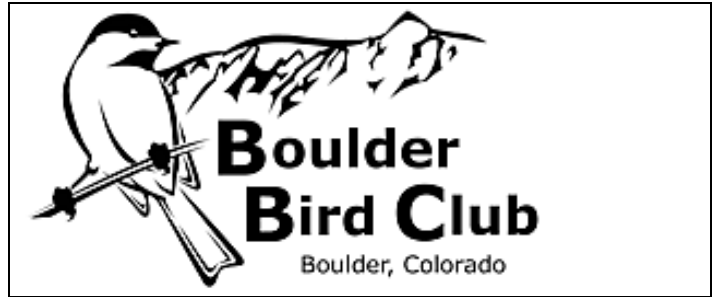


BOULDER BIRD CLUB NEWSLETTER

<http://www.boulderbirdclub.org>

*Dedicated to the Field Observation of
Birds Since 1947
July - September 2018*



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Newsletter and Birding Lists

Jane Baryames 303-910-0293
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Membership

Nancy Ries Morrison 303-396-2412
bbclubmembership@gmail.com

Welcome New Members

Marie Beatty	Longmont
Nancy Liebetrau	Erie
Mary Tharp	Lafayette
Sherry Ellms	Niwot
Shirley Jin	Boulder
Rob Cassady	Louisville

Glad to have you all in the Club and hope to see you on a Field Trip soon!

President's letter – Summer 2018

Summer.... a time of plenty and a time of hiding. There are plenty of birds around, if you can find them. Sitting on nests requires quiet and feeding young makes for busy birds. All this causes birds to be a little more of a challenge to find this time of year. No problem though. We go out and look and often find them. That's all part of the avian circle of life.

Birding with a club like the BBC makes finding birds at this time of year much easier than going out on your own and more fun as well. We enjoy being with each other and sharing the joy of finding that bird that we know is in that tree, if only she'd just move a little.

Many eyes, and ears, make the finding much easier and that is why we love the Boulder Bird Club and going out together, no matter what time of year. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all the members for their commitment and love of the "sport". We are a fun and dedicated group that has persevered for over 50 years. May our group continue on for another 50-some years.

HAPPY BIRDING!

Carolyn Beach

Here's the link to the Boulder Bird Club on Yahoo groups:
<https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/boulderbirdclub/info>

Here's the Summer Field Trip line-up:

◆◆◆NOTE OUR NEW MEETING SPOT◆◆◆

DUE TO CONGESTION IN THE PARKING LOT WHERE WE'VE BEEN MEETING AT THE EAST BOULDER REC CENTER, WE ARE MOVING TO A SMALLER PARKING LOT JUST WEST OF THERE (THE FIRST RIGHT AFTER YOU MAKE THE TURN AROUND THE CURVE COMING IN ON 55TH FROM BASELINE, WEST OF THE TENNIS COURT).

Our Summer calendar begins with nesting birds raising their young in July, the first southbound migrants (shorebirds) in late August, the southerly migration of songbirds in the first half of September, and golden aspens as September ends. We've scheduled trips to see all of these, along with the birds of the higher mountain forests that we haven't yet seen this year.

Bring a little money to chip in for carpooling if warranted, and to buy yourself a cup of coffee afterward. Most trips return to the EBRC parking lot by 11:00 am, then we head to Big Daddy's Bagels in the Meadows Shopping Center for coffee. If you can't recall the field trip schedule, check the www.boulderbirdclub.org site.

Sunday, July 1, 2018

FIRST SUNDAY BIRDING AT WALDEN WILDLIFE HABITAT 8:00 am to around 11:00 am

leaders: Peter and Gretchen Ridgeway
239-250-9323 xkowss@gmail.com

We'll see migrants, arriving residents, and should find some shorebirds. Meet at the Cottonwood Marsh parking lot at the end of the Walden Ponds Road, off 75th just south of Jay. Bring binoculars, a scope if you'd like, something to drink, and a snack if you think you'll get hungry. Everyone welcome.

