

every birder laments — where are the Gray Partridge in Illinois? Fifty-three Loggerhead Shrikes (in nine circles, all in southern Illinois) seems like a low count, but more continual data is needed to be sure. I don't know what to make of a solitary Western Meadowlark on the Union County count. It's my guess, and it's just a guess, that there are more Western Meadowlarks in winter in Illinois than perhaps we can identify. We should not assume that all winter meadowlarks are Easterns. What ever happened to Evening Grosbeaks? This species as well as Pine Grosbeak are fast becoming birds that stay to the north of us in winter, perhaps due to more bird feeding stations. Overall much more work needs to be done with low counts perhaps with histograms and "best fit lines" on a twenty-year line of data, looking at effort along with the affect of habitat and weather variables.

### Irruptive Species

The only inland Snowy Owls were individuals noted at Illini and a count week bird at Schapville. More easily detected were singletons along Lake Michigan at Chicago Lakefront and Waukegan. Red-breasted Nuthatches (444 in 50 circles) were scarce but still widespread. Eight Northern Shrikes (in four circles) was a reflection of that species staying farther north. Purple Finch (497 in 35 circles) were tough to find whereas House Finch (6,984 in 59 circles) were everywhere. Pine Siskin were recorded in small numbers with 572 individuals in 25 circles. In the rarer finch department Chautauqua had the only Red Crossbills — two. White-winged Crossbills were about as rare with thirty-three in three circles: Evanston (1), Springfield (7) and Crane Lake — Sangamon County (25). Clinton Lake recorded the only not-so-common Common Redpolls (4).

### No Counts

Finally, two birds that didn't count were Fermilab-Batavia's reported Yellow Grosbeak and Waukegan's Common Raven. Both were suspects of escapee, origin, and identification questions.

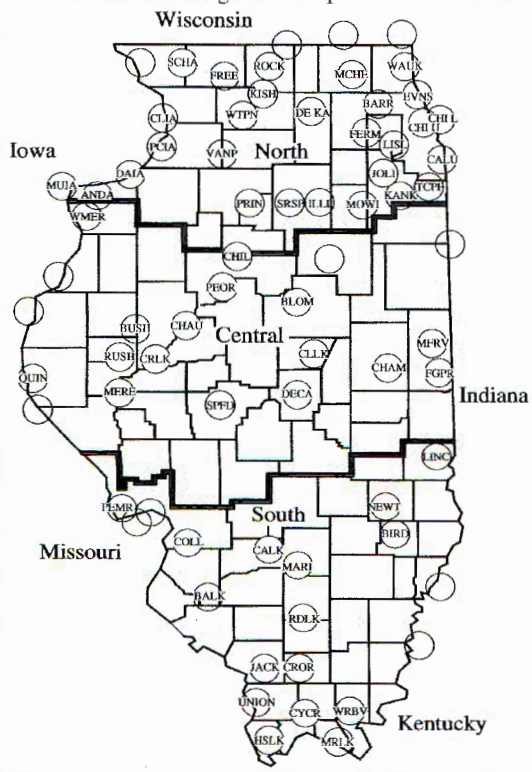
### Acknowledgments

Thanks to all compilers for their consistent effort getting field and feeder observers out and counting on this grand birding tradition! A special thank must go to the Illinois Ornithological Society and Illinois Audubon for publishing the data for the state count in its entirety in a tabular format. Researchers and biologists can contact me for this data in Microsoft EXCEL spreadsheet format. This has particular significance since the National Audubon Society now only has its CBC data available on-line through Bird Source and for the first time published its Christmas Bird Count with only summation narratives and other

articles (LeBaron 2002).

### 2001 CBC Count Circles

The empty circles did not report to the Illinois CBC. Some circles bordering Illinois report to other states.



### Key to Tables

Code	Description
cw	count <u>w</u> eek only (3 days before or after)
dd	<u>d</u> etails <u>d</u> esired
ed	<u>e</u> xcellent <u>d</u> etails
gd	<u>g</u> ood <u>d</u> etails
hc	<u>h</u> igh <u>c</u> ount for that circle
HC	All-time <u>H</u> igh <u>C</u> ount for the state
in IA	indicates bird(s) actually <u>i</u> n <u>I</u> owa
lc	<u>l</u> ow <u>c</u> ount
nc	<u>n</u> ew species to that circle's <u>c</u> ount
NC	<u>N</u> ew to state's <u>C</u> ount species list
nd	<u>n</u> o <u>d</u> etails
ps	<u>p</u> resent for <u>s</u> ome time
ph	<u>p</u> hotographed
qd	<u>q</u> uestionable <u>d</u> etails
rn	<u>r</u> emarkable <u>n</u> umber
rr	<u>r</u> emarkable <u>r</u> ecord
ud	<u>u</u> nconvincing <u>d</u> etails
*	<u>d</u> ocumented <u>s</u> pecies
<b>boldface</b>	species/number/item of note

### Corrigenda

Kankakee's ('00) 6 Greater White-fronted Geese were mis-identified Greylag Geese, an occasional identification mistake. The 1999 Collinsville count recorded a state CBC first California Gull. The 1994 Cypress Creek CBC count for LeConte's Sparrow should be 12, and the 1995 count for Common Grackle should be 6,895.

### Literature Cited

- Johnson, D. B. 2001. The 2000/2001 Illinois Christmas Bird Count. Meadowlark 10:97-108.
- LeBaron, G. S. 2002. The 102nd Christmas Bird Count 2001-2002. American Birds:1-112.

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