



Swifts Night Out, September 20, 2022

submitted by Stella Ware

Trip Coordinator(s): Tom and Stella Wear

Location: Melvin C. Swann Middle School, Greensboro, NC

Temperature: 60 degrees or so

Weather: A beautiful night with perfect viewing conditions

Target Bird(s), if any: Chimney Swifts

Number of participants: 80+ from Piedmont Bird Club, T. Gilbert Pearson Audubon Society, Outdoor Afro, Piedmont Young Birders, and Swann Middle School PTA

Bird List: Approximately 2700 Chimney Swifts observed

Comments:

Migrating chimney swifts offered an amazing demonstration of their nighttime roosting habits. They twittered above the school grounds and around the chimney of the school and finally decided to dive into the chimney a few at a time, then in increasing numbers, until they were all finally in for the night. It was a remarkable spectacle!

Swifts may not roost in the same places every year so a special thanks goes out to Jim Eldrett for scouting out this wonderful roosting place.

Over 80 people gathered at the school and watched (and cheered!) as the swifts circled the area and entered the chimney. May they have a safe migration south, and return next year!

