2011 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

By Joe Tollari and Charlie Winterwood

The 2011 Christmas Bird Count was held on December 17, 2011 in the Dubuque area. Over twenty participants ranging in age from 10 to "in the 80's" searched over an area from Durango to the Airport and from East Dubuque to Centralia, counting all of the birds observed. A light coating of snow made for slippery roads early on, but conditions improved by 10:30 am. Numbers of woodland and open-field species were down, but water fowl numbers were up; the mild temperatures created a great deal of open water. We counted 8,582 birds in 56 species. In addition, a Fox Sparrow and an Iceland Gull were observed during the count week but not on the actual count day. Drat! The results of the CBC are listed below.

Canada Goose 239	Red-bellied Woodpecker 40
Trumpeter Swan 15	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker 1
Wood Duck 1	Downy Woodpecker 57
Am. Black Duck 2	Hairy Woodpecker 12
Mallard 721	Northern Flicker 3
Canvasback 4000	Pileated Woodpecker 10
Redhead 3	Northern Shrike 3
Ring-necked Duck 400	Blue Jay 86
Lesser Scaup 100	American Crow 248
Bufflehead 48	Blk-capped Chickadee 203
Com. Goldeneye 125	Tufted Titmouse 45
Hooded Merganser 15	Red-breasted Nuthatch 5
Com. Merganser 14	White-breasted Nuthatch 114
Ruddy Duck 1	Brown Creeper 5
Rg-nckd Pheasant 1	Eastern Bluebird 4
Wild Turkey 36	American Robin 2
Great Blue Heron 5	European Starling 613
Bald Eagle 79	Am. Tree Sparrow 84
Cooper's Hawk 1	Song Sparrow 8
Red-tailed Hawk 6	Swamp Sparrow 1
Rough-legged Hawk 2	White-throated Sparrow 9
American Kestrel 5	White-crowned Sparrow 1
American Coot 10	Dark-eyed Junco 326
Ring-billed Gull 93	Northern Cardinal 167
Herring Gull 1	Red-winged Blackbird 7
Rock Pigeon 196	House Finch 89
Mourning Dove 19	Pine Siskin 220
Belted Kingfisher 3	American Goldfinch 48