

Howard County Bird Club

A Chapter of the Maryland Ornithological Society (MOS)

Field Trip: Sunday, January 01, 2017

Leader: Kurt Schwarz

Recorders: John Harris, David Sandler.

Date of Trip: Sunday, January 01, 2017

Name: Start Your Year List

Number on trip: 11

Details: The day dawned mostly sunny with high, thin clouds, temps in high 30s. The tramp around Mount Pleasant was lackluster, and due to work on the Davis Branch, we could not access the west field. Upon receiving a report of a Snow Goose opposite the County Fairgrounds, we went there, and finally located the goose, which we determined was a Ross's. A stamp through the grass at the fairgrounds produced a Merlin, a Horned Lark, and four Eastern Meadowlarks. This spot yielded four very desirable and in the case of the Ross's Goose, unexpected species. The GE Retention Pond proved to be difficult to get to due to a fun run blocking traffic, and we lost at least one person. The species on the pond were routine, but those arriving first observed, or at least heard, a Common Raven. Our last stop was the Race Road Wetlands in hopes of the hen Pintail which graced the wetlands for the proceeding two days. We did not find it, but did find satisfying numbers of American Black Duck, Gadwall, and Northern Shoveller.



Group by Clayton Koonce. Ross's Goose by Kurt Schwarz. Merlin by John Harris.

Mount Pleasant

- Canada Goose 14
- Mallard 3
- Rock Pigeon (Feral Pigeon) 4
- Red-bellied Woodpecker 1
- Downy Woodpecker 2
- Northern Flicker (Yellow-shafted) 1
- Blue Jay 2
- American Crow 4
- Fish Crow 2
- Carolina Chickadee 2
- Tufted Titmouse 1
- White-breasted Nuthatch 1
- Carolina Wren 4
- Eastern Bluebird 1
- American Robin 1
- Northern Mockingbird 5
- European Starling 1
- Field Sparrow 3
- Dark-eyed Junco (Slate-colored) 4
- White-throated Sparrow 17

West Friendship pond across from fairgrounds

- **Ross's Goose 1**
- Canada Goose 200
- Ring-necked Duck 2
- Hooded Merganser 3
- Turkey Vulture 1
- **Merlin 1**
- Blue Jay 1
- Horned Lark 1
- **Eastern Meadowlark 4**

GE Retention Pond

- Canada Goose 66
- Ring-necked Duck 17
- Hooded Merganser 21
- Cooper's Hawk 1
- Blue Jay 2
- American Crow 1
- Common Raven 1
- Carolina Chickadee 2
- Carolina Wren 1
- Northern Cardinal 2

Race Road

- Gadwall 6
- American Black Duck 4
- Mallard 8
- Northern Shoveler 9
- Hooded Merganser 2
- Belted Kingfisher 1
- Red-bellied Woodpecker 1
- Downy Woodpecker 2
- Song Sparrow 1
- Northern Cardinal 1