Greenville County Bird Club Trip Report

Date: October 5, 2013  
Location: Table Rock and Caesar’s Head State Parks  
Leader: Scott Stegenga

Scott Stegenga led a group of nine birders around Table Rock State Park on Saturday. We started by birding our way along the shoreline of the lake behind the visitor center, where we found migrants and early arrivals of winter birds, such as Yellow-bellied Sapsucker and Ruby-crowned Kinglet. Eastern Wood-Pewees and Gray Catbirds were out in good numbers on their way south, and a couple of Magnolia Warblers made a few appearances.

We had a great collection of thrushes in the trees along the entrance road, near the old Camp Oolenoy site, including Wood Thrushes, Swainson’s Thrushes, Gray-cheeked Thrush (one or two), and a Veery that was occasionally even singing. Across the road on the north side of Highway 11, we found more thrushes and a Summer Tanager to go along with the Scarlet we'd found earlier.

After lunch, some of us continued to Caesar’s Head State Park to check in on the hawk watch. While there weren’t many raptors out, we did see a Sharp-shinned and a Cooper’s Hawk taking passes at one another, as well as a young Peregrine, probably a local bird. A couple of soaring Common Ravens and the nice view also made it worth the trip up there. All in all, it was a nice day. The complete species list is below.

Species List (53 Total)

| Great Blue Heron | Eastern Phoebe | Northern Mockingbird |
| Turkey Vulture | Blue-headed Vireo | Brown Thrasher |
| Sharp-shinned Hawk | Red-eyed Vireo | Magnolia Warbler |
| Cooper's Hawk | Blue Jay | Palm Warbler |
| Red-shouldered Hawk | American Crow | Pine Warbler |
| Red-tailed Hawk | Common Raven | Black-throated Green |
| Mourning Dove | Carolina Chickadee | Warbler |
| Great Horned Owl | Tufted Titmouse | Eastern Towhee |
| Chimney Swift | White-breasted Nuthatch | Chipping Sparrow |
| Ruby-throated Hummingbird | Brown-headed Nuthatch | Song Sparrow |
| Red-bellied Woodpecker | Carolina Wren | Dark-eyed Junco |
| Yellow-bellied Sapsucker | Ruby-crowned Kinglet | Summer Tanager |
| Downy Woodpecker | Eastern Bluebird | Scarlet Tanager |
| Hairy Woodpecker | Veery | Northern Cardinal |
| Northern Flicker | Gray-cheeked Thrush | Rose-breasted Grosbeak |
| Pileated Woodpecker | Swainson’s Thrush | Indigo Bunting |
| Peregrine Falcon | Wood Thrush | Orchard Oriole |
| Eastern Wood-Pewee | Gray Catbird | American Goldfinch |