



CINCINNATI BIRD CLUB

# PASSENGER PIGEON

VOLUME 54, ISSUE 1      JANUARY 2018

## FIELD TRIP: OHIO RIVER EAST OF CINCINNATI

**Location:** East Fork and the Ohio River East of Cincinnati

**Date:** Saturday, January 20, 2018

**Meeting Place & Departure Time:** South Beach, East Fork State Park. 8:00 a.m.

**Trip Leader:** Bill Stanley

On Saturday, January 20 at 8:00am the Cincinnati Bird Club will meet at the East Fork State Park South Beach parking lot. After checking the beach area for gulls, ducks and other birds we will make our way to New Richmond Ohio. The first stop will be a river

overlook that in the past was the location of a Harlequin Duck.

From New Richmond we will make our way east to Meldahl Dam which has hosted many gulls over the years including Black-legged Kittiwake in 1999.

Then we will be off to Crooked Run Nature Preserve where a King Eider hung out for several weeks in December 2017.

If time permits we will continue east and see what else we can find. We might not find anything as unusual as was found at these sites in the past, but the potential is always there to

find something good. Be sure to dress for the weather. It can be very windy and cold along the river. Bring a lunch that you can eat along the way. There are restrooms available in New Richmond and at Crooked Run.

The trip will last from 8:00 a.m. until early afternoon.

—Bill Stanley  
[tyrannus58@gmail.com](mailto:tyrannus58@gmail.com)  
(513)324-2796

### NO JANUARY BIRD CLUB MEETING—

- *There is no Bird Club Meeting in January.* The weather gods play havoc with our efforts to meet in January, and we gave in a few years back and decided to take the month off. So bird more, build your January lists, study your new field guides and smart phone apps, take some photos, and we'll see you in February!



### FACEBOOK

The Cincinnati Bird Club is now

on facebook at <https://>

[www.facebook.com/cincinnatibirdclub](https://www.facebook.com/cincinnatibirdclub) Like our page and follow it for information about upcoming meetings,

field trips and other bird club information.

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## CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT REPORTS

*The 118th National Audubon Society Christmas Bird Count season has wrapped up, and in this and coming issues, we'll provide recaps and highlights from a number of local CBCs, ranging from those sponsored by the Cincinnati Bird Club to other area counts of interest. We'll start with the venerable Cincinnati Count, which is compiled by Jay and Jack Stenger.*

### **2017 Cincinnati Christmas Bird Count**

The 71<sup>st</sup> annual 2017 Cincinnati Christmas Bird Count, sponsored by the National Audubon Society, our local Audubon chapter and the Cincinnati Bird Club, was conducted on Saturday, December 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Seventy participants braved the intense winter weather and helped assure the continued success of this count. We recorded 91 total species for the count. An additional 5 species were not found on count day but were found during count week. These 5 species are not included in the count total of 91 species. Count week (CW) is defined as the three days before and the three days after the actual count date. The record for this count is 95 species, set in 2012.

**The list** (91 species plus 5 CW):  
Snow Goose 1, Canada Goose

3,553, Mute Swan 9, Tundra Swan (CW), Wood Duck 2, Gadwall 22, American Wigeon 1, American Black Duck 22, Mallard 702, Northern Shoveler (CW), Northern Pintail 2, Canvasback (CW), Redhead 8, Ring-necked Duck 32, Greater Scaup (CW), Lesser Scaup 3, Long-tailed Duck 8, Bufflehead 13, Common Goldeneye 7, Hooded Merganser 86, Common Merganser 2, Ruddy Duck 15, Wild Turkey (CW), Pied-billed Grebe 8, Great Blue Heron 13, Black Vulture 26, Turkey Vulture 4, Bald Eagle 8, Northern Harrier 7, Sharp-shinned Hawk 2, Cooper's Hawk 9, Red-shouldered Hawk 14, Red-tailed Hawk 44, American Kestrel 11, Peregrine Falcon 2, American Coot 43, Sandhill Crane 103, Killdeer 10, Wilson's Snipe 2, Ring-billed Gull 169, Rock Pigeon 253, Mourning Dove 464, Eastern Screech-Owl 8, Great Horned Owl 5, Barred Owl 4, Belted Kingfisher 17, Red-headed Woodpecker 4, Red-bellied Woodpecker 292, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker 33, Downy Woodpecker 228, Hairy Woodpecker 39, Northern Flicker 67, Pileated Woodpecker 36, Eastern Phoebe 5, Blue Jay 401, American Crow 511, Horned Lark 1,185, Carolina Chickadee 648, Tufted Titmouse 402, Red-breasted Nuthatch 3, White-

