

2016

*Amos Butler
Audubon Society*

BIRDATHON REPORT



*The Wood Thrush
is one of 40 neotropical
migrants that winters in the
Sierra Santa Cruz
in Guatemala*

*Photo by Ed Schneider courtesy of
the American Bird Conservancy*

Thank You for Sponsoring the 2016 Birdathon

Thanks to generous donors like you, another successful Birdathon is benefitting the birds of Central Indiana. While this was not a banner year, you enabled us to raise the Birdathon bucks necessary to fund all of our grant requests. Our grand total of donations and carryover funds amounted to an impressive \$33,560. But even more impressive, since 1987 the Birdathon has donated a total of \$680,706!

Why Your Donations Are So Important

Our long partnership with the American Bird Conservancy has produced some significant achievements, including the completion last year of the Cerulean Warbler Corridor in Colombia. This year we embarked on an exciting new project with a pressing need — acquiring a 556-acre parcel of land in Guatemala. The Sierra Cruz is in urgent need of protection because of a recently built illegal road that allows poachers and loggers access. The parcel provides high-quality winter and stopover habitat for at least 40 species of Neotropical migrants.

Closer to home, valuable data is being gathered on two vulnerable warbler species. Purdue University is conducting a research project on the Worm-eating Warbler, listed as a species of special concern in Indiana. Ball State's project is on the Cerulean Warbler, listed as state endangered. Research data will be used to develop forest management practices benefitting these warblers.

The Indiana Raptor Center will purchase testing equipment to detect the presence of lead in wild raptors. A raptor center in Illinois has found high levels in one out of every three Cooper's Hawks tested.

Community outreach is another important tool for educating the public about the importance of birds. Several of our grant recipients are fulfilling this goal. Central Indiana Land Trust will establish a bird-banding station at Oliver Woods. Marian University continues its habitat restoration at the EcoLab, involving hundreds of volunteers. Keep Indianapolis Beautiful's Springdale Greenspace at the Nowland Oak will transform a vacant lot into community greenspace. Finally, the Jameson Camp will be able to create a hummingbird garden and expand its environmental education program.

Our Teams Have Worked Hard to Raise Birdathon Bucks

We are especially proud of our Birdathon team fundraising champs. Another team set a new species count record. Be sure to read their enlightening Big Day reports.

A sincere thank you to all of our Birdathon sponsors from Donna McCarty, Birdathon Chair; members of the Birdathon committee; and the board of directors of the Amos Butler Audubon Society.

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Volunteers who raised Birdathon donations of:

\$1,000 or more	\$500 to \$999	\$100 to \$499	
Lee Casebere	Roger Hedge	Mike & Linda Bishop	Ryan Sanderson John Schaust
Mary Ellen Gadski	Amanda Smith	Kevin Carlsen	Spike Selig
Cloyce Hedge	Keith Starling	Brian Cunningham	Doug Sherow
Donna McCarty	Laurie Voss	Jason Goldsmith	Nancy Tikijan
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Special Contributors:

*Pete Drum, Birdathon Database Curator
Mary Ellen Gadski, International Projects Coordinator
Barbara Jablonski, Silent Auction Coordinator
Don McCarty, Birdathon Treasurer
Bill Murphy, Report Editor
Melissa Upchurch, Birdathon Gift Bag Coordinator*

#1 Fundraising Champs: Bud & Carl's Legacy Team



Team members (l-r): Janet Tuten, Keith Starling, Amanda Smith, Marty Williams

A New Team High Species Count


by Keith Starling

Bud & Carl's Legacy Team left Indy at 3:00 a.m. on May 11th, already down one member. Jerry Williams had to watch and cheer from the sidelines because of an injury.

As in previous years, we headed south. First stop was Green-Sullivan State Forest for the morning chorus. That first hour is fast and furious, and it's somewhat hard to separate all those birds singing at once. We aren't even looking for birds. We are all staring at the ground, trying to concentrate and filter the birdsong as we are being blasted from all directions. One bird who insisted on being both heard and seen was the Chuck-will's-widow, who did a quick fly-by to check us out.

From Green-Sullivan, we headed to Goose Pond and Bee Hunter Marsh, birding as we drove. We stopped to check out a White-crowned Sparrow. We apparently startled an American Bittern, who popped up in the ditch right beside the car. What luck that it showed itself! A rousing cheer went up, much too loud for the bittern. He took his leave from us, carrying a frog in his mouth. While we were at Goose Pond, a conservation officer stopped by to tell us that there was a Glossy Ibis in the neighborhood. As we turned around to chat, we caught a view of our only Bald Eagle, flying in the background. We never found the ibis, but Goose Pond provided us with some great shorebirds, including a Hudsonian Godwit.

