

AMES AUDUBON SOCIETY
February Newsletter

Barney Cook, editor 517 Hayward Ave., Ames, Iowa, 50010 292-8833

February Program

What: The Midwest Savanna
Who: Robert Dyas
When: Tuesday February 14, 1978 7:30 pm
Where: Room 122, Kildee Hall, ISU

Bob Dyas is a professor in Landscape Architecture well-known for teaching his course in plants materials. Several years ago while on sabbatical leave, he studied transition forest habitat from Texas through the Dakotas-the fringeland between the eastern hardwood forest and the true prairie. Plan to come and share his insights and slides. Note: We again meet in Kildee Hall after an absence of several months.

February Outing: We will try to call owls this month. Plan to met at the north side of the Lincoln Shopping Center at 7:30 pm on Friday, February 17. As I have never tried to call owls in the evening before this will be an experiment for all of us. Since I heard owls in the early evening, I think we should be successful. With a little cooperation from the owls, we may have them flying over our heads; then owl calling is lots of fun. Early evening should be warmer than early morning (hopefully) and more convenient for many of you. I expect a good turnout so plan to come.

Birding Story County: (by Barney Cook) The weather has been so fierce that I have done no birding since the Christmas Count. Big news this year is the large flocks of Common Redpoll and Pine Siskin at feeders. Two reports of Hoary Redpolls have reached me. A well-documented sighting (preferably a photo) should be sent to Pete Peterson, editor of Iowa Bird. This could well be a first record for Iowa as the Hoary Redpoll does not appear in the Annotated List of the Birds of Iowa by Woodard Brown. Cedar Waxwings and Harris Sparrows have also been seen. I include a list of birds seen on previous Christmas Counts to help your winter watching.

42 species were seen this census by 36 observers. This is somewhat fewer than in the recent past few years. No new species were seen during the count period but a Great Blue Heron was noted by John Hill in the count period. That would be a new species. More uncommon sightings include Rough-legged Hawk, Long-eared Owl, Red-shafted Flicker, Red-breasted nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Am. Robin, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Loggerhead shrike, Brown-headed Cowbird, Purple Finch, Pine Siskin, Oregon Junco, White-throated Sparrow, and Lapland Longspur. The population of Red-headed Woodpeckers has plunged drastically over that of the past two years.

Griffith Blach
1108 Scott
Ames

BIRDS SEEN DURING LAST SEVEN AMES CHRISTMAS COUNTS

Code: First No. - number of counts in which the species was observed

Second No. - total individual birds seen in all seven counts

*These are birds
I've seen the last 5
years not Christmas
comb. RAB*

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (1-3)	Canada Goose	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (7-14211)	House sparrows
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (5-137)	Mallard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (7-238)	Meadowlark (sp)
<input type="checkbox"/> (1-1)	Sharp shinned hawk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (5-71)	Red-winged blackbird
<input type="checkbox"/> (1-1)	Cooper's hawk	<input type="checkbox"/> (3-16)	Rusty blackbird
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (6-18)	Red-tailed hawk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (7-206)	Common grackle
<input type="checkbox"/> (5-10)	Rough-legged hawk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (2-21)	Brown-headed cowbird
<input type="checkbox"/> (1-1)	Marsh hawk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (7-674)	Cardinal
<input type="checkbox"/> (1-1)	Ferruginous hawk	<input type="checkbox"/> (2-18)	Evening grosbeak
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (6-12)	American Kestrel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (6-111)	Purple finch
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (5-113)	Bobwhite	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (1-45)	Redpoll
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (7-579)	Ring-necked pheasant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (3-18)	Pine siskin
<input type="checkbox"/> (2-29)	Common Snipe	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (7-487)	American goldfinch
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (4-1044)	Rock dove	<input type="checkbox"/> (1-1)	Vesper sparrow
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (7-115)	Mourning dove	<input type="checkbox"/> (1-20)	Red crossbill
<input type="checkbox"/> (7-105)	Screech owl	<input type="checkbox"/> (1-21)	White-winged crossbill
<input type="checkbox"/> (7-119)	Great horned owl	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (7-4515)	Dark-eyed junco (slate-colored)
<input type="checkbox"/> (7-21)	Barred owl	<input type="checkbox"/> (6-19)	Dark-eyed junco (Oregon)
<input type="checkbox"/> (3-4)	Long-eared owl	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (7-2212)	Tree sparrow
<input type="checkbox"/> (2-8)	Short-eared owl	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (2-22)	Chipping sparrow
<input type="checkbox"/> (1-1)	Saw-whet owl	<input type="checkbox"/> (2-3)	Field sparrow
<input type="checkbox"/> (6-16)	Belted Kingfisher	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 6-23)	Harris sparrow
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (6-140)	Common flicker (yellow shafted)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (3-4)	White-throated sparrow
<input type="checkbox"/> (1-1)	Common flicker (red shafted)	<input type="checkbox"/> (5-10)	Fox sparrow
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (7-179)	Red-bellied woodpecker	<input type="checkbox"/> (3-5)	Swamp sparrow
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (6-250)	Red-headed woodpecker	<input type="checkbox"/> (7-255)	Song sparrow
<input type="checkbox"/> (3-5)	Yellow-bellied sapsucker	<input type="checkbox"/> (4-326)	Lapland langspur
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (7-136)	Hairy woodpecker	<input type="checkbox"/> (3-112)	Snow bunting
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (7-565)	Downy woodpecker		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (7-250)	Horned lark		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (7-922)	Blue jay	OTHER SPECIES:	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (7-1134)	Crow	_____	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (7-1240)	Black-capped chickadee	_____	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (7-105)	Tufted titmouse	_____	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (7-483)	White-breasted nuthatch	_____	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (5-39)	Red-breasted nuthatch	_____	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (7-77)	Brown creeper	_____	
<input type="checkbox"/> (4-6)	Winter wren	_____	
<input type="checkbox"/> (1-1)	Carolina Wren	_____	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (3-4)	Brown thrasher	_____	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (6-12)	American robin	_____	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (3-6)	Eastern bluebird	_____	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (2-3)	Ruby-crowned kinglet	_____	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (6-51)	Golden-crowned kinglet	_____	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (5-51)	Cedar waxwing	_____	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (3-3)	Shrike	_____	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (7-6100)	Starlings	_____	

*Chipping
Starling
Wren*