**The 2019**

**Lewisburg**

**Christmas Bird Count**

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 It was a raw, windy day. Birds appeared to be hunkered down. Hot chocolate by the fireplace might have been more appropriate than birding. And yet … we had our best species count since 2011!

 We found 70 species altogether. A comparison with 2018, our worst year in decades, shows that Tundra Swan, Mute Swan, Gadwall, Common Goldeneye, Hooded Merganser, Black Vulture, Turkey Vulture, Merlin, Peregrine Falcon, Barred Owl, Horned Lark, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Hermit Thrush, and Fox Sparrow, were birds that appeared this year, but not last.

 Birds that we found last year, but not this year, included only Long-eared Owl, Field Sparrow (how did we miss that!), and Savannah Sparrow.

 Few species were found in large numbers. Probably, the raw weather really was a factor. Still, Common Raven was at an all-time high with 38 reported. So was European Starling with 6028, certainly an inexact number given the estimates we are forced to make. At the other extreme we had one each of a dozen species, namely Tundra Swan, Wood Duck, Gadwall, Bufflehead, Ruffed Grouse, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Merlin, Peregrine, Herring Gull, Barred Owl, Winter Wren, and Fox Sparrow. There were also just two American Robins; thank you Bill Malone!

 We had the benefit of a new party. Deepak Iyer led a Bucknell team that included Morgan Benowitz-Fredericks, Matthew Heintzelman, and Rebecca Meyers. They covered Dale’s Ridge, the campus, and rr-tracks south of town, while picking up Black Vulture, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, and Ruby-crowned Kinglet – and more.

Our 42 observers included: Warren Abrahamson, Steve Anderson, Brent Bacon, Morgan Benowitz-Fredericks, Kay Cramer, Francesca Ferguson, Betsy Fickes, Roy Fontaine, Kerry Givens, Geoff Goodenow, Bob Gutheinz, David Hafer, Robert Hazard, Matthew Heintzelman, Galen & Bonnie Ingram, Deepak Iyer, Kevin & Johanna Klinger, Jill Largent, Jim & Diane Lengle, Bill Malone, Barbara Martin, Jen Mattive, Rebecca Meyers, Jack McCann, Larry McGraw, Michael McGuire, Wayne McDiffett, Mike Molesevich, Dianne Muchant, Allen & Joanne Schweinsberg, Lauri Shaffer, Joe Southerton, Steve Stanko, Logan Stenger, Craig Troup, Bill Tyler, Don Ulrich, and Tom Yannaccone.

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| The results:Canada Goose 388Tundra Swan 1Mute Swan 2Wood Duck 1Gadwall 1 |

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| American Black Duck 6 |
| Mallard 419Bufflehead 1Common Goldeneye 2Hooded Merganser 3 |
| Common Merganser 36Ring-necked Pheasant 2 |
| Ruffed Grouse 1Wild Turkey 7Great Blue Heron 8Black Vulture 2Turkey Vulture 4 |
| Bald Eagle 19 |
| Northern Harrier 2 |
| Sharp-shinned Hawk 1 |
| Cooper’s Hawk 6 |
| *Accipiter sp.* 1Red-tailed Hawk 72 |

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| Ring-billed Gull 200Herring Gull 1 |
| Rock Pigeon 408 |
| Mourning Dove 252 |
| Screech Owl 16 |
| Great Horned Owl 1Barred Owl 1 |
| Belted Kingfisher 6Red-headed Woodpecker 6 |
| Red-bellied Woodpecker 66 Yellow-bellied Sapsucker 2 |
| Downy Woodpecker 68 |
| Hairy Woodpecker 9 |
| Northern Flicker 11 |
| Pileated Woodpecker 11American Kestrel 34Merlin 1Peregrine Falcon 1 |
| Blue Jay 83 |
| American Crow 237 |
| Common Raven 38Horned Lark 3Black-capped Chickadee 59Tufted Titmouse 47Red-breasted Nuthatch 4White-breasted Nuthatch 70 |
| Brown Creeper 7Golden-crowned Kinglet 10Ruby-crowned Kinglet 2Carolina Wren 57Winter Wren 1Eastern Bluebird 64Hermit Thrush 2 |
| American Robin 2 |
| Northern Mockingbird 14 |
| European Starling 6028Cedar Waxwing 20 |
| American Tree Sparrow 23Fox Sparrow 1 |
| Song Sparrow 47 |
| White-throated Sparrow 215 |
| White-crowned Sparrow 7 |
| Dark-eyed Junco 360 |
| Northern Cardinal 128Brown-headed Cowbird 65House Finch 103American Goldfinch 82House Sparrow 179 |