We hit Morgan-Monroe State Forest, where we heard several Worm-eating Warblers but saw none, to Janet's ("It doesn't count on my life list until I see it") chagrin. For lunch, we took a group selfie of ourselves eating chicken sandwiches to fulfill a challenge from one of our generous donors. We got \$20 for that photo!

Back at Eagle Creek, we picked up some surprisingly late ducks, and were able to add White Pelicans and a Black Tern. Our official total was 152, a new Legacy Team record. We probably could have gotten a few more species, but a thunderstorm raced in and cut us off a little early. A big thank you goes out to all of our generous donors and family members who support us on this Big Day. Good Day, Good Birds, Good Friends — can't wait to do it again! 

#2 Fundraising Champs: Noddy Little Gulls



Team members (l-r): April Sterling, Lou Anne Barriger, Laurie Voss, Kathy Feldman

Blown Away on Our Big Day

By Laurie Voss


The Noddy Little Gulls were blown away this year — literally. We picked one of the coldest days in May to do our Birdathon adventure. Beginning at Lake Michigan, we did not have a Plan B. The combination of 35-40° temperatures and wind gusts up to 40 mph made for a challenging day. But the Noddy Little Gulls are a hardy bunch.

We began before sunup in the Dunes State Park to look for owls and Eastern Whip-poor-wills, but those birds decided it was too cold. We then traveled to Michigan City beach and lighthouse in search of gulls and waterfowl. Here we were met with 40 mph gusts off of the lake that carried the sand sideways into our faces, eyes, mouths, and optics. Walking to the jetty we picked up four species while hiding behind some concrete to block the wind.

Back to the woods to find our songbirds at Dunes State Park, then we went on to Cowles Bog. We were there for the Snowy Egret but ran into a bonanza of warblers who knew how to get out of the wind by staying behind the hill. It was there we picked up the majority of our 26 species of warblers, including excellent looks at beautiful Mourning and Golden-winged Warblers.

We made several more stops in Lake County before heading south to Kankakee Sands. The wind on the prairie kept many of the "given" birds hunkered down, but we did get Vesper and Lark Sparrows.

Leaving Kankakee Sands, the sun was beginning to sink, and we were still quite short of our goal. We needed a spot where we could pick up a multitude of birds and found it at Pine Creek Gamebird Habitat Area. Here we found a wonderful shorebird spot that yielded American Avocet and a totally unexpected Wilson's Phalarope.

We "gulls" feel privileged to go out and spend one day each year looking at the birds we love to help raise funds for the many programs the Birdathon sponsors. We are honored by the support and donations we received from the many people who sponsor us, and we thank them for their generosity. We can't wait to see what next year brings. 

#3 Fundraising Champs: DNR Team



Team members (l-r): Cloyce Hedge, Lee Casebere, Roger Hedge


Marking Its 20th Anniversary

by Lee Casebere

May 9th was count day, and I'll just say that we've had much better days. Our ending number was 135 species, which is certainly less than normal, and much less than our best. The temperature started out in 50s and stayed there all day. We never saw the sun at all. Although the nighttime and early morning hours were very calm, by midday it became very windy and never let up the rest of the day. Even during the calm times in the early parts of the day, birds were uncharacteristically quiet, a big disadvantage to a team that birds largely by ear.

Our hopes were high this year since we returned to north-west Indiana, where we've had our best luck through the years. But everywhere we went, birds were fewer and quieter than normal. Usually a highlight is birding Beverly Shores Drive shortly after daybreak. Typically a cacophony of birdsong with excellent birding for miles, it turned out to be a pathetic dud! After lackluster birding at sites near Lake Michigan for much of the day, we headed to the Kankakee Sands and Willow Slough area, where we expected to pick up a hit list of over 25 such birds but managed to pick up fewer than half.

We missed both expected territorial breeders and migrant passerines. There were highlights, though, like an Avocet at Kingsbury F&W Area. We did great with diurnal raptors at 11 species, but somehow managed to miss Red-shouldered Hawk! Warblers were okay with 20 species, and we had 11 species of shorebirds. Waterfowl numbers were poor at only 6 species, and flycatchers were terrible with just 3 species.

