



Piedmont Young Birders Club Meeting, January 19, 2020

submitted by Dennis Burnette

The new Piedmont Young Birders Club met on Sunday, January 19th, for their monthly outing. For this meeting the group convened at Lake Higgins Marina in Greensboro. This youth birding club is a joint project of Piedmont Bird Club and T. Gilbert Pearson Audubon Society and is guided by volunteers from those two groups.

The group was met in the marina classroom by Alma Stott, an environmental educator with Greensboro Parks & Recreation. Alma also is an artist. She showed the students how to sketch birds and encouraged them to start a nature journal. Each participant got their own nature journal to take with them and use in future meetings.

Following the classroom portion of the meeting, everyone went outside to do some birding around Lake Higgins. Ducks were scarce, but most of the group members saw American Coots, Double-crested Cormorants, a lone Pied-billed Grebe, several Great Blue Herons, and many Ring-billed Gulls.

We bring loaner binoculars and field guides each time for the students to use. In addition, thanks to several of the adult volunteers, we had three telescopes on hand for long range viewing. Most people were able to get close-up looks at the chalk-white bill and red eyes of a coot and the black ring around the bill of one of the gulls.

Thanks to adults Lynn Allison, Melanie Buckingham, Dennis Burnette, Megan Damico, Lynne Gray, Amy Hansen, Ann Steighner, Alma Stotts, Stella Wear, and Tom Wear for volunteering their time for this fun group.