CHIP NOTES

The newsletter of the Baltimore Bird Club

December 1997/January 1998 - Online Edition

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In the Shadows

by Frances Hill

Yes, it's that time of year again, and along with all of the other Holiday preparations, don't forget those very special occasions which also occur only this time of year: **Christmas Count and the Mid-Winter Count**.

Our Christmas Count will be held on Saturday, December 20, 1997 (in case you wait to the Saturday before Christmas). If you can't make it all day, feel free to join us for a few hours, starting as early as 6 a.m. (not counting 6:5 a.m.Diamond-back terrapins) and as late as 6 p.m. Weather was 19 degrees, and the weather details in years past show that anything can happen at this time of year. Dress for the occasion, bring your binoculars, and plan on a great time!

Bird Counts are scrupulous about documented records backing the population trends of wintering birds in our area and throughout the U.S. and being so interesting the changing health of our environment. The Mid-Winter Count also flies by with the Map Count and the new Atlas Project underway, we need to be out there to see what birds are in our area, and what they are doing, and what they are eating, and where they are doing it.

The Catoptrite for both of the Christ. Counts this year will again be free, this time, **only** by email (hillsf@mail.bcpl.lib.md.us). Please contact me to consider, which version you will cover.

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BBC Winter Counts - 1997

by Pete Webb

Christmas Count, Jan. 1, 1997: On Saturday, There were 30 observers in 27 groups in the field, averaging 19 miles combined and 6 hours of effort per observer, starting as early as 6 a.m. (not counting 6:5 combined-house owling) and as late as 6 p.m. Weather was 19 degrees, with light snow and high winds. Observers and logistical support for 3 more participants.

Bird Counts are scrupulous about documented records backing the population trends of wintering birds in our area and throughout the U.S. and being so interesting the changing health of our environment. The Mid-Winter Count also flies by with the Map Count and the new Atlas Project underway, we need to be out there to see what birds are in our area, and what they are doing, and what they are eating, and where they are doing it.

SPECIES	TOTAL	PREV. HIGH	YEAR
Canada Goose	1	1	1
Red-tailed Hawk	1	1	1
Ring-billed Gull	1	1	1
Rock Dove	1	1	1
Mourning Dove	1	1	1
Eastern Screech-Owl	1	1	1
Great Horned Owl	1	1	1
Barred Owl	1	1	1
Belted Kingfisher	1	1	1
Downy Woodpecker	1	1	1
Hairy Woodpecker	1	1	1
Northern Flicker	1	1	1
Pileated Woodpecker	1	1	1
Blue Jay	1	1	1
American Crow	1	1	1
Fish Crow	1	1	1
Carolina Chickadee	1	1	1
Tufted Titmouse	1	1	1
White-breasted Nuthatch	1	1	1
Brown Creeper	1	1	1
Carolina Wren	1	1	1
Winter Wren	1	1	1
Golden-crowned Kinglet	1	1	1
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	1	1	1
Eastern Bluebird	1	1	1
American Robin	1	1	1
Hermit Thrush	1	1	1
Northern Mockingbird	1	1	1
European Starling	1	1	1
Cedar Waxwing	1	1	1
Yellow-rumped Warbler (Myrtle)	1	1	1
Eastern Towhee	1	1	1
Dark-eyed Junco	1	1	1
Tree Sparrow	1	1	1
Fox Sparrow	1	1	1
Song Sparrow	1	1	1
Swamp Sparrow	1	1	1
White-throated Sparrow	1	1	1
White-crowned Sparrow	1	1	1
Northern Cardinal	1	1	1
Red-winged Blackbird	1	1	1
Eastern Meadowlark	1	1	1
Rusty Blackbird	1	1	1
Brown-headed Cowbird	1	1	1
Purple Finch	1	1	1
House Finch	1	1	1
American Goldfinch	1	1	1
House Sparrow	1	1	1
Ring-billed Gull (Delaware)	1	1	1
Red-winged Blackbird (Delaware)	1	1	1
Eastern Bluebird (Delaware)	1	1	1
Tree Swallow (Delaware)	1	1	1
Brown Thrasher (Delaware)	1	1	1
Grasshopper Sparrow (Delaware)	1	1	1
Total	30		

Winter Count Notes

Canada Goose - **Grand Cormorant** - under Delaware?, Southwest and Ocean Beach is underestimated, Ocean Beach is underestimated, Ocean Beach is underestimated,