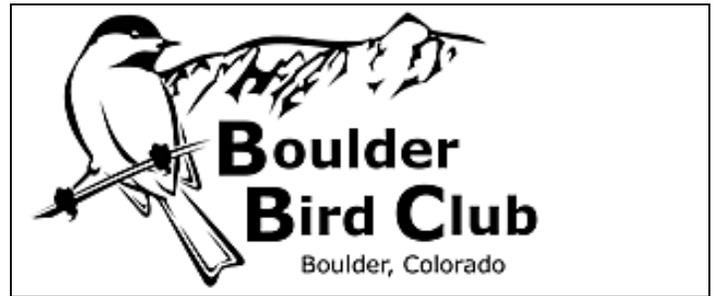


# BOULDER BIRD CLUB NEWSLETTER

<http://www.boulderbirdclub.org>

*Dedicated to the Field Observation of  
Birds Since 1947  
January – March 2019*



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## **President's letter – Winter 2019**

Happy New Year to all my Boulder Bird Club friends and colleagues. My how time flies! I can hardly believe that my two years as President of the BBC has come and gone. I'm happy to have been able to serve and gratefully turn over my duties to our new President, Sharon Norfleet. We also have a new Field Trip Coordinator (Gary Baxley) and a new Bird List maintainer (Karen Axe). Our other officers remain the same. They are: Lonny Frye, Vice President; Janice Rogers, Secretary; Elease Miller, Treasurer; Newsletter Editor, Jane Baryames; Membership Coordinator, Nancy Ries Morrison. Thanks to Dick Pautsch for coordinating field trips for the past three years and to Jane Baryames for serving double duty as the bird list maintainer. We had a great year last year and will have an even better year in 2019.

Join us for all of our birding adventures in the coming year. This is Carolyn Beach signing off.



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Thank you, Lonny and Vivienne, for hosting the annual Holiday Party at your home once again! We appreciate your generous hospitality! And, thank you, Peter Ridgeway, for the interesting slide show of your Costa Rica bird photos!

### **\*\*\*Annual Dues\*\*\***

The renewal form for your membership is enclosed. Please take a moment and send the annual \$10 dues to Nancy Ries Morrison soon. Address: 4990 Moorhead Ave., Apt. 310, Boulder CO 80305.

## **ANNUAL SPECIES SEER TROPHY**



Karen Axe took home the Species Seer trophy from the BBC Christmas party. Her guess of 204 species was closest to our BBC 2018 field trip total of 203. We did much better this year than last year, when we saw only 170.

We saw some remarkable birds in 2018, including the Vermillion Flycatcher, two Snowy Owls, a Short-billed Dowitcher, an American Golden-Plover, and a Tri-colored Heron. But we still missed some birds we normally see, like Rock Wren, Sandhill Crane, Chimney Swift, Black-chinned Hummingbird, Great Egret, Williamson's and Red-naped Sapsuckers, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Sage Thrasher, and the Rosy-Finches.

Let's see what our new field trip coordinator, Gary Baxley, can find for us in 2019! Submit your guess for the number of species we'll see in 2019 to [ripautsch@gmail.com](mailto:ripautsch@gmail.com) by year-end.

Here's the Winter Field Trip line-up:

### **Sunday January 6, 2019**

**FIRST SUNDAY BIRDING AT WALDEN WILDLIFE HABITAT 9:00 am to around 11:30 am** (ending time depends on the weather and the birds) Leader: Tony Delany (303)-494-8190 [acdelany@live.com](mailto:acdelany@live.com)  
This should be a fun way to begin the new birding year! Meet at the Cottonwood Marsh parking lot (at the end of the Walden Ponds Road, off 75th just south of Jay). Bring binoculars, clothes to match the weather, something to drink and a snack if you think you'll get hungry. Everyone welcome.

### **Saturday January 19, 2019**

**OUR ANNUAL DUCKPALOOZA ALONG THE SOUTH PLATTE RIVER, 8:30 am**

Leader: Diane Carter (303)-427-3371  
[Deecar7@gmail.com](mailto:Deecar7@gmail.com)

Meet at 8:30 am at East Boulder Rec. Center for carpooling. NEW MEETING SPOT on the Platte: 78th & Steele St. (Take Washington St to 78th. Drive east to a sharp right turn north on Steele. Park in the lot on the east of Steele.) We'll walk up to 2 miles on paved trail along the river (note: there are no restrooms along the trail). There's a possibility of seeing 17 waterfowl species including Barrow's Goldeneye. We will bird until about 11:00. There will be an optional coffee stop at Boyer's coffee on Washington Street and 76th after birding.

**Saturday January 26, 2019**  
**WINTER MOUNTAIN BIRDS IN**  
**ALLENSPARK, 8:00 am**

Leader: Rolf Hertenstein  
[rfherten@gmail.com](mailto:rfherten@gmail.com)

Rolf Hertenstein will take us to Allenspark on a search for winter mountain birds. We'll look for Evening and Pine Grosbeaks, Gray Jays and Clark's Nutcrackers, Hairy Woodpeckers and Cassin's Finches, plus the resident flock of Wild Turkeys at feeders on our walk through Allenspark. Meet at East Boulder Rec at 8:00 a.m., or at the Park and Ride in Lyons (near the restrooms) at 8:30 am, where we'll join up with our leader Rolf. We'll stop to warm up with coffee or lunch at a mountain café after a morning's birding and return to Boulder by mid-afternoon.

**Sunday February 3, 2019**  
**FIRST SUNDAY BIRDING AT WALDEN**  
**WILDLIFE HABITAT 9:00 am to around**  
**11:30 am**

Leader: Janice Rogers (207)-522-8044  
[boborjanice@yahoo.com](mailto:boborjanice@yahoo.com)

Meet at the Cottonwood Marsh parking lot (at the end of the Walden Ponds Road, off 75th just south of Jay). Bring binoculars, clothes to match the weather, something to drink and a snack if you think you'll get hungry. Everyone welcome.

**Saturday February 9, 2019**  
