

## **Greenville County Bird Club Trip Report**

**Dates:** July 17, 2010

**Locations:** Conestee Nature Park, Greenville, SC and the Scissor-tailed Flycatchers on Gunter Rd., near Piedmont, SC

**Leader:** Paul Serridge

**Comments:** 8 GCBC members and 1 guest birded the lakeside trail between the Spanco Drive trailhead and the boardwalk on the white trail. Birding was a little slow, as is often the case in mid-July. Highlights were a small group of 5 Cedar Waxwings, of which at least 3 were first year birds (streaks on the breast), and 3 young Great Blue Herons on the last of 3 nests to be occupied.

At 10.15 we were back at the cars to drive about 9 miles to Gunter Road near Piedmont to view the nesting Scissor-tailed Flycatchers. We were NOT disappointed!

The nest, containing the second brood by this pair, was on a horizontal support strut of a roadside telephone pole. Both adults were flying to the nest with food but at first we could not see any young birds. Then one head appeared followed shortly afterwards by a second. So there are at least 2 young birds in the nest but there may well be more.

Don Faulkner got some wonderful photographs.

Other birds at Gunter Rd included very vocal Field and Chipping Sparrows, and 3 Wild Turkeys.

It was a very enjoyable outing and even the weather cooperated. The skies were cloudy which lowered the heat index, and the forecasted rain did not arrive.

**Species List follows photos**

**Photos by Don Faulkner:**





**Bird List:**

**Conestee:**

Number of species: 36

Canada Goose (feral) 32  
Wood Duck 18  
Mallard (Domestic type) 1  
Great Blue Heron 5  
Red-shouldered Hawk 1  
Red-tailed Hawk 1  
Killdeer 1  
Mourning Dove 6  
Chimney Swift 10  
Ruby-throated Hummingbird 1  
Belted Kingfisher 2  
Red-bellied Woodpecker 5  
Downy Woodpecker 4  
Eastern Phoebe 1  
White-eyed Vireo 2  
Blue Jay 1  
American Crow 1  
Purple Martin 3  
Barn Swallow 41  
Carolina Chickadee 3  
Tufted Titmouse 2

White-breasted Nuthatch 2  
Carolina Wren 4  
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher 2  
Eastern Bluebird 6  
European Starling 4  
Cedar Waxwing 5  
Pine Warbler 1  
Common Yellowthroat 3  
warbler sp. 1 (possibly a N. Parula)  
Eastern Towhee 3  
Northern Cardinal 6  
Indigo Bunting 4  
Common Grackle (Purple) 4  
House Finch 1  
American Goldfinch 3

**Gunter Road:**

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher 4  
Wild Turkey  
American Crow  
Barn Swallow  
Bluebird  
Eastern Meadowlark  
Mockingbird  
Cowbird