

Beginning Birder Workshop 3 Attracting Birds in Your Back Yard May 15, 2016

By Dennis Burnette, Trip Leader

On May 15 we held the third of three workshops in our very popular series of "Beginning Birder Workshops for 2015-2016." The topic for each workshop has been different for different aspects of birding. The topic this time was "Attracting Birds to Your Back Yard" and focused on bird feeding, bird feeders, and using bird friendly plants in our home landscapes. We had 24 participants.

The workshops have included a 45-minute classroom presentation and discussion followed by 45 minutes of watching feeders and looking for birds outdoors. Each has been at the KCEF Branch Library in Price Park. It was co-sponsored by T. Gilbert Pearson Audubon Society and Piedmont Bird Club and led by Dennis Burnette, who is active in both organizations.



We have had good publicity through the library and the Greensboro newspaper, as well as our organizational websites, Facebook pages, and the TGPAS newsletter. Approximately 100 people have joined us for our three workshops, which we consider excellent outreach to the community.



For this last workshop in the series, we were fortunate to have Stella Wear who also is active in both TGPAS and PBC. She is our local expert on Brown-headed Nuthatch nesting boxes. She showed us a box with a nest that had been installed behind the library and explained the Audubon North Carolina project through which these declining birds are being helped and monitored.

Experienced members of TGPAS and PBC have assisted with each of the three workshops as mentors. They helped participants find and identify the birds we were watching, gave tips on using binoculars, and answered questions about birds and birding. We appreciate the help in this May workshop of Dennis Burnette, Lynn Burnette, Stella Wear, Tom Wear, Gregg Morris, Julien McCarthy, and Emily Tyler. We also thank Fiona Meisner for being our photographer for this session.