Wednesday July 4, 2018

BUTTERFLIES, WILDFLOWERS, AND BIRDS 7:30 am – 11:00 am

Contact: Jan Chu 2chuhouse2@outlook.com

We will join the Annual **Cal-Wood 4th of July Butterfly Count** at the Cal-Wood Education Center for the 35th Annual 4th of July Butterfly Count. This is an opportunity to enjoy the beauty of this exceptional facility, not usually open to the public, in the mountains west of Jamestown. There is a modest \$3 fee. Although the focus will be on butterfly identification, we can keep a bird checklist too. Meet at the East Boulder Rec at 7:30 am for carpooling, or at Geer Meadow, which is about half way along the road into Cal-Wood after the T intersection at Balarat, at 8:00 am. (Lonnie Frye and boys will be there to meet you).

Wednesday, July 11, 2018

TWO EVENTS THIS DAY!!!

1. MEYER'S GULCH 7:30 am – 11:00 am

leader: Paula Hansley 303-263-1714
redstart.paula@gmail.com

We will head higher to a favorite Boulder Open Space Park we haven't been to for a while, Walker Ranch, and bird along the Meyer's Gulch trail. Perhaps a Sapsucker will be drumming, or an Ovenbird will be singing! The wildflowers should be great too. Meet at East Boulder Rec at 7:30 am to car pool.

2. EVENING BIRD TRIP IN THE CITY

leader: Lonny Frye 303-931-9131
lonnyfrye@gmail.com

We will repeat a fun evening trip we did last year, starting off by looking for Common Nighthawks in the meadows north of town, then coming into the city to scan the skies for Chimney Swifts. We'll end the evening over a beer or a glass of wine on Lonny's roof, watching for chimney swifts overhead. Here's the plan: Meet at the **Foothills Trailhead Parking Lot at 7:00 pm**

Wednesday evening. To get there, drive north on US 36/28th St until it intersects with Broadway, then go just 1/4 mile farther and turn right (east) onto the north Broadway extension, (it turns into a gravel road). The parking lot is on the left a few hundred yards down the road. We'll check for nighthawks in this area, then drive a bit south to check the extensive meadows to the

east of 26th St (also gravel) just east of the Forest Service office. We will then drive to Lonny's house at 1644 Pine Street to look for libations and Chimney Swifts.

Wednesday July 18, 2018

7:30 am – 11:00 am+

BRAINARD LAKE RECREATION AREA

leaders: Sharon Norfleet and Gary Baxley
720-273-5689 gebsmn@gmail.com

Sharon and Gary will once again lead us to Brainard Lake, one of the favorite birding spots on our annual schedule. We'll have our best chance of the year of seeing birds like Three-toed Woodpeckers and Pine Grosbeaks in the Ponderosa Pines, Gray Jays in the higher Englemann Spruce-Subalpine Fir forest, and Fox Sparrows, Lincoln's Sparrows, and Wilson's Warblers in the willow carrs. Meet at East Boulder Rec at 7:30 to car pool.

Wednesday July 25, 2018

TRAIL RIDGE ROAD, RMNP

leader: Carolyn Beach 303-443-0129
clbeach415@earthlink.net

Carolyn will lead us back to the spot where the Club found a White-tailed Ptarmigan last year (keep your fingers crossed!). We'll then look for other birds in the Park in higher altitude forests. Meet at East Boulder Rec at 7:30 am to car pool.

Wednesday August 1, 2018

SKUNK CANYON

leader: Jane Baryames 303-910-0293
janeb1952@gmail.com

Since we cancelled our planned trip to Skunk Canyon on May 2nd, we'll try again August 1st. Meet at East Boulder Rec at 7:30 am to carpool, or take Table Mesa Drive to Vassar, turn right and park in the neighborhood. We can meet there at the beginning of the trail.

