



## “The Great Protector”

Sue Bowman took this photo of her dog guarding an American Robin in her Kane County backyard 24 November 2009.

Her husband, Mark, heard a thud on his window and saw a robin on its back convulsing. Mark went to pick up the robin and rubbed his neck, then had to leave. Sue let their 35-pound American Eskimo, Hunter, outside, and Mark worried the dog might attack the robin.

Instead, Hunter looked at the bird, bent his head over, licked him and then sat down next to him. Hunter would not let anything near the bird. He sat there for two hours until the robin hopped into the yard with Hunter walking behind him, escorting him out.

The “Kane County Chronicle” featured Hunter in an article entitled, “The Great Protector.”

## Winter 2009-2010 Field Notes

### Greater White-fronted Goose

**MC:** 2450, MissR (Monroe Co), 20 Feb (CCD, PPD); 2386, Chau, 26 Feb (RGB, SNB); 2025 Ark, 27 Dec (KJM, JAS); 1300, Sang, 25 Jan (HDB); 605 & 13, ClintonL, 29 Jan & 22 Jan resp (MEF); 62, BraidwoodL, 26 Jan (JHH); 52, WinthropH, 24 Jan (EWW, JSS). **Others:** CarlL (2000), 20 Feb (DMK); *Clay and Richland* (1000), 27 Feb (CLH); PRKWA (800), 1 Jan (TJD); UCCA (600), 10 Jan (DMK, MSS); *Clark* (515), 21 Feb (CAT, TLK); CONWR (248), 20 Dec (CAT, TLK); RendL (225), 19 Dec (KAM); HLCA (441), 28 Dec (SDB, PAM); *Wayne* (211), 21 Feb (CAT, TLK); *Pulaski* (150), 28 Feb (KAM, MSS, DMK); Kennekuk CP (Vermilion Co) (58), 16 Dec (MJE); Kingdom (Lee Co) (43), 6 Feb (DTW, BCW); *Kankakee* (12), 24 Jan (JHH); LShel (12), 17 Jan (TAM); *McLean* (2), 19 Dec (MLPR, MH); IBSP (3), 24 Jan (JSS); Meredosial (Morgan Co), 14 Dec (SDB, MPW, TB); *Champaign*, 8 Feb (EWW).

### Snow Goose

**MC:** 500,000, CarlL, 20-21 Feb (DMK); 30,000, Ark, 27 Dec (KJM, JAS); 29,164, UCCA, 29 Dec (SDB, PAM); 200, *McLean*, 27 Dec (KAM). **Others:** BaldwinL (25,000), 29 Dec (TJD); MissR (Monroe Co) (19,506), 20 Feb (CCD, PPD); HLCA (18,300), 28 Dec (KJM, GL); Sang (10,000), 25 Jan (HDB); RendL (5052), 19 Dec (KAM); *Pulaski* (1500), 18 Jan (KAM); EForkL (1000), 21 Feb (CLH); *Wayne* (900), 21 Feb (CAT, TLK); CONWR (700), 18 Jan (KAM); *Pope* (318), 30 Jan (CAT); *Jasper* (236), 28 Jan (CAT). WinthropH (8), 24 Jan (EWW); Chau (7), 26 Feb (RGB, SNB); BraidwoodL (4), 28 Jan (JHH). Occurred in typical abundance at some traditional southern concentration sites, but other sites with typically large overwintering numbers experienced greatly reduced numbers.

### Ross's Goose

**MC:** 12, Sang, 18 Feb but also 12-15 Dec (ad) & 24 Dec (ad & imm) & 27 Jan (2) & 30 Jan (6, 5 white, 1 blue) (HDB); 12 & 7, UCCA, 31 Jan & 29 Dec (KAM & SDB, PAM resp); 10, CarlL, 6 Dec (DMK); 10, Ark, 27 Dec (KJM, JAS). **Others:** HLCA (6), 28 Dec (SDB, PAM); *Pulaski* (5), 18 Jan (KAM); RendL (2), 19 Dec (KAM); EForkL (2), 21 Feb (CLH); BraidwoodL, 18 Feb (JHH); SpoonL (Knox Co), 12-14 Dec (MJB, et al.); Warsaw (Adams Co), 7 Feb (MJB); BaldwinL, 26 Jan & 14 Feb (KAM); *Wayne*, 21 Feb (CAT, TLK).