breasted Nuthatch 131, Brown Creeper 21, Carolina Wren 300, Winter Wren 15, Golden-crowned Kinglet 118, Ruby-crowned Kinglet 2, Eastern Bluebird 100, Hermit Thrush 9, American Robin 3,835, Northern Mockingbird 62, Brown Thrasher 2, European Starling 19,658, American Pipit 2, Cedar Waxwing 249, Yellow-rumped Warbler 133, Eastern Towhee 147, American Tree Sparrow 75, Chipping Sparrow 2, Field Sparrow 23, Fox Sparrow 10, Song Sparrow 503, Swamp Sparrow 57, White-throated Sparrow 541, White-crowned Sparrow 47, Dark-eyed Junco 255, Lapland Longspur 1, Northern Cardinal 1,225, Red-winged Blackbird 28, Eastern Meadowlark 1, Rusty Blackbird 10, Common Grackle 422, Brown-headed Cowbird 19, House Finch 152, Pine Siskin 10, American Goldfinch 247, and House Sparrow 301.

Also reported on the count but not included in the species totals were 2 unidentified accipiter species, 1 unidentified buteo species, and 1 unidentified falcon species.

### **Count Highlights:**

Horned Lark 1,185, new count high, previous high 835.

Winter Wren 15, new count high, previous high was 9, three separate times

Mute Swan 9, tied 2<sup>nd</sup> highest

Wilson's Snipe 2, only reported 1 time in previous 10 years, but actually reported 32 times in prior 70 years of this count.

Long-tailed Duck, 7<sup>th</sup> time in 71 years

Sandhill Crane, 7<sup>th</sup> time in 71 years

Lapland Longspur 8<sup>th</sup> time in 71 years

American Pipit, 9<sup>th</sup> time in 71 years

Snow Goose, 9<sup>th</sup> time in 71 years

#### Notable Misses:

Wild Turkey, recorded 10 of previous 10 years (100%)

Savannah Sparrow, recorded 9 of previous 10 years (90%)

Short-eared Owl, recorded 8 of previous 10 years (80%), efforts were made at Armlerder Park and Lunken Airport

Northern Shoveler, recorded 8 of previous 10 years (80%)

Purple Finch, recorded 7 of previous 10 years (70%)

Merlin, recorded 5 of previous 7 years (71%)

— Jay Stenger, Co-compiler

— Jack Stenger, Co-compiler

#### ***2017 Western Hamilton County Christmas Bird Count***

1 Greater White-fronted Goose, 306 Snow Goose, 20 Ross's Goose, 4 Cackling Goose, 945 Canada Goose, 1 Mute Swan, 4 Tundra Swan, 13 Wood Duck, 119 Gadwall, 16 American Wigeon, 12 American Black Duck, 499 Mallard, 6 Northern Shoveler, 321 Northern Pintail, 18 Green-winged Teal, 8 Redhead, 116 Ring-necked Duck, 18 Buffhead, 2 Common Goldeneye, 2 Hooded Merganser, 6 Wild Turkey, 2 Pied-billed Grebe, 20 Great Blue Heron, 34 Black Vulture, 7 Turkey Vulture, 4 Bald Eagle, 5 Northern Harrier, 1 Sharpshinned Hawk, 4 Cooper's Hawk, 7 Red-shouldered Hawk, 18 Red-tailed Hawk, 1 Buteo, sp., 7 American Kestrel, 2 Killdeer, 80 Ring-billed Gull, 1706 Rock Pigeon, 485 Mourning Dove, 1 Great Horned Owl, 3 Barred Owl, 3 Short-eared Owl, 17 Belted Kingfisher, 105 Red-

