

1981 Decorah, Iowa CBC

(1) Whistling Swan--Many observers. Distance from as close as 20 feet. In area for two weeks prior to count, sick or wounded and unable to fly very far. Large, all white head, neck, body, wings and tail. Black bill with small yellow spot at base, black feet and legs. No black on primaries.

~~(4) Golden Eagle--Two observers, both with previous experience with Golden Eagles. Perched and flying from as close as 150 yards. 10x binoculars. Adult, large size, uniform dark brown back, wings, underparts and tail. Golden brown feathers on head and neck. Wings held level when soaring. No white on tail or wings. A few Golden Eagles regularly winter in extreme northeast Iowa and, although always a treat when found on a count, are not unexpected.~~

~~(7) Yellow-bellied Sapsucker--Has been frequenting a backyard suet feeder since late October. Many observers. Immature, wing black with long white patch, head brownish checked with black markings, throat white, white malar and eyeline, back brownish checked with black, white upper tail coverts, underparts brownish with some black markings.~~

(1) Ruby-crowned Kinglet--Three observers from as close as 15 feet for 2-3 minutes. Feeding with Golden-crowned Kinglets. Olive green upperparts, unmarked grayish-white underparts, incomplete white eyering, two white wingbars (one bordered by a black bar), very small size and nervous actions.

(7) White-winged Crossbill--Four observers from 20 feet for 3-5 minutes. Crossed bills, reddish pink bodies (males), dark wings with two white wingbars.