### Cackling Goose

**MC:** 2100, EvergreenL (McLean/Woodford Cos), 19 Dec (MJW); 873, *McLean*, 19 Dec (MLPR, MH); 320, *Livingston*, 10 Dec (CAT); 200, UMRNWR, 5 Dec (BJS); 120, RendL, 19 Dec (CAT, TLK); 61, LRenwick Pr (Will Co), 12 Dec (DFS); 58, HLCA, 28 Dec (SDB, PAM); 40, PRSNA, 18 Dec (CLH); 34, *Kankakee*, 16 Dec (JHH); 22, ClintonL, 20 Dec (SDB, GSL, RK); 13, Lake Forest (Lake Co), 10 Dec (MF); 12, Shabbona L SP (De Kalb Co), 12 Dec (DJS). **Others:** Urbana (41), 19 Dec (SDB, GSL, RK); KLMSNA (37), 13 Feb (CCD, PPD); *Ford* (25), 26 Dec (MLPR, MH); StarvedRock (20), 27 Dec (MJW, Thr); CONWR (20), 20 Dec (KAM, MSS, RSR, SJ); BraidwoodL (18), 15 Dec (JHH); Spfld (15), 18 Dec (KAM); Vermilion (15), 16 Dec (MPW, et al.); Chau (13), 4 Dec (RGB, SNB); UCCA (12), 29 Dec (KJM, VMK, BJS); *McDonough* (11), 19 Dec (LLH); CarlL (10), 9 Jan (DMK, MSS); Beall Wds SP (Wabash Co) (9), 20 Dec (CLH); LShel (7), 2 Jan (CAT, TLK); MermetL (6), 31 Dec (KJM); BaldwinL (6), 13 Feb (MT); *Cumberland* (5), 18 Dec (CAT, TLK); LMurphy SP (5), 1 Jan (KJM, MG); *Washington* (3), 28 Feb (KAM, MSS, DMK); WinthropH, 12 Dec (EWW).

### Canada Goose

**MC:** 35,800, LRenwick Pr (Will Co), 12 Dec (DFS); 14,900, BraidwoodL, 1 Feb (JHH); 10,000, CarlL, 17 Jan (DMK, MSS); 10,000, Sang, 31 Jan (HDB); 10,000, *Edgar*, 8 Feb (EWW); 6744, ClintonL, 29 Jan (MEF); 5200, Lake Villa (Lake Co), 14 Dec (RB); 5000, Fox R (Kendall Co), 16 Dec (DJS); 4300, *Clark*, 21 Feb (CAT, TLK). **Others:** LShel (7000), 2 Jan (SDB, SLD); Spfld (5000), 21 Feb (KAM); Chau (4331), 26 Feb (RGB, SNB); *Ford* (3500), 26 Dec (MLPR, MH); *Will and Grundy* (3000), 19 Feb (KAM); EForkL (3000), 20-21 Feb (CLH); *McLean* (2780), 19 Dec (MLPR, MH); *Vermilion* (2769), 16 Dec (SDB, et al.); *Wayne* (Du Page Co) (2185), 19 Dec (GAW, CLW); KLMSNA (1879), 13 Feb (CCD, PPD); *Kane* (1674), 6 Feb (CAT); Urbana (1650), 19 Dec (SDB, GSL, RK); WinthropH (1040), 24 Dec (EWW); RendL (1000), 18 Jan (KAM); *Alexander* (935), 28 Dec (SDB, PAM); CONWR (922), 20 Dec (KAM, MSS, RSR, SJ); QC (914), 20 Dec (KJM, SBH, m.ob.); UCCA (800), 10 Jan (DMK, MSS); Chi (690), 25 Dec (KJM, JRG, m.ob.); *Wayne* (580), 21 Feb (CAT, TLK); *Saline* (563), 31 Jan (CAT); *Rock Island* (552), 4 Jan (TM, WZ, m.ob.).