

## Swift Night Out September 17, 2019

*Submitted by: Stella Wear, Field Trip Leader*

Swift Night Out was successful and fun again this year. On September 17, the weather was perfect. Thirty-five members of T. Gilbert Pearson Audubon Society, Piedmont Bird Club, and guests joined together to watch a swoop of more than 3,000 Chimney Swifts gather for their roosting display. Basically, the count was about 100 birds per person! Some watchers gathered on the roof at M'Coul's Public House in downtown Greensboro for social time, discussions about the swifts, and to watch for the gathering of the swifts prior to walking over to the Carolina Theatre to join the other watchers. The behaviors of the swifts were somewhat different this year. Instead of going to roost in one big group, they divided into three groups. As one group entered the chimney, others continued to fly around, swooping here and there before organizing into the familiar funnel to enter. It was rather dark when the third and largest group finally went to roost.

This was a joint event sponsored by T. Gilbert Pearson and Piedmont Bird Club.