

Greenville County Bird Club Trip Report

- Dates:** November 21, 2009
- Location:** Lake Conestee Nature Park, Greenville, SC
- Leader:** Paul Serridge
- Comments:** Submitted by Paul Serridge

A perfect morning for birding – cool but not cold, partly cloudy, good visibility, no wind! 10 GCBC members and 1 guest birded most of the trails in Lake Conestee Nature Park, and reported 45 species. We had hoped to catch sight of an American Bittern first reported by Shelby Birch a week earlier, and then photographed by Jeff Catlin on Friday. Both reports had been from the overlook. Unfortunately, we did not see the Bittern this morning.

However, we did see the Blue-gray Gnatcatcher reported by Donnie Coody and Shelby Birch last Monday. This was a very late date for this species in the park. Other highlights were two small groups of 3 Rusty Blackbirds, one from the overlook, the other from the observation deck; flocks of Cedar Waxwings; all the local woodpecker species; a Ruby-crowned Kinglet visibly displaying his ruby crown, and several Golden-crowned Kinglet. The last bird of the morning was a Sharp-shinned Hawk flying across the lake.

For once, the Conestee list did NOT include Canada Goose! Perhaps they were at the north lake, which we did not visit. We also missed out on both Brown Creeper (reported earlier this week) and Winter Wren (reported on Nov 1 this year but not since then).

- Bird List:**
- Mallard
 - Great Blue Heron
 - Turkey Vulture
 - Sharp-shinned Hawk
 - Red-shouldered Hawk
 - American Coot
 - Rock Pigeon
 - Mourning Dove
 - Belted Kingfisher
 - Red-headed Woodpecker
 - Red-bellied Woodpecker

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
Downy Woodpecker
Hairy Woodpecker
Northern Flicker
Pileated Woodpecker
Eastern Phoebe
Blue Jay
American Crow
Carolina Chickadee
Tufted Titmouse
White-breasted Nuthatch
Brown-headed Nuthatch
Carolina Wren
Golden-crowned Kinglet
Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
Eastern Bluebird
Hermit Thrush
American Robin
Northern Mockingbird
Brown Thrasher
European Starling
Cedar Waxwing
Yellow-rumped Warbler
Eastern Towhee
Field Sparrow
Song Sparrow
Swamp Sparrow
White-throated Sparrow
Northern Cardinal
Rusty Blackbird
Common Grackle
American Goldfinch
House Sparrow