

## **Ulster/Dutchess (NYUD) Christmas Bird Count – Wednesday, December 28, 2016**

Greetings All and Happy New Year,

The Ulster/Dutchess (NYUD) Christmas Bird Count was conducted on Wednesday, December 28 2016 and celebrated it's 6th anniversary. Conditions were moderate to favorable for the 45 birders in 13 field parties and two feeder watchers covering the NYUD's ten sectors who contributed to this year's count. **16,076 individual** birds representing **80 species** were identified on count day plus five count week species. The 80 species tallied resulted in our second lowest effort (78 species in 2013; 85 species average on previous five counts) and the individuals number fell below the average (18,314 on previous five counts).

The temperatures hovered around freezing at the start of our nocturnal effort with a few random snow flakes falling. When the sun did peer out through the mostly cloudy skies temperatures closed in on forty degrees mid-day. Snow cover was no more than a few inches and that was limited to sheltered and/or shaded areas within the CBC circle. The existence of ice was a bit more challenging and even kept those of us nursing broken ribs out of certain trails. The Hudson River was open and still while smaller bodies of water where iced over. River tributaries where open in faster moving portions.

One species, a **Palm Warbler** in Sector D was documented on the NYUD checklist for the first time this year. With this addition the **NYUD CBC composite is now at 120 species after six years**. Other notable observations included **8 Merlins**, **17 Eastern Screech Owls**, and a **Rusty Blackbird** in Sector G. Another positive note was the healthy presence of Sharp-shinned Hawks which matched their bigger cousins on count day with 14. Although no real rarity occurred on count day a high number for 13 species was a pleasant result. Disappointingly no winter finches made an appearance on count day or during the count week period. All parties also noticed sparrow numbers to be markedly lower than in previous counts without any "special" sparrow showing on count day. Count Week birds this year included Wood Duck, Lesser Scaup, Double-crested Cormorant, Peregrine Falcon, and Chipping Sparrow.

Thanks again to all the participants (as listed below) who helped make this year's NYUD CBC another successful day in the field and a special thanks again to Steve Chorvas for the mentoring, data input, and organizing skills. Thanks also to all those who brought along food and drink to another well-attended compilation at the Hasbrouck Park stone building in Kingston especially my wife Kyla Haber who tended to an ailing husband, battled her own illness, and cooked a whole boat load of food.

Best regards and hopes for a bird-filled New Year,  
Mark DeDea  
co-compiler NYUD CBC

**SAVE THE DATE: 2017 ULSTER/DUTCHESS (NYUD) CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT IS  
SCHEDULED FOR WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27 2017**

**SECTOR A (WEST SAUGERTIES)**

**35 species 1272 individuals**

Vanessa Lane, Robert Miller, George Moxham, Mary Moxham

**SECTOR B (SAUGERTIES) NORTH**

**43 species 863 individuals**

Steve Chorvas, Alan Beebe, Doreen Beebe (fw)

**SOUTH**

**42 species 1046 individuals**

Denny Droica

**SECTOR C (CHEVIOT)**

**47 species 1892 individuals**

Greg Esch, George Steele, Naomi Lloyd

**SECTOR D (KERLEY'S CORNERS)**

**48 species 1698 individuals**

Peter Schoenberger

**SECTOR E (WOODSTOCK)**

**43 species 1869 individuals**

Steve Schuyler, Peter Schuyler, Allan Bowdery, Dixon Onderdonk,  
Loren Quinby, Don Murat

**SECTOR F (LAKE KATRINE)**

**46 species 1167 individuals**

Lin Fagan, Maeve Maurer, Jane Simmons, Lynn Bowdery

**SECTOR G (ANNANDALE-ON-HUDSON)**

**51 species 751 individuals**

Jess Prockup, Jim Prockup, Mathew Rymkiewicz

**SECTOR H (RED HOOK)**

**37 species 1690 individuals**

Jim Closs, Adrienne Popko, Barbara Butler, Susan Joseph,  
Gina Palmer, Roberta Dopson, Mona Payton, Dorothy Fleury,  
Chet Vincent, Sharon Weber

**SECTOR I (KINGSTON)**

**56 species 2314 individuals**

Mark DeDea, Donna Seymour, Annie Mardiney, Lili Taylor, Joe Bargmann,  
Mike Fernandez, Robin Kimble (fw)

**SECTOR J (RHINEBECK)**

**48 species 1514 individuals**

Wendy Tocci, Rodney Johnson, Deb Kral, David Hayes



Total	NYUD Christmas Bird Count December 28, 2016 (6 / 117th)	A	B1N	B2S	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
232	White-breasted Nuthatch	18	20	6	31	13	28	19	8	49	26	14
9	Brown Creeper	1	1	1	1		3	1	1			
2	Winter Wren		1					1				
58	Carolina Wren	14	3	5	3	3	5	3	1	8	11	2
5	Golden-crowned Kinglet								1		4	
2	Ruby-crowned Kinglet								2			
183	Eastern Bluebird	19	6	5	46	24	12	11	3	24	13	20
1	Hermit Thrush			1								
209	American Robin	24	4	13	22	12	4	11	21	22	74	2
39	Northern Mockingbird	4	3	2	5	5	3	6		3	7	1
2,981	European Starling	369	97	417	414	144	342	253	106	343	332	164
28	American Pipit					28						
98	Cedar Waxwing			12	17		65			4		
1	Snow Bunting					1						
1	Palm Warbler *					1						
3	Yellow-rumped Warbler					1					2	
155	American Tree Sparrow	10	7	2	11	40		10	5	7	43	20
cw	Chipping Sparrow*					cw						
2	Field Sparrow	1										1
1	Savannah Sparrow					1						
89	Song Sparrow	13	8	3	11	3	7	9	3	2	19	11
5	Swamp Sparrow		1								2	2
182	White-throated Sparrow	16	25	8	29	14	21	17	9	14	21	8
948	Dark-eyed Junco	100	77	40	143	76	156	93	67	118	54	24
235	Northern Cardinal	31	35	15	24	13	30	29	13	26	16	3
54	Red-winged Blackbird		3	3			1	20			4	23
1	Rusty Blackbird								1			
177	Common Grackle		1					1			175	
23	Brown-headed Cowbird						1		17			5
147	House Finch	12	9	4	30	16	25	16		16	14	5
251	American Goldfinch	36	27	5	22	24	53	12	19	23	12	18
811	House Sparrow	70	78	70	35	28	127	185	26	56	97	39

<b>16,076</b>	<b>Total Individuals</b>	<b>1,272</b>	<b>863</b>	<b>1,046</b>	<b>1,892</b>	<b>1,698</b>	<b>1,869</b>	<b>1,167</b>	<b>751</b>	<b>1,690</b>	<b>2,314</b>	<b>1,514</b>
<b>80</b>	<b>Total Species (+5 cw)</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>48</b>

\* unusual species      cw = count week (not included in totals)

Shaded Columns: Dutchess County