

Bronx-Westchester Christmas Bird Count

December 26, 1993

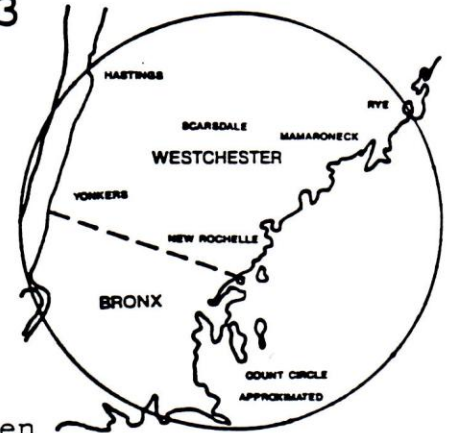
The 70th Bronx-Westchester Christmas Bird Count recorded 108 species and 49,143 birds.

It was a brutally cold and windy day, which was probable responsible for the low number of species, the lowest since 1983's 107 species.

Despite the weather a new species was seen. Surprisingly it was not found in Hastings or



Yonkers but in Riverdale Park, Bronx where a **Wild Turkey** hen was found. As one person was quoted as saying, "Its probable been 300 years since this species has occurred in New York City!"



Other Highlights included the return of both the **Lesser Black-backed Gull** and **Tufted Duck** in Rye. The Lesser Black-backed Gull was the 8th straight year we've had this species, and the 12th time in 14 years. It was the second year for the Tufted Duck (and third winter). **Common Redpolls** were seen at a number of locations, last seen in 1986. And the first **Sora** since 1962 was also found in Rye.

5 **Virginia Rails** were seen, and although not a record high its the highest since 1962. Another **Chipping Sparrow** was seen, its the 22nd time for the count and the 4th time in 6 years.

New high counts were for **Lesser Scaup** (310), **Hooded Merganser** (176), **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** (15), **American Robin** (306), **Northern Cardinal** (430), and tied for high count **Northern Goshawk** (3). **Hairy Woodpecker** hit a 30 year high of 45, highest since they peaked back in the begining of the sixties, 142 in 1961 and 72 in 1963.

On the down side, we missed **Purple Finch**, last missed in 1970 and only the 5th time missed in 70 years!. We almost missed **American Kestrel** with only two seen!, this tied the low record for the count from the counts first year (1924). Thanks to a late report one **Northern Harrier** was seen, it was last missed in 1979. Only 15 **Ring-necked Pheasants** were seen, lowest since last missed in 1929. The good news is that we hit a 55 year low for **Herring Gull** and missed **Brown-headed Cowbird**.

The most interesting non-avian sighting goes to Scarsdale where a **Coyote** was found at the leaf composting area.

Thanks to the 63 plus participants and the 25 who showed up for the compilation dinner, this year held at Colosseo Di Roma Restaurant in Mt. Vernon. For those who missed it I received nothing but good reports about the restaurant!

Due to Christmas Eve and Christmas Day falling on a Saturday and a Sunday in 1994, Next Year's count will be held on **MONDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1994**. This is an official holiday for most so I hope I can see all of you on next year's count. Have a Happy New Year!



