



## Piedmont Young Birders Visit Haw River State Park, November 20, 2021

*submitted by Jim Gant*

Saturday morning, November 20, the Piedmont Young Birders Club had a bird walk at the Haw River State Park. We observed and/or heard 22 species. Our big prize for the group was a sighting by all of a Merlin! We saw it as we were out on the boardwalk. If you're not familiar with this park, a long boardwalk spans water and wetlands—lots of tall grass and thickets, as well as a lot of dead trees where many woodpeckers have left their marks. The Merlin flew in and stayed on top of one of the dead trees, warming up in the sun for several minutes and posing as well.

### Species List

Turkey Vulture  
Yellow-bellied  
Sapsucker  
Red-headed  
Woodpecker  
Red-bellied  
Woodpecker Downy  
Woodpecker

Pileated Woodpecker  
Northern Flicker  
**Merlin**  
Blue Jay  
American Crows  
Carolina Chickadee  
Tufted Titmouse  
Ruby-crowned Kinglet  
White-breasted  
Nuthatch

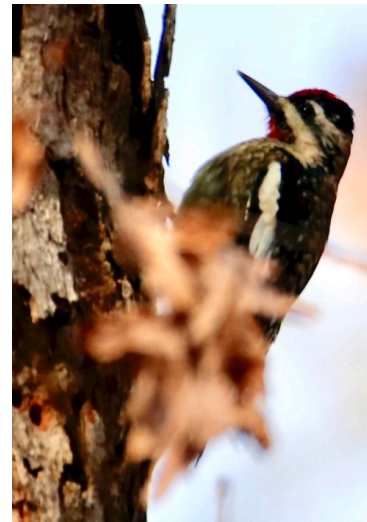
Carolina Wren  
Eastern Bluebird  
American Robin  
Dark-eyed Junco  
White-throated Sparrow  
Song Sparrow  
Common Grackle  
Northern Cardinal



*Merlin by Jim Gant*



*PYB at Haw River State Park by Lynn Allison*



*Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, male  
by Jim Gant*