

## Greenville County Bird Club Trip Report

- Dates:** November 14, 2009
- Location:** Cowan's Ford Wildlife Refuge and Carolina Raptor Center, Huntersville, Mecklenburg County, NC
- Leader:** Ron Clark, Mecklenburg County Audubon
- Comments:** Submitted by Paul Serridge

6 club members visited Cowan's Ford Wildlife Refuge near Huntersville, NC with Ron Clark (Mecklenburg County Audubon and member of the CBC Executive Committee). The weather was perfect for being out in the refuge – clear blue sky, warm, no wind – shorts and T-shirt weather!

A small lake near the trailhead held 2 Ruddy Ducks, 2 Ring-necked Ducks, 2 Pied-billed Grebes and a Coot which made a good start to the morning. After that birds were rather scarce. We did get a good variety of Sparrows including several Savannahs which perched obligingly so that we could differentiate them from Song Sparrows.

After lunch at the nearby Lancaster's BBQ we visited the Carolina Raptor Center. Ron has been a volunteer at the Center for many years and, although the Center was officially closed to visitors, he was able to lead us on an interesting tour (free, gratis, and for nothing!). We were able to see many birds of prey, in some cases really up close and personal. The people at the center, staff and volunteers, are doing a wonderful job!

For details of this excellent raptor rehabilitation center visit their website at <http://www.carolinaraptorcenter.org/>  
We finished our personal tour around 4.15 and headed back to Greenville very happy with our day out.

**Bird List:** **Species: Total 39**

Ring-necked Duck  
Ruddy Duck  
Pied-billed Grebe  
Black Vulture  
Turkey Vulture

Red-tailed Hawk  
American Coot  
Killdeer  
Mourning Dove  
Red-bellied Woodpecker  
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker  
Downy Woodpecker  
Northern Flicker  
Eastern Phoebe  
Blue Jay  
American Crow  
Carolina Chickadee  
Tufted Titmouse  
Brown-headed Nuthatch  
Carolina Wren  
Golden-crowned Kinglet  
Ruby-crowned Kinglet  
Eastern Bluebird  
Hermit Thrush  
Northern Mockingbird  
Brown Thrasher  
Cedar Waxwing  
Eastern Towhee  
Chipping Sparrow  
Field Sparrow  
Savannah Sparrow  
Song Sparrow  
Swamp Sparrow  
White-throated Sparrow  
Northern Cardinal  
Red-winged Blackbird  
Eastern Meadowlark  
Pine Siskin  
American Goldfinch