coyote

Michael Bochnik

1993 Bronx/West. Count

Species	Hud. Val.	Yonkers	W. Bronx	E. Bronx	Scarsdale	Rye	TOTALS
Red-throated Loon						3	3
Common Loon						1	1
Pied-billed Grebe		1			1	2	4
Horned Grebe				25	2	3	30
Great Cormorant	1			12	6	39	58
Double-C. Cormorant				9	2	1	12
Great Blue Heron		5	2	5	1	36	49
Black-crowned N. Heron		1		2	2		5
Mute Swan		2	4	51	81	90	228
Snow Goose (white form)	5	1			2		8
Brant				CW	31	2	33
Canada Goose	151	1138	726	1099	3610	605	7329
Wood Duck			53		5		58
Green-winged Teal (Am.)	3	6	9		12	12	42
American Black Duck	9	6	62	628	229	338	1272
Mallard	129	226	906	631	748	374	3014
Mallard hybrid		2	7		1	6	16
N. Pintail	2			1		6	9
N. Shoveler		16	57		1		74
Gadwall				27		2	29
American Widgeon				67	49	58	174
Canvasback	2	1	15	345	50	381	794
Redhead						3	3
Greater Scaup				1023	10	4837	5870
Lesser Scaup				60		250	310
Oldsquaw						31	31
Common Goldeneye				30	1	84	115
Bufflehead		1	1	592	144	152	890
Hooded Merganser		36	18	34	66	22	176
Common Merganser	2	16					18
Red-breasted Merganser				137	136	99	372
Ruddy Duck		140		750	303	CW	1193
N. Harrier				1			1
Sharp-shinned Hawk		2	2			3	7
Coopers Hawk	1		1	3	1	1	7
N. Goshawk			2			1	3
Red-shouldered Hawk				2		1	3
Red-tailed Hawk	11	8	20	18	24	7	88
Rough-legged Hawk							
American Kestrel			2				2
Ring-necked Pheasant			3	8	2	2	15
Ruffed Grouse							
Clapper Rail							
Virginia Rail			2			3	5
American Coot					31		31
Killdeer		1		6	10	14	31
Greater Yellowlegs						3	3
Ruddy Turnstone							
Purple Sandpiper					7	10	17
Dunlin						23	23
Common Snipe							
American Woodcock						2	2
Laughing Gull							
Bonapartes Gull				6		53	59
Ring-billed Gull	197	643	1144	1831	1563	714	6092
Herring Gull	21	27	166	841	806	440	2301
Great Black-backed Gull	24	4	14	64	9	59	174
Rock Dove	51	233	547	330	312	165	1638
Mourning Dove	157	83	249	49	115	73	726
Screech Owl						4	4
Great Horned Owl		1	1	2	2	3	9
Short-eared Owl							
Belted Kingfisher	1	1	4	1	6	5	18
Red-bellied Woodpecker	12	9	15	10	16	11	73
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	3	1	6	1	3	1	15
Downy Woodpecker	25	21	42	19	36	16	159
Hairy Woodpecker	6	4	10	4	11	10	45
Northern Flicker	2	5	3		2	11	23
Pileated Woodpecker	2						2
Horned Lark							

1993 Bronx/West. Count

Species	Hud. Val.	Yonkers	W. Bronx	E. Bronx	Scarsdale	Rye	TOTALS
Blue Jay	73	64	129	66	53	54	439
American Crow	138	188	392	243	390	150	1501
Fish Crow						CW	CW
Black-capped Chickadee	100	117	185	178	194	198	972
Tufted Titmouse	32	33	73	12	98	56	304
Red-breasted Nuthatch	1		4	1	3	4	13
White-breasted Nuthatch	21	25	32	15	21	34	148
Brown Creeper		1	1			2	4
Carolina Wren	16	6	6	5	4	28	65
Winter Wren	4	2	1	1		3	11
Marsh Wren							
Golden-crowned Kinglet						1	1
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	1					1	2
Hermit Thrush	1	1	2	1		4	9
American Robin	1	60	81	35	15	114	306
Gray Catbird	5	3	2	2		9	21
N. Mockingbird	10	36	47	8	15	18	134
Brown Thrasher			1			1	2
Water Pipit							
Cedar Waxwing	8		42	23	7	3	83
European Starling	335	670	795	417	739	509	3465
Yellow-rumped Warbler						1	1
N. Cardinal	69	79	122	41	51	68	430
Rufouse Sided Towhee	1	1		1		2	5
American Tree Sparrow		18	11	97	1	46	173
Field Sparrow		2					2
Savannah Sparrow				2			2
Fox Sparrow	2	1	5	9	9	2	28
Song Sparrow	45	58	70	77	88	196	534
Swamp Sparrow			2	4		7	13
White-throated Sparrow	135	185	503	462	249	457	1991
White-crowned Sparrow							
Dark-eyed Junco	33	140	229	27	460	120	1009
Snow Bunting							
Red-winged Blackbird	18	1	65	1		2	87
Eastern Meadowlark				1			1
Rusty Blackbird							
Common Grackle	1	35					36
Brown-headed Cowbird							
Purple Finch							
House Finch	143	279	121	39	199	575	1356
Pine Siskin						16	16
American Goldfinch	52	89	50	61	44	30	326
Evening Grosbeak							
House Sparrow	104	507	580	178	254	201	1824

Uncommon Species	Hud. Val.	Yonkers	W. Bronx	E. Bronx	Scarsdale	Rye	TOTALS
cormorant, sp.	3						3
Ring-necked Duck		2				CW	2
Tufted Duck						1	1
Sora						1	1
Lesser Black-backed Gull						1	1
Barred Owl					1		1
Eastern Bluebird		1					1
Yellow-breasted Chat			CW				CW
Common Yellowthroat						1	1
Chipping Sparrow						1	1
Sharp-tailed Sparrow						1	1
Common Redpoll			4	7	2	6	19

New Species	Hud. Val.	Yonkers	W. Bronx	E. Bronx	Scarsdale	Rye	TOTALS
Wild Turkey			1				1

	Hud. Val.	Yonkers	W. Bronx	E. Bronx	Scarsdale	Rye	TOTALS
TOTALS	2169	5245	7649	10738	11350	11992	49143
# of Species	49	58	59	67	64	89	108
# of Saves	1	3	2	3	3	18	