

Greenville County Bird Club Trip Report

Date: December 2, 2006

Location: Lake Conestee Nature Park, Greenville County, South Carolina

Comments: The GCBC birders and guests had another day of great weather for our first outing in the new park. The park has a variety of habitat, including upland hardwood forest, bottomland forest (silted areas of the original lake), wetland, river, and open grassland. There are boardwalks to cross streams and wet areas, along with several good observation points.

Our host, Jeff Beacham, is a leader in the development of the Lake Conestee Nature Park. A degreed ornithologist, Jeff will be heading the conservation group that will continue to make the park a centerpiece in the area. Jeff gave us an overview of the present park and their plans for the future, with comments on specific areas as the outing progressed through the park. The park is a great place for family walks as well as birding.

This may have been our highest attendance ever, with 25 members and guests. It may be a new record in another way, too: We didn't see even one Turkey Vulture!

After the outing, many of us accepted Maggie and Lowrie Glasgow's invitation to lunch at their house. Many thanks to them for the excellent lunch and their hospitality.

The birding was a little slow, which is normal this time of year in a forested habitat, but those of us who had not been to the park all enjoyed the chance to explore it. We will schedule more outings there in the future.

--Donnie Coody, GCBC President

Photos:



Bird List:

Pied-billed Grebe
Canada Goose
Wood Duck
Gadwall
Green-winged Teal
Mallard
American Black Duck
Ring-necked Duck
Bufflehead
Hooded Merganser
Turkey Vulture
Red-shouldered Hawk
American Coot
Ring-billed Gull
Mourning Dove
Belted Kingfisher
Red-bellied Woodpecker
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
Downy Woodpecker
Northern Flicker
Eastern Phoebe
Golden-crowned Kinglet
Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Carolina Wren
Northern Mockingbird
Brown Thrasher
Eastern Bluebird
American Robin
Carolina Chickadee
Tufted Titmouse
Brown-headed Nuthatch
Blue Jay
American Crow
European Starling
Pine Warbler
Eastern Towhee
Chipping Sparrow
Song Sparrow
Swamp Sparrow
White-throated Sparrow
Dark-eyed Junco
Northern Cardinal
Rusty Blackbird
Common Grackle
House Finch
American Goldfinch