

**Summary:** The 30<sup>th</sup> yearly Mt. Jefferson Christmas Bird Count was most notable for the higher than normal effort and turnout, with 14 participants in 7 parties logging 46.3 party hours, almost 50% higher than average. Conditions started out with calm cool weather and became progressively windier thru the day. Both the good effort and the fair conditions contributed to our second highest species total and our 5<sup>th</sup> highest count of individuals.

**Total # of birds seen:** 2278 (Avg 1736, High 3179; Low 239)

**Species:** 59 (Avg 50; High 60; Low 28)

**Effort:** 46.3 party-hours (Average 32; High 68; Low 16); 1.5 hours owling; 7 parties in the field

**Participants:** (14) Paul Bailey, Peggy Bailey, Allen Boynton, Pat Geiger, Katie Griffith, Tyler Johnson, Paul Laurent, Tonya Lee, Guy McGrane, Ron Morris, Adrianna Nelson, Nancy Russo, Debbie Shetterly, Kathy Spencer. Compiler: Guy McGrane

**Weather:** Sunny, cool, windy, 38-42F; 5-30 mph winds

**Good finds:**

Eastern Meadowlark: 2 separate pairs of birds, one at Bill Bledsoe Rd and another behind the Lowes HI warehouse, were only our 3<sup>rd</sup> year on the count, and first since 2006.

Bald Eagle: two adults at Lake Ashe were our 4<sup>th</sup> records.

Barred Owl: one at Elk Shoals was only our 5<sup>th</sup> record, and 2<sup>nd</sup> in the last 13 years.

Brown Headed Cowbird: 6 birds at Bill Bledsoe Road were only our 5<sup>th</sup> year for the count, and 2<sup>nd</sup> in the last twenty years.

Killdeer: one at Low Gap Rd. was our 8<sup>th</sup> record and only 2<sup>nd</sup> in past 12 years.

**High Counts**(count, previous high, average)

Canada Goose (125, 130, 38)

Great Blue Heron (7, 7, 3)

Red-tailed Hawk (18, 15, 8)

Mourning Dove (147, 157, 49)

Eastern Phoebe (15, 14, 5)

Winter Wren (8, 9, 2)

Carolina Wren (52, 49, 25)

**Notably Absent** (# years missed out of 30, average count)

Pileated Woodpecker (2, 5)

House Sparrow (4, 24)

Ruffed Grouse (12, 1)

Purple Finch (12, 3)

Sharp-shinned Hawk (14, 1)

**Low Counts** -none other than the absent birds above

**List:**

Canada Goose 133

Muscovy Duck (Domestic type) 4

Mallard	40	
Wild Turkey	26	
Pied-billed Grebe	2	
Rock Pigeon (Feral Pigeon)	14	
Mourning Dove	143	
Killdeer	1	
Great Blue Heron	7	
Black Vulture	10	
Turkey Vulture	42	
Cooper's Hawk	2	
Sharp-shinned/Cooper's Hawk		1
Bald Eagle	2	
Red-shouldered Hawk		2
Red-tailed Hawk	15	
Eastern Screech-Owl	2	
Barred Owl	1	
Belted Kingfisher	6	
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker		1
Red-bellied Woodpecker		18
Downy Woodpecker	14	
Hairy Woodpecker	2	
Northern Flicker	3	
American Kestrel	6	
Eastern Phoebe	12	
Blue Jay	31	
American Crow	707	
Common Raven	10	
Carolina Chickadee	70	
Tufted Titmouse	64	
Golden-crowned Kinglet		26
Ruby-crowned Kinglet		1
Red-breasted Nuthatch		1
White-breasted Nuthatch		22
Brown Creeper	2	
Winter Wren	8	
Carolina Wren	48	
European Starling	168	
Northern Mockingbird		8
Eastern Bluebird	67	
Hermit Thrush	1	
American Robin	1	
Cedar Waxwing	20	
House Finch	21	
Pine Siskin	1	
American Goldfinch	9	
Chipping Sparrow	6	
Field Sparrow	17	
Fox Sparrow	1	
Dark-eyed Junco	84	

White-crowned Sparrow	2
White-throated Sparrow	25
Song Sparrow	134
Swamp Sparrow	7
Eastern Towhee	16
Eastern Meadowlark	4
Brown-headed Cowbird	6
Yellow-rumped Warbler	2
Northern Cardinal	41