Sunday August 5, 2018

ANNUAL CLUB PICNIC after FIRST SUNDAY BIRDING AT WALDEN WILDLIFE HABITAT

Birding will begin at 8 am, and the picnic will follow about 10 am.

Leader: Peggy Gonder 303-246-0511

peggy.gonder@gonderpr.com

Picnic Organizer: Nancy Ries Morrison

303-396-2412 nanries@gmail.com

We will bird for a couple of hours before our annual summer picnic in the covered shelter near our usual meeting spot at the Cottonwood Marsh parking lot (at the end of the Walden Ponds Road, off 75th just south of Jay). Please bring something to eat and even share if you want. Nancy will have coolers with ice. ALL welcome to come for birding and/or even just for the picnic. The Club will furnish water, ice and soft drinks. Everyone is welcome, and no reservations are needed! Questions: Call Nancy at 303-396-2412.



*Western Bluebird, Betasso Preserve, May 9, 2018
©Jane Baryames*

Wednesday, August 8, 2018

BURROWING OWLS

leader: Diane Carter 303-427-3371
deecar7@gmail.com

Location: To Be Determined (Diane will be checking the best current spot for finding owls before the trip.) We'll search Prairie Dog towns for Prairie Dogs that look like Owls. If we find the owls quickly, we can try some nearby spots for other birds we haven't found on Club trips yet this year. Meet at East Boulder Rec at 7:30 am to car pool.

Wednesday, August 15, 2018

DAVIS HUMMINGBIRD FEEDERS and Lyons Area Birding

Meet at East Boulder Rec Center at 7:30 am for carpooling, or at the Lyons RTD Park and Ride (just south of the main highway on 4th Ave & Broadway) at 8:00 am. We'll do some birding in the Lyons area, then travel to Davis' foothills home for picnicking and

great birding and photography. On Davis's deck, we will see dozens of hummingbirds of 3 species, along with many foothills birds (we've seen Pinyon Jays on some of our past trips). Our trip will end around 1:00 pm, but you're welcome to hang around longer on the deck if you're looking for that perfect photograph. Bring lunch and something to drink.

Questions? Call Davis at 303-823-5332 or Nancy at 303-396-2412.

Wednesday, August 22, 2018

Returning Shorebirds

7:30 am - afternoon

leader: Dick Pautsch rjpautsch@gmail.com

We will switch gears to look for the first migrants of the fall season, shorebirds. We'll explore shallow ponds east of Greeley which typically host a variety of shorebirds, including Lohoff. Dick will check ebird.org to see where the birds are before we go. Possible species include Solitary, Least, Pectoral, Baird's and Stilt Sandpipers, Long-billed Dowitcher, Marbled Godwit, both Yellowlegs, Avocets and Black-necked Stilts. A great chance to learn about identifying challenging fall shorebirds! Meet at East Boulder Rec at 7:30 am to carpool, or on the east side of the Walmart parking lot in Longmont at 7:50 am (the Walmart on Highway 119 on the east side of Longmont). Plan on chipping in for carpooling.

Wednesday, August 29, 2018

"CHASE LATE SUMMER BIRDS WE'VE MISSED" trip.

7:30 am - 11:00 am

leader: TBD

We'll drive around Boulder County looking for birds such as Cassin's Kingbird, Sage Thrasher, Franklin's and California Gulls, Black Tern and other Terns, and other summer birds we need for our Club's 2018 list.

If you are on Facebook, check out the "Boulder Bird Club" page, for photos from BBC trips and more.



Wild Turkey, Heil Valley Ranch, May 16, 2018
©Nancy Morrison

Sunday September 2, 2018

FIRST SUNDAY BIRDING AT WALDEN WILDLIFE HABITAT 8:00 am to around 11:00 am

Leader: Iris Sherman 303-817-9838

irisshermanb@gmail.com

Some of our first migrants should be returning, and the new birds born this summer should be active. Meet at the Cottonwood Marsh parking lot (at the end of the Walden Ponds Road, off 75th just south of Jay). Bring binoculars, a scope if you'd like, something to drink, and a snack if you think you'll get hungry. Everyone welcome.

