



Piedmont Young Birders September Walk on Bicentennial Greenway, September 19, 2020

submitted by Stella Wear



photo by Lynn Allison

On Saturday, September 19, 2020, the Piedmont Young Birders (PYB) participated in another walk on the Bicentennial Greenway. It was a rather cool and windy morning, but we had a good turnout of seven youth and five parents. Melanie Buckingham, Lynn Allison, Tom Wear, and Stella Wear joined them to lead this walk at the Leonard Recreation Center.

A fair number (20) of species of birds were seen or heard. The main attraction on this walk was a family of Red-shouldered Hawks mobbed by a dozen American Crows. It is easy to understand why this group would be called a Murder of Crows. The spotting scope was very popular with everyone as it allowed all to see the details and differences between the parent and juvenile hawks. Other highlights and new for this walk were Eastern Phoebe and Ruby-crowned Kinglet.

This was the third time this section of the Bicentennial Greenway has been the location for the PYB monthly walks. The October walk will be on a different section of the Greenway, between Drawbridge Parkway and Horse Pen Creek Road. The section is more wooded and will provide different habitat types and a good opportunity for different species of birds.

The Piedmont Young Birders (PYB) is an organization for high school and middle school students. It is sponsored by T. Gilbert Pearson Audubon Society and The Piedmont Bird Club. Melanie Buckingham, member of both TGPAS and PBC, is the chair of the team of volunteers that helps with the programs for the youth group. In the future more youth will be invited to join this group. If you know someone who is interested in becoming a member of PYB, contact a member of the board of either TGPAS or PBC for information or email Melanie, melsbuck@yahoo.com.

Species List:

American Crow
American Goldfinch,
Belted Kingfisher,
Black Vulture
Blue Jay
Carolina Chickadee

Carolina Wren
Eastern Bluebird
Eastern Phoebe
Eastern Towhee
European Starling
Gray Catbird
Mourning Dove
Northern Cardinal

Northern Flicker
Northern Mockingbird
Red-bellied Woodpecker
Red-shouldered Hawk
Ruby-throated Hummingbird
Tufted Titmouse