	678	453	482	261
Tufted Titmouse						1
Red-breasted Nuthatch	24	44	41	11	11	2
White-breasted Nuthatch	7	26	76	66	79	79
Brown Creeper	5				2	
Golden-crowned Kinglet	9	3			4	
American Robin		1		1		

Summary 2015	Clam Lake 12-18	Gilman 01-01	Medford 01-01	Owen 12-26	Spencer 12-20	Willard 12-27
European Starling		222	510	1597	2073	723
Cedar Waxwing					17	23
American Tree Sparrow	1	17	28	36	47	13
Song Sparrow					1	
White-throated Sparrow	1					
Harris's Sparrow		1				
Dark-eyed Junco		8	51	138	121	171
Snow Bunting		147	156	139	CW	
Northern Cardinal		3	11	36	22	19
Common Grackle	1					
Pine Grosbeak	3		1			
Purple Finch			4	21	2	24
House Finch			56	30	32	
Red Crossbill	1					
Common Redpoll	48	53	215	144	138	127
Pine Siskin		79	331	106	160	22
American Goldfinch	4	18	116	292	182	248
House Sparrow		199	279	974	1174	546

CW indicates count week species

You can view current and historical Audubon Christmas Count data on the internet to compare all of the 116<sup>th</sup> year counts.

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

*This summary compiled by Ken Luepke and Connie Decker*

Count compilers are : Keith Merkel : Clam Lake  
 Gayle Davis : Owen  
 Joe Scott : Medford  
 Ken Luepke : Spencer / Willard / Gilman

Bird Reports: December 2015—Checklist observers: Gayle Davis, Connie Decker, Hildegard and Loretta Kuse, Ken Luepke, Willa Pledger, Joanne and Joe Rickert, Cam Scott Total species for December 53 11-17 to 12-21 Last month 94

# Cackling Goose (Decker), Snow Goose, Canada Goose, Tundra Swan, Gadwal, American Black Duck, Mallard, Northern Shoveler.

# Ring-necked Pheasant, Ruffed Grouse, Wild Turkey.

# Bald Eagle, Northern Harrier, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Cooper's Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Rough-legged Hawk, Golden Eagle (Decker/Luepke), American Kestrel, Merlin.

# Sandhill Crane, Ring-billed Gull.

# Rock Pigeon, Mourning Dove.

# Barred Owl.

# Belted Kingfisher, Red-headed Woodpecker, Lewis's Woodpecker (Decker/Luepke/Davis), Red-bellied Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Pileated Woodpecker.

# Northern Shrike, Blue Jay, American Crow, Common Raven, Horned Lark, Black-capped Chickadee, Red-breasted Nuthatch, White-breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Golden Crowned Kinglet, American Robin, European Starling, Cedar Waxwing.

# American Tree Sparrow, Dark-eyed Junco, Snow Bunting.

# Northern Cardinal, Purple Finch, House Finch, Pine Siskin, American Goldfinch, House Sparrow.

Editor, Chequamegon Chirps

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Club contacts

Website: [Chequamegonbirdclub.org](http://Chequamegonbirdclub.org)

Information: [info@chequamegonbirdclub.org](mailto:info@chequamegonbirdclub.org)

Newsletter: [newsletter@chequamegonbirdclub.org](mailto:newsletter@chequamegonbirdclub.org)

Bird sightings: [connie1@charter.net](mailto:connie1@charter.net)

DUES are payable in January which help to pay for programs and activities as well as delivery of the Chirps.

\$18 per mailing address

Member(s)names\_\_\_\_\_

Street  
address\_\_\_\_\_

City, State, zip  
code\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail  
address\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone\_\_\_\_\_

Do you prefer to get the Chirps by Mail\_\_\_\_\_ or E-mail\_\_\_\_\_?

Suggestions for future programs or  
activities\_\_\_\_\_