Wednesday, September 5, 2018

Migrating Songbirds I

7:30 am - 11:00 am

leader: Jim Fisher 303-345-7209

Jim will take us to one of his favorite spots, the Wheat Ridge Greenbelt, to look for Warblers, Flycatchers and a variety of other birds heading south for the winter. Meet at East Boulder Rec to carpool at 7:30 am, or at the Prospect Park parking lot at 8:15 am (entrance is on the south side of 44th Avenue, just east of Robb).

Wednesday, September 12, 2018

Migrating Songbirds II

7:30 am - 11:00 am

leader: Jane Baryames 303-910-0293

janeb1952@gmail.com

Jane will take us to local hotspots such as the path from East/Space Center CU campus to Scott Carpenter Park, Green Mountain

Cemetery, Skunk Creek or wherever interesting birds are showing up on Cobirds and ebird.org.

Wednesday September 17, 2018

Barr Lake State Park

7:30 am – 11:00 am

leader: Carolyn Beach 303-443-0129

clbeach415@earthlink.net

We'll go to Barr Lake State Park, where we'll visit the Bird Banding Station to see some fall migrants very close up while learning about bird banding and the contributions it makes to science. We'll then bird along the south side of the lake to look for migrating songbirds, shorebirds, gulls and terns. Meet at East Boulder Rec at 7:30 am to carpool, or at the Nature Center at Barr Lake State Park at 8:30 am (at the end of the park road from the park entrance on Piccadilly Road). We should try and car pool with members who have State Park Passes. Plan on chipping in for carpooling.

Wednesday, September 26, 2018

Caribou Ranch

7:30 am – 11:00 am

leader: Lars Buur 303-585-0346

lmbuur@gmail.com

For our last Roadrunners trip of the summer, Lars will take us on a hike through Lodgepole Pines, Spruce, Fir and Aspen, while scanning the skies for Goshawks. We're hoping that the Aspens will be turning to gold (and that it won't be snowing on the 26th). Meet at East Boulder Rec at 7:30 am to car pool, or at the Caribou Ranch parking lot at 8:00 am.



© Peter Ridgeway

Lewis's Woodpecker, Heil Valley Ranch, May 16, 2018

©Peter Ridgeway



© Peter Ridgeway

Northern Rough-winged Swallow, Walden Ponds, May 6, 2018 ©Peter Ridgeway

As you can see, Boulder Bird Club member Peter Ridgeway takes beautiful photos!

The link below will access a web site for some of his photos. It's organized by: Birds of Colorado, Birds of Florida, etc. Because many of his Colorado pictures were taken on BBC trips, he would like to make the web site available to our members. The birds are labeled (small print - bottom right). Peter would appreciate feedback if any bird is incorrectly labeled. The web site:

<https://xkowss.myportfolio.com>



Snowy Egret, Walden Ponds, June 3, 2018

©Peter Ridgeway

In Memoriam



Elizabeth Mekkelsen, 1914-2018

Elizabeth Mekkelsen's loving heart stopped on May 23 as she sat in a chair looking out the window looking at birds. Interested in everything in the natural world, Elizabeth lived a rich life for 104 years and 3 months, and was her usual lucid, cheerful self to the end. Many old-timers in the Boulder area got their start at birding from Elizabeth who led her elementary school students on natural history field trips, taught for the National Wildlife Federation, and was an early member of the Boulder Bird Club, which she often chaired. One of my vivid memories is hiking with Elizabeth above treeline when we were caught by a severe thunderstorm. With dark clouds and lightning bolts all around, Elizabeth remained sunny. She was sad about the state of our world but lived her own life with kindness and optimism.

Carol Cushman
East Boulder. County