

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS

BY GEOFF HOGAN

The annual Christmas Bird Counts were held December 22 and 29 for the National Park and Hillsborough count areas respectively. Weather proved to be a major factor again with blowing snow and freezing rain for the National Park count but near-perfect viewing conditions for the Hillsborough count. Low temperatures resulted in normally open water areas being frozen by December 29 with a resulting scarcity of birds in some areas. Nevertheless, enough hardy souls ventured out for both counts to come up with respectable results. Ex-

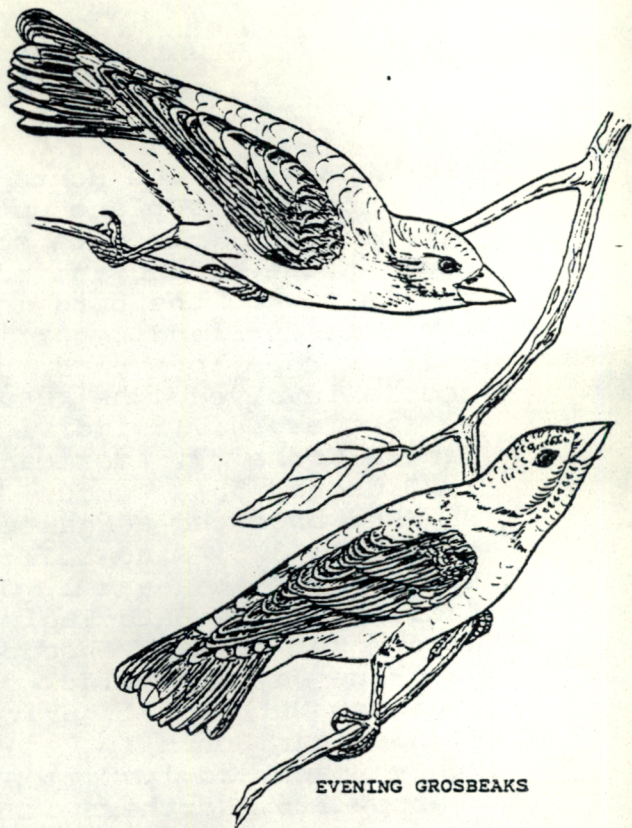
cellent pot-luck suppers were held following each count and our sincere thanks to Rosemarie Proctor and Rosemary Curley for hosting these. Results of the counts in 1984 are as follows:

NATIONAL PARK: 33 species, 2998 individuals. Great Cormorant 1, Double-crested Cormorant 1, Canada Goose 87, Black Duck 199, N. Shoveler 1, Scaup sp. 100, Oldsquaw 5, Black Scoter 127, Common Goldeneye 158, Barrow's Goldeneye 40, Common Merganser 469, Red-breasted Merganser 4, N. Goshawk 1, Gray Partridge 9, Ring-necked Pheasant 1, Ruffed-Grouse 4, Ring-billed Gull 17, Herring Gull 419, Greater Black-backed Gull 73, Rock Dove 54, Downy Woodpecker 1, Hairy Woodpecker 1, Blue Jay 30, Am. Crow 387, Common Raven 15, Black-capped Chickadee 60, Boreal Chickadee 17, Golden-crowned Kinglet 4, Starling 337, Brown-headed Cowbird 46, Evening Grosbeak 11, House Sparrow 282, Snow Bunting 37.

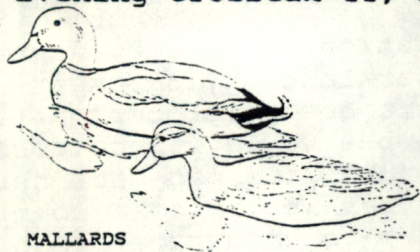
HILLSBOROUGH: 39 species, 1 hybrid, 6,655 individuals. Double-crested Cormorant 1, Great Blue Heron 4, Canada Goose 397, Black Duck 1097, Black Duck x Mallard hybrid 1, Mallard 6, Common Eider 1, Oldsquaw 13, Common Goldeneye 325, Common Merganser 278, Red-breasted Merganser 4, Sharp-shinned Hawk 2, Rough-legged Hawk 1, Gray Partridge 15, Ruffed Grouse 3, Ring-billed Gull 5,

Herring Gull 654, Thayer's Gull 1, Iceland Gull 8, Greater Black-backed Gull 213, Rock Dove 261, Downy Woodpecker 8, Hairy Woodpecker 2, Horned Lark 36, Blue Jay 126, Am. Crow 480, Common Raven 8, Black-capped Chickadee 79, Boreal Chickadee 5, Brown Creeper 1, Golden-crowned Kinglet 14, Robin 1, Starling 1403, Common Grackle 12, Brown-headed Cowbird 6, Pine Grosbeak 3, House Sparrow 1075, Am. Tree Sparrow 5, Song Sparrow 2, Snow Bunting 100.

Participants: Bill Bowerbank, Rick Burger, Jamie Burton, Rosemary Curley, Peter Feldstein, Geoff Hogan, Ann Howatt-Krahn, Winston Johnston, Norah Longworth, Gerald MacDonald, Kathy Martin, Dan McAskill, Danny McAskill jr., Alan Saint, Liz Townsend. Thanks to all.



EVENING GROSBEAKS



MALLARDS