

Greenville County Bird Club Trip Report

Dates: November 18, 2017

Location: Lake Conestee Nature Park

Leaders: Paul Serridge and Denise DuPon



See below for a summary of both the regular and shorter walks.

Regular (Longer) Walk

5 club members participated in the longer walk this morning.

Our ebird report is shown below.

We did not find the Bittern (not too surprising); some, but not all of us, heard a Winter Wren; and we saw only 1 Rusty Blackbird (in the West Bay), having missed the largish flock Denise's group saw in the South Bay.

Surprisingly, neither group found any Yellow-rumped Warblers - they have been fairly common recently. But not today.

A nice sighting was a large flock of Cedar Waxwings, circling around, landing in the tops of trees, before taking off and circling around again.

It was a good morning's birding but the wind increased towards the end of our walk making it feel a lot colder than it was.

Reminder: December's Conestee outings will take place on Dec 9 so as not to conflict with the Christmas Bird Count on Dec 16.

Good birding,

Paul

Lake Conestee Nature Park, Greenville, South Carolina, US

Nov 18, 2017 7:46 AM - 11:42 AM

Protocol: Traveling

3.0 mile(s)

Comments: GCBC 3rd Saturday outing - longer walk. We birded the East Bay, then carpooled to Spanco and birded back to the cars via the West Bay obs. deck, Woodie Walk, and the bridge over the Reedy River. 42F at start, 52F at end. No wind in East Bay but the wind gradually got stronger after that. The wind made it seem much colder. A good morning but, surprisingly, NO Yellow-rumped Warblers.

45 species (+1 other taxa)

Canada Goose 24

Mallard 16

Pied-billed Grebe 2

Great Blue Heron 2
Great Egret 1 In West Bay.
Black Vulture 1
Turkey Vulture 1
Osprey 1 Seen circling above the dam near the South Bay. Large raptor, white under parts, very dark upper parts, characteristic Osprey wing shape. Also seen by the other GCBC group.
Red-shouldered Hawk 3
Red-tailed Hawk 2
Killdeer 2 In the South bay.
Rock Pigeon (Feral Pigeon) 3
Mourning Dove 9
Belted Kingfisher 2
Red-headed Woodpecker 1
Red-bellied Woodpecker 1
Downy Woodpecker 2
Northern Flicker 2
Eastern Phoebe 3
Blue Jay 9
American Crow 3
Fish Crow 1
crow sp. 2
Carolina Chickadee 8
Tufted Titmouse 4
Winter Wren 1 Heard only.
Carolina Wren 4
Golden-crowned Kinglet 3
Ruby-crowned Kinglet 4
Eastern Bluebird 12
Hermit Thrush 2
American Robin 5
Brown Thrasher 1
Northern Mockingbird 3
European Starling 8
Cedar Waxwing 80 An estimated number in a large flock over the Forester Farm section of the park.
Chipping Sparrow 1
White-throated Sparrow 5
Song Sparrow 1
Eastern Towhee 2
Northern Cardinal 5
Red-winged Blackbird 5
Rusty Blackbird 1 Perched in tree near West Bay obs deck. The other GCBC group reported 80 in the South Bay earlier.
Common Grackle 31

House Finch 1
American Goldfinch 7

View this checklist online at <http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist/S40571747>

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Shorter Walk

We had a lovely walk this morning, 7 club members and one guest started near the dam at Spanco and leisurely made our way to the west bay overlook. The walk started with very good looks at a large group of Rusty Blackbirds from the parking lot, a quick flyover of an Osprey being annoyed by a Crow at the south bay and a beautiful Great Egret waiting for us at the west bay.

ebird list follows (thanks to Joan for keeping the list!)

Lake Conestee Nature Park, Greenville, South Carolina, US

Nov 18, 2017 7:51 AM - 11:14 AM

Protocol: Traveling

1.15 mile(s)

Comments: Cloudy, cool, seemed to get cooler as the morning progressed, 56 at finish. Walked from Spanco to west bay and back.

39 species (+1 other taxa)

Canada Goose 22

Mallard 14

Pied-billed Grebe 2

Great Blue Heron 2

Great Egret 1

Turkey Vulture 1

Osprey 1 Flew over crescent slough towards south bay, chased by crow

Red-shouldered Hawk 2

Killdeer 1

Mourning Dove 8

Belted Kingfisher 2

Red-headed Woodpecker 3

Red-bellied Woodpecker 3

Downy Woodpecker 2

Eastern Phoebe 8

Blue Jay 2

American Crow 2

Fish Crow 1

Carolina Chickadee 3

Tufted Titmouse 2
White-breasted Nuthatch 1
Brown-headed Nuthatch 1
Carolina Wren 8
wren sp. 1 Small, warm Brown, with faint eyeline. Winter or house, only very quick look.
Golden-crowned Kinglet 3
Ruby-crowned Kinglet 6
Eastern Bluebird 20 Large group foraging in vines near west bay
American Robin 4
Brown Thrasher 3
Northern Mockingbird 1
Cedar Waxwing 6
White-throated Sparrow 4
Song Sparrow 2
Eastern Towhee 3
Northern Cardinal 2
Red-winged Blackbird 32 Group of mostly males at south bay, females only at west bay.
Rusty Blackbird 60 In tree tops on far side of south bay, then some flew down to forage in weeds.. Seen through scope. Some red winged blackbirds also mixed in, but mostly in separate trees.
Common Grackle 10
House Finch 4
American Goldfinch 3

View this checklist online at <http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist/S40576152>

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