This year's Birdathon marked a significant milestone for the DNR Team — the 20th anniversary of the team. It's been an enjoyable 20 years, with many highlights to offset the lows. Throughout the entire time, we've had a great cadre of donors supporting this worthwhile fundraising event. A big thank you to all of our past and present donors! We truly appreciate the support! 



Wren's Warblers Perfect Bald Eagle Views

by Melissa Upchurch

Team members: (back row) Noah Fitzgerald, Caroline Rickleff, Madi Medley, Lilly Medley (front row) Presley Hill, Wren Upchurch, June Rickleff

The Warblers set out on a sunny May 22nd morning within Eagle Creek Park, where they had a successful day of seeing 50 species. The Warblers walked the Coffey Dam trail with a bonus walk around the new interpretive trail to see if they could find the Red-shouldered Hawk nest. They finished the day and completed their count with a picnic lunch at the Ornithology Center. Naturally, the highlight for all were the perfect views of a juvenile Bald Eagle flying low along the banks of the reservoir. Wren would like to give a big THANK YOU to her Warblers and to all who donated to the cause. 🐦



EcoLab Team Our Quest to Reach 80

by Dave Benson

Team members (l-r): Stephanie Schuck, Randy Patrick, Dave Benson. Deb Patick, Chandler Roberts

We started around 5 p.m. searching the Marian University Nina Mason Pulliam EcoLab, hoping to pick up a few migrants before they left that evening. It was a nice evening for a walk. But no migrants at all were found. So before dawn the following morning, we started with Common Nighthawk and Great Horned Owl. At sunup we encountered a few singing warblers here and there, not a great many, but we were picking off needed species one by one on our quest to reach 80 for the property. We went over to the Lake Sullivan and Indy Cycloplex area and picked up Cliff Swallow and Spotted Sandpiper. Then to the upper campus of Marian University, to the Japanese Tea Garden, where we picked up American Redstart, White-crowned Sparrow, Least Flycatcher, and the elusive House Sparrow. At this point we were at 77 species, just three to go! With one last-ditch effort to find species in the EcoLab, Stephanie found a Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Randy found us a good view of a Broad-winged Hawk, and Paul found our nemesis bird, American Crow. Eighty species is pretty good for a small property near downtown Indianapolis! It was a fun year, and we thank our donors for their continued support. 🐦



Chuck Benson



Dave Benson

Carbon Neutral Birding by Bike with and without Chuck

by Dave Benson

This year I decided to test the hypothesis that I see fewer species with my carbon neutral teammate and brother, Chuck, than without him. To do so I went out twice. The first time, although I'd planned to go out starting about 4 p.m. on Monday, it was raining, so Chuck talked me into staying inside and watching for birds out the window. Thus I started on Tuesday morning with a whopping three species under my belt. But what an amazing morning it was!

It was cold but with a strong north wind keeping the migrants in the trees. I encountered several flocks containing multiple Golden-winged Warblers, Blue-headed Vireos, and one Black-billed Cuckoo. Chuck joined me a few hours later, and we continued on to the Scott Starling Sanctuary, the Maloney wetland (gone!), and my American Kestrel/Vesper Sparrow spot (no longer). After 60 miles on the bike, we missed nearly everything we were going for, including the Red-headed Woodpecker scouted out the day before, and ended with 102 species for the day. Pretty poor considering how great the morning was. I blamed my brother.

Two days later I went out again, starting in the evening at Scott Starling, where I had great success with residents including Henslow's Sparrow, Yellow-breasted Chat, and even Barred Owl. On my ride home that evening I happened upon American Woodcock "peenting" and doing their flight display in a wet field. Starting at 76 species, I got on the road at 5 a.m. the next morning and picked up Common Nighthawk and Great Horned Owl before dawn. Then the new bird acquisitions stopped. The migrants just weren't there. I found several "bonus" species that I don't often get, like Green Heron, but had a terrible time with the migrant warblers and vireos. And I had no one to commiserate with and make fun of me, like my brother normally does. By noon I had my obligatory flat tire. Normally my brother fixes these while I continue to bird. Then the death-defying bike ride along 56th Street to Raceway and the long ride into the wind and back home without my brother leading the way, breaking through the wind to give me a draft. Then beer and queso at Rodeo, but I had to pay rather than my brother, who always picks up the tab. So although I ended up with 113 species and fewer Purple-crested Thrushbeaters without him, it's just not worth it. We are a team for now and forever! Thanks for the support of our faithful donors. 🐦

A New Species Count Record: Team Wild Birds Unlimited



Team members (l-r): Rob Ripma, John Schaust, Brian Cunningham, Amy Hodson

Lakeshore to Goose Pond 2.0

by John Schaust

What a fun day for Team Wild Birds Unlimited! Despite almost 22 hours of continuous birding, fueled by only three hours of sleep, our team had one of those rare days when everything comes together: the preparation, timing, weather, traveling, abundant birds, and lots of luck created an unforgettable Big Day Birdathon experience.