bellied Woodpecker, 11 Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 85 Downy Woodpecker, 8 Hairy Woodpecker, 33 Northern Flicker, 7 Pileated Woodpecker, 2 Eastern Phoebe, 183 Blue Jay, 4504 American Crow, 264 Carolina Chickadee, 179 Tufted Titmouse, 3 Red-breasted Nuthatch, 42 White-breasted Nuthatch, 16 Brown Creeper, 163 Carolina Wren, 28 Golden-crowned Kinglet, 45 Eastern Bluebird, 3228 American Robin, 31 Northern Mockingbird, 17469 European Starling, 27 Yellow-rumped Warbler, 23 Eastern Towhee, 78 American Tree Sparrow, 6 Field Sparrow, 3 Savannah Sparrow, 3 Fox Sparrow, 242 Song Sparrow, 16 Swamp Sparrow, 305 White-throated Sparrow, 15 White-crowned Sparrow, 394 Dark-eyed Junco, 451 Northern Cardinal, 576 Red-winged Blackbird, 7 Eastern Meadowlark, 273 Rusty Blackbird, 97 Brown-headed Cowbird, 185 House Finch, 2 Common Redpoll, 2 Pine Siskin, 198 American Goldfinch, 702 House Sparrow.

—Ned Keller, Compiler

## 2017 Adams County Christmas Bird Count

*Editor's note: Following is the text of an email the Adams County Christmas Bird Count compiler Mark Zloba sent to participants.*

January 3, 2018

Greetings loyal CBC Participants,

The numbers have been tallied. It looks like we found more species of birds this year than last (if you remember, it was a slow day last winter when we found 73 species). This year on that pleasant and mild winter day we found a total of 79 species. The highest number of species ever for Adams County CBC was 84. Attached is a copy of all the birds found in all 11 territories of the count circle.

Some notable species found this year were Sandhill cranes which have only been counted 1 other time on count day, a snow goose which has only been found 3 years, ruby-crowned kinglet was found for the 10<sup>th</sup> time and 3 Eastern phoebe's were counted which can be difficult here in the winter.

Bald eagles seem to be getting more and more frequent as we tied the record high with 6. Along with brown thrashers which also had a tie with the record high of 3. The only record high numbers of individuals this year were Mallards at 616, Gadwall at 9 and 285 Lesser Scaup.

The teams we have hunting each territory of the county have been doing a phenomenal job recording birds for their areas. I believe we

have been getting a pretty accurate account of the birds utilizing Adams County in the winter. Thanks to all that come out each year and participate, and to all that have participated in the past. Please share these results with anyone in your party that I may not have an email address. Thank you.

— Mark Zloba, Compiler

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**Editor's note:** That's it for the recaps for this issue. We have at least two more planned for next month. Until then, enjoy the winter as best you can. Good health, good birds, and safe travels to you and yours!

—Cincinnati Bird Club



## CINCINNATI BIRD CLUB

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## Bird Club Membership

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\_\_\_\_\_ Individual \$12.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Family \$15.00 \_\_\_\_\_ Student (under 18) FREE

Make your check payable to Cincinnati Bird Club, and mail to our Treasurer:

Lois Shadix ([lcshadix@fuse.net](mailto:lcshadix@fuse.net)), 2928 Saddleback Dr, Cincinnati, OH 45244

2017-2018 DUES:  
IF YOU HAVEN'T SENT  
IN YOUR DUES YET  
FOR THE SEPTEMBER  
2017 - MAY 2018 BIRD-  
ING SEASON, PLEASE  
FILL OUT THE FORM  
AND MAIL IT IN ALONG  
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SHIP FEES