



Guilford County Farm, August 27, 2022

submitted by Lyn McCoy

Trip Coordinator(s): Lyn McCoy, assisted by Jim Gant

Location: Guilford County Farm, Howerton Road

Temperature: mid to high 80's

Weather: Partly Cloudy

Target Bird(s), if any: The Swallow-tailed Kite had recently been seen at the farm

Number of participants: Approximately 24

Bird List: Mourning Doves, Ruby-throated Hummingbirds, Great Blue Heron, Green Heron, Black Vultures, Turkey Vultures, Swallow-tailed Kite, Cooper's Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Red-headed Woodpeckers, Red-bellied Woodpeckers, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Eastern Phoebe, Great Crested Flycatcher, American Crows, Fish Crows, Tufted Titmouse, Purple Martin, Tree Swallows, Bank Swallows, Barn Swallows, Cliff Swallow, Blue-gray Gnatcatchers, Carolina Wrens, European Starlings, Gray Catbird, Northern Mocking Birds, American Goldfinches, Chipping Sparrows, Field Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Eastern Meadowlarks, Yellow Warbler, Blue Grosbeaks, and an Indigo Bunting

Comments: (such as, notable birds seen, interesting bird or animal behavior, condition of the birding site, participant comments):

The most significant highlight of this Bird Walk was the participation of Outdoor Afro, as well as some of TG Pearson Audubon Society's Young Birders, one with his Mom.

We met in the Farm parking lot on August 27 at 8:00, an early start because it promised to be a very hot day, with a high of 88. We had approximately 24 participants, including Lyn McCoy and Jim Gant, co-coordinators. We also provided some loaner binoculars to a few who required them. Experienced birders such as Sean Leahy and Tom Gaffney were truly helpful with the large number of less experienced birders who participated. Together we all made this trip, our very first partnership with Outdoor Afro, a rousing success. Everyone had a wonderful time and were enthusiastic about joining the club on future trips!

Our target bird, the Swallow-tailed Kite, swooped in at about 9:30 along Howerton Rd and stayed to give us quite a show. Once Sean explained what a special sighting this was, and that people drive hundreds of miles to see this bird, the crowd was in awe.





Tree swallows and Barn swallows were everywhere, giving us an eyeful perched on power lines, swooping through the air, and even perched by the dozens on tall weeds in the meadow close by. Hummingbirds, of course, were taking advantage of the jewelweed blooming by the road.

The trip ended at about 11:00, everybody gathering in the shade at the parking lot to share impressions of the day, and for some, to return their loaner binoculars.