After our record-setting run two years ago, we figured that the odds of us pulling off this type of extreme effort in the future was probably slim to none. But lesson learned — never underestimate your teammates!

Amy Hodson, Brian Cunningham, and Rob Ripma took charge and convinced the "senior" team member, John Schaust, that the stars would align for another Big Day attempt. And align they did. On Saturday, May 21st, we tallied our first bird, an American Woodcock, after midnight at Kingsbury FWA, and we ended at around 10 p.m. in Greene County, where we added an Eastern Whip-poor-will as our 184th species of the day!

In between those two birds, we drove hundreds of miles, submitted 16 eBird reports, and had a snorting good time! Our team joined together like a well-oiled machine for one of the top birding days that we are likely to ever have — and we truly had a blast doing it!

A special thank you to all of our sponsors. We truly appreciate your support for our team and for the important projects being funded by the Birdathon. We would also like to thank our families, friends, and especially Wild Birds Unlimited for making our Big Day possible through their generous support. 🐦



Team members: (top row) Tim Johnson, George Wilson, (bottom row) Karen LaMere, Betsy Wilson

TKGB Spying on Species

by Betsy Wilson

TKGB wishes to thank our many loyal sponsors who sent us on a mission to spend 24 hours spying on as many bird species as we could find from our car and boardwalks. Our Big Day began at noon in Noblesville,

watching Barn Swallows and Chimney Swifts circling overhead. We headed to Central Park's boardwalk in Hamilton County for several sparrows and woodland birds. Then it was off to Pines Hills in Benton County for our "bird of the day," a female Bobwhite who was visiting her favorite roadside spa to preen for over 10 minutes so we could admire her feathers. A few shorebirds, a Ring-necked Pheasant, and a Wood Duck were added to the list. Then we drove north to Beverly Shores to a cottage generously donated by the children of one of our sponsors. The wetland there yielded Sandhill Cranes on one side of the road and displaying Great Egrets on the other side. The next morning TKGB headed to Indiana Dunes State Park for more woodland birds, gulls, and a very cooperative Prothonotary Warbler. We ended our quest in Grant Marsh looking for a Yellow-headed Blackbird, who failed to show up. In spite of missing a few common birds like Red-tailed Hawks, as well as a Green Heron who flew over a few minutes after out time was up, we saw 74 species of birds. 🐦

Team SeWiEd Friday the 13th, Our Lucky Day

Team members: Jonathan Bontrager, Jason Goldsmith, Spike Selig, Richard Wiesler

by Richard Wiesler

Spike Selig and I had been slightly acquainted for a few years. Donna knew that we wanted to be on a Birdathon team and suggested we form one. The first two letters in the three words of "Selig-Wiesler Edition" spell SEWIED, pronounced as "Seaweed". Over a few Sunday mornings at Eagle Creek, we were impressed with the skill, attitude, and disposition of Jason and Jonathan, neither well known by Spike or me, who rounded out our foursome.

I was the only one who had done Big Days and Birdathons before. I'd done many since 1977 and cautioned the group that this wasn't to be a lot of fun with a few birds, but a little bit of fun with many birds.

The lucky day of Friday the Thirteenth was chosen. It was beautiful and warm with a slight breeze from the north. Few birds had arrived overnight. Most remained hunkered down, quiet and peaceful, for most of the day.

We didn't move a lot, either. We covered a lot of ground at a few sites, but we didn't cover many sites. I found that my hearing above 2 kHz had become even worse than I'd thought, so I couldn't contribute as much as I expected. All three of our Mourning Warblers were team efforts, with all four members contributing to our species total.

After Jason had to leave, Jonathan and I had a dazzling look at a Short-billed Dowitcher — our bird of the day.

I wanted to make it a great Birdathon day, but was disappointed. When I put aside that drive and accepted that it was a great day for good birding with fine people, all new friends, I enjoyed it quite a lot. And, Jonathan got his first birding century! 🐦



Team members (l-r): Ryan Sanderson, Nick Kiehl, Aidan Rominger, Ryan Hamilton, Mike Maxwell, Sarah Fowler.

