Greenville County Bird Club Trip Report

Dates: August 16, 2008

Locations Lake Conestee Nature Park, Greenville, SC

Leader Paul Serridge

Seven club members (Jeff Catlin, Don Faulkner, Chip Gilbert, David Kirk, Jane Kramer, Barbara and Paul Serridge) and 3 guests participated in a very productive morning's birding at Lake Conestee Nature Park. A few of us started at the overlook near the dam in Conestee and had 23 species in 40 minutes or so — a promising start.

We also noted that a boardwalk along the edge of the lake is under construction. This is part of the second phase of trail development in the Park, which, when completed will allow direct access to the heart of the Park from the overlook and open up some parts of the wetlands area which are currently difficult to get to.

Birding on the trails was slow but steady. A Great Egret seen flying over the Henderson Farm pasture was a nice addition to our list. On the red trail we encountered a small mixed flock of warblers (Black-throated Blue, Yellow-throated, American Redstart, Black-and-white). These, added to the already reported Northern Parula and Common

Yellowthroat, gave us a satisfying list of 6 warbler species. It looks as though the migration is under way and the prospects are good for next Saturday's outing to Jackson Park, often a warbler trap.

When we finished the trails the morning's list stood at an impressive 51 species. We added one more during a second stop at the overlook where we spotted 2 immature Yellow-crowned Night-herons.

52 species in mid-August is a very satisfying total! Month to date the list stands at 59.

I checked the records from last year. The August club outing to Conestee in 2007 yielded only 31 species and the total for the month was only 54.

Bird List: Species:

Wood Duck Mallard

Great Blue Heron

Great Egret Green Heron Yellow-crowned Night Heron

Turkey Vulture

Cooper's Hawk

Red-shouldered Hawk

Red-tailed Hawk

Rock Pigeon

Mourning Dove

Chimney Swift

Ruby-throated Hummingbird

Belted Kingfisher

Red-bellied Woodpecker

Downy Woodpecker

Northern Flicker

Eastern Phoebe

Great-crested Flycatcher

Eastern Kingbird

White-eyed Vireo

Red-eyed Vireo

Blue Jay

American Crow

Carolina Chickadee

Tufted Titmouse

White-breasted Nuthatch

Brown-headed Nuthatch

Carolina Wren

House Wren

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher

Eastern Bluebird

American Robin

Grav Catbird

Northern Mockingbird

Brown Thrasher

European Starling

Northern Parula

Black-throated Blue Warbler

Yellow-throated Warbler

Black and White Warbler

American Redstart

Common Yellowthroat

Eastern Towhee

Field Sparrow

Northern Cardinal

Blue Grosbeak

Indigo Bunting

Common Grackle

House Finch

American Goldfinch