

# Bird's-Eye View

February  
March  
2001



## The Newsletter of The Peoria Audubon Society...

A Chapter of National Audubon since 1981

Ornithological-Audubon Chapter of The Peoria Academy of Science since 1930

### 101st CBC is a wintery fare...

This year's Christmas Birdcount started with Peoria on December 16. Icy conditions caused the Peoria count to be cancelled as planned and turned to a feeder watch, with two parties able to take to the field. The Chautauqua count was held on December 23, and the Chillicothe count was held on December 30. Thanks go out to all of the counters, compilers, and everyone involved!

	Peo.	Chau.	Chilli.		Peo.	Chau.	Chilli.
Pied-billed Grebe	1		2	Hairy Woodpecker	7	6	11
Double-crested Cormorant	1			Northern Flicker	9	33	11
Great Blue Heron	2	185	4	Pileated Woodpecker		9	
Snow Goose	10			Horned Lark	15	1419	277
Canada Goose	35	3235	271	Blue Jay	30	382	256
Mute Swan		2		American Crow	119	545	413
Tundra Swan	6			Black-capped Chickadee	40	134	281
Green-winged Teal		4	6	Tufted Titmouse	29	39	99
American Black Duck		4	22	Red-breasted Nuthatch		2	1
Mallard	CW	64	461	White-breasted Nuthatch	11	37	84
Gadwall		28	41	Brown Creeper		5	1
Ring-necked Duck		31		Carolina Wren	5	4	1
Common Goldeneye		6		Winter Wren			1
Bufflehead		4		Eastern Bluebird		15	28
Hooded Merganser		38		Hermit Thrush			2
Common Merganser		561		American Robin		35	2
Red Breasted Merganser		1		Northern Mockingbird		8	
Bald Eagle	26	71	40	Gray Catbird			1
	(11a+15i) .. (32a+39i) .. (19a+ 31i)			Cedar Waxwing			105
Northern Harrier		3	2	European Starling	328	1007	1286
Sharp-shinned Hawk		4	2	Yellow-rumped Warbler			1
Cooper's Hawk	1	3	2	Northern Cardinal	83	223	252
Northern Goshawk		1		American Tree Sparrow	7	1163	560
Red-tailed Hawk	6	47	56	Fox Sparrow	1	2	3
Rough-legged Hawk		11	7	Song Sparrow	2	147	58
American Kestrel	3	11	15	Swamp Sparrow		10	3
Merlin		1	1	White-throated Sparrow	16	53	58
Peregrin Falcon	1	1		White-crowned Sparrow		6	14
Ring-necked Pheasant		10		Dark-eyed Junco	162	1212	696
Wild Turkey	8		93	Lapland Longspur		1	
Northern Bobwhite		9		Snow Bunting		1	13
American Coot		6		Red-winged Blackbird	1	173	2
Killdeer		6	1	Rusty Blackbird		10	2
Common Snipe		5	9	Eastern Meadowlark		1	
Ring-billed Gull	1625	5	145	Common Grackle	5	171	1
Herring Gull	35		12	Brown-headed Cowbird		10	1
Greater Black-backed Gull	1			Purple Finch	CW	18	6
Rock Dove	150	2	37	House Finch	64	1	66
Mourning Dove	107	73	170	Red Crossbill		97	
Eastern Screech Owl		1	1	American Goldfinch	102	121	312
Great Horned Owl		5		House Sparrow	389	386	1032
Barred Owl		1		Eurasian Tree Sparrow		270	
Belted Kingfisher		9	5				
Red-headed Woodpecker	2	20	9	Total Species:	41	78	63
Red-bellied Woodpecker	18	69	86	Total Birds:	3497	12343	7508
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker		2					
Downy Woodpecker	36	72	68	Observers	13	19	17



## Upcoming Meetings

**Wed, February 14**  
**7:00 PM**

Tom Pucelik, will share his experiences on recent birding trips to India and China

**Wed, March 14**  
**7:00 PM**

Dessert Social and Fundraising Auction for the Peoria Audubon Sanctuary Fund

**Wed, April 11**  
**7:00 PM**

Dr. Bert Princen will present his most recent videologue about birding in Costa Rica

**Wed, May 9**  
**7:00 PM**

Results from the Spring Birdcount

All Meetings are held at Forest Park Nature Center and are free and open to the public. For directions and information, call Forest Park Nature Center at (309)686-3360

### Peoria Audubon to Establish Peoria Lakes Bird Census...

In order to establish critical baseline data of the Upper and Lower Peoria Lake's bird populations, Peoria Audubon will be conducting a weekly year-round census from 8 points along the Illinois River roughly from the Peoria Lock and Dam, north to near Chillicothe. This data is crucial in understanding local bird populations, and tracking the plight of bird species in light of several Illinois River projects that will be implemented over the next few years. If you are able to assist, Contact Maury Brucker or Rick Fox.

### The Great Backyard Bird Count...

National Audubon in conjunction with the Cornell Lab of Ornithology is conducting the 4th Backyard Bird Count. This feeder census will take place all over the country. Data will be collected over the internet. For complete details and data info, log onto <http://www.birdsource.org>.

### **Eagle Day in Peoria...**

Peoria Audubon will conduct an Eagle Day in cooperation with Forest Park Nature Center on Saturday, January 20 starting at 10:00 AM. A short indoor program will take place in the Nature Center and will cover such topics as Eagle watching etiquette, nesting success in Illinois, winter populations. We will then have participants carpool to an area along the Illinois River where eagles are frequently seen. For more information about this free program, contact the Nature Center at (309)686-3360.

### **Midwinter Bald Eagle Count...**

The Eagle count will be held on Saturday, January 27. Peoria Audubon is responsible for the stretch of river from Henry to Havana. Four teams will be out censusing Eagles. Last year there were 595 seen on this stretch of the river, setting a new record. Results of this years eagle count will be discussed at the February meeting and published in the next issue of Bird's-Eye-View.

### **Sanctuary Fund Committee...**

The Peoria Audubon Sanctuary Committee will be meeting on Monday, February 19 and March 12, 3:00 PM at Forest Park Nature Center. Any member interested in becoming involved with the development of a local Audubon Sanctuary is invited to attend.

### **Field Trips and Outings...**

**Saturday, March 24, Field trip to Greater Chicago Water Reclamation District near Canton.** Meet in downtown Farmington at 8:00 AM or at the GCWRD Headquarters at 8:30 AM. For more information and to RSVP call Bert Princen at 691-0519.

**Saturday, May 5, Spring Bird Count Date.** Mark your calendar for the Spring Count. Peoria Audubon will be conducting counts in Peoria, Tazwell, Woodford, Mason, and Fulton Counties.

*You are cordially invited to:*  
*The Peoria Audubon Society*  
*Desert Social, Auction and Fundraiser*  
*for the Sanctuary Fund Kickoff*

*Deserts at 7:00 PM on March 14, 2001*  
*at Forest Park Nature Center, Auctions to follow.*  
*Setup for food items and donations at 6:00 PM*

*Silent Auction, Raffle, and Bid Auction*  
*for nature related books and tapes, artwork, used optics,*  
*tripods, bird houses birdfeeders and guided trips.*

*Here's a chance to raise funds for the Peoria Audubon*  
*Sanctuary Fund, enjoy excellent deserts and company, walk*  
*away with a great birding deal, and perhaps find a worthy*  
*home for that duplicate set of birdguides that you received as*  
*a holiday gift. All donations are tax deductible!*  
*Dress casually, donations welcome, having fun encouraged!*

**Peoria Audubon Society**  
**677 E High Point Terr**  
**Peoria IL 61614**

#### **Peoria Audubon Board**

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Mike Miller – President  
Gary Garman – Vice President  
Greg Brown – Secretary  
Greet Princen – Treasurer  
Tracy Fox – Conservation

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