The Horned Grebes Close to Breaking the Record

by Ryan Sanderson

The Horned Grebes (made of a core of birders formerly of the UIndy team) had a very successful 2016 Birdathon, ending up seeing 181

species on May 14-15. We thought we were going to break the Birdathon record for the year but missed 5-6 species of birds at the Grant Street Wetlands that we typically get after the recent habitat change. Our highlights were a breeding plumaged American Avocet at Pine Creek Gamebird Habitat Area and a Barn Owl circling overhead for several minutes in the middle of the night at an undisclosed location. We had three staked-out species that were no-shows on our Big Day as well (Great Horned Owl, Pine Siskin, and Neotropical Cormorant). Our biggest misses for the year were Wild Turkey, Northern Mockingbird, and Blue Grosbeak.

We would like to thank all of our sponsors for helping to make this our most successful year yet! 🐦

Team Bishop Packing Lunch and Logging Birds

by Mike Bishop



Team members: Mike and Linda Bishop

Based on weather forecasts we decided to try the early date of May 6th. Armed with a cooler full of sandwiches, drinks, and Venti Lattes, we started at the Eagle Creek Park marina. Driving near the edge of the reservoir, we heard a Louisiana Waterthrush, which posed very cooperatively just a few feet from the car. A stop at the Ice-skating Pond provided a Blue-headed Vireo, and our first Ruby-throated Hummingbird of the season. A walked loop from the Ornithology Center around the coffer dam provided a small group of Ruddy Ducks. At the Scott Starling Sanctuary we added Black-and-white Warbler, Ovenbird, and Yellow-throated Vireo. We then headed out of town on back roads, hoping for an American Golden-Plover that never showed. A stop at Lieber State Recreation Area revealed very high water and very few birds. Goose Pond FWA seemed quiet but did yield a variety of shorebirds and waders, but no mosquitos—definitely a first for us! At the end of the day we had logged 123 species and consumed every sandwich. A big THANK YOU to our generous sponsors and to Amos Butler Audubon Society for supporting bird conservation! 🐦

Community Hospital Team

John Munshower, Doug Sherow, Greg Steffen

Our Big Day was May was held on May 13 with a total of 119 species. We thank all of our Community Hospital Team sponsors. 🐦

2016 Birdathon Species List:

(geese, swans, ducks) Greater White-fronted Goose, Snow Goose, Canada Goose, Mute Swan, Wood Duck, American Wigeon, Mallard, Blue-winged Teal, Northern Shoveler, Hooded Merganser, Red-breasted Merganser, Ruddy Duck; (game birds) Northern Bobwhite, Ring-necked Pheasant, Wild Turkey; (loons) Common Loon; (grebes) Pied-billed Grebe; (cormorants) Double-crested Cormorant; (pelicans) American White Pelican; (herons) American Bittern, Least Bittern, Great Blue Heron, Great Egret, Snowy Egret, Green Heron, Black-crowned Night-Heron; (ibises) Glossy Ibis; (vultures) Black Vulture, Turkey Vulture; (hawks, kites, eagles) Bald Eagle, Northern Harrier, Cooper's Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Broad-winged Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk; (rails, gallinules) Yellow Rail, King Rail, Virginia Rail, Sora, Common Gallinule, American Coot; (cranes) Sandhill Crane; (plovers) Black-bellied Plover, American Golden Plover, Semipalmated Plover, Killdeer; (stilts, avocets) Black-necked Stilt, American Avocet; (sandpipers) Spotted Sandpiper, Solitary Sandpiper, Greater Yellowlegs, Lesser Yellowlegs, Hudsonian Godwit, Ruddy Turnstone, Semipalmated Sandpiper, Western Sandpiper, Least Sandpiper, White-rumped Sandpiper, Pectoral Sandpiper, Dunlin, Stilt Sandpiper, Short-billed Dowitcher, Long-billed Dowitcher, Wilson's Snipe, American Woodcock, Wilson's Phalarope, Red-necked Phalarope; (gulls) Franklin's Gull, Ring-billed Gull, Herring Gull; (terns) Least tern, Caspian Tern, Black Tern, Common Tern, Forster's Tern; (pigeons, doves) Rock Pigeon, Eurasian Collared-Dove, Mourning Dove; (cuckoos) Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Black-billed Cuckoo; (owls) Barn Owl, Eastern Screech-Owl, Great Horned Owl, Barred Owl; (nightjars) Common Nighthawk, Chuck-will's-widow, Eastern Whip-poor-will; (swifts) Chimney Swift; (hummingbirds) Ruby-throated Hummingbird; (kingfishers) Belted Kingfisher; (woodpeckers) Red-headed Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker; (falcons) American Kestrel, Peregrine Falcon; (parrots) Monk Parakeet; (flycatchers) Olive-sided Flycatcher, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Acadian Flycatcher, Alder Flycatcher, Willow Flycatcher, Least Flycatcher, Eastern Phoebe, Great Crested Flycatcher, Eastern Kingbird; (vireos) White-eyed Vireo, Bell's Vireo, Yellow-throated Vireo, Blue-headed Vireo, Warbling Vireo, Philadelphia Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo; (jays, crows) Blue Jay, American Crow, Fish Crow; (larks) Horned Lark; (swallows) Purple Martin, Tree Swallow, Northern Rough-winged Swallow, Bank Swallow, Cliff Swallow, Barn Swallow; (chickadees, titmice) Carolina Chickadee, Black-capped Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse; (nuthatches) White-breasted Nuthatch; (wrens) House Wren, Sedge Wren, Marsh Wren, Carolina Wren; (gnatcatchers) Blue-gray Gnatcatcher; (kinglets) Ruby-crowned Kinglet; (thrushes) Eastern Bluebird, Veery, Gray-cheeked Thrush, Swainson's Thrush, Wood Thrush, American Robin; (mimids) Gray Catbird, Northern Mockingbird, Brown Thrasher; (starlings) European Starling; (waxwings) Cedar Waxwing; (warblers) Ovenbird, Worm-eating Warbler, Louisiana Waterthrush, Northern Waterthrush, Golden-winged Warbler, Blue-winged Warbler, Black-and-white Warbler, Prothonotary Warbler, Tennessee Warbler, Nashville Warbler, Connecticut Warbler, Mourning Warbler, Kentucky Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Hooded Warbler, American Redstart, Cape May Warbler, Cerulean Warbler, Northern Parula, Magnolia Warbler, Bay-breasted Warbler, Blackburnian Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Blackpoll Warbler, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Palm Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Yellow-throated Warbler, Prairie Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Canada Warbler, Wilson's Warbler, Yellow-breasted Chat; (sparrows) Eastern Towhee, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, Vesper Sparrow, Lark Sparrow, Savannah Sparrow, Grasshopper Sparrow, Henslow's Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Lincoln's Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow; (cardinals and allies) Summer Tanager, Scarlet Tanager, Northern Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Blue Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, Dickcissel; (blackbirds, orioles) Bobolink, Red-winged Blackbird, Eastern Meadowlark, Western Meadowlark, Yellow-headed Blackbird, Common Grackle, Brown-headed Cowbird, Orchard Oriole, Baltimore Oriole; (finches) House Finch, Pine Siskin, American Goldfinch; (Old World sparrows) House Sparrow

Official combined count total of all teams: 213 species

- 184 **Wild Birds Unlimited:** Brian Cunningham, Amy Hodson, Rob Ripma, John Schaut
- 181 **The Horned Grebes** (formerly UIndy) Sarah Fowler, Ryan Hamilton, Nick Kiehl, Mike Maxwell, Aidan Rominger, Ryan Sanderson
- 152 **Bud's & Carl's Legacy Team:** Amanda Smith, Keith Starling, Janet Tuten, Marty Williams
- 146 **Noddy Little Gulls:** Lou Anne Barriger, Kathy Feldman, April Sterling, Laurie Voss
- 135 **DNR Team:** Lee Casebere, Roger and Cloyce Hedge
- 123 **Team Bishop:** Mike and Linda Bishop
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- 113 **Carbon Neutral:** Dave Benson, Chuck Benson
- 109 **Team SeaWeed:** Spike Selig, Richard Wiesler, Jason Goldsmith, Jonathan Bontrager
- 80 **EcoLab Team:** Dave Benson, Paul Evans, Chandler Roberts, Randy and Debbie Patrick, Stephanie Schuck,
- 74 **The KGB:** Karen LaMere, Tim Johnson, Betsy and George Wilson
- 50 **Wren's Warblers:** Noah Fitzgerald, Presley Hill, Madi Medley, Lilly Medley, Caroline Rickleff, June Rickleff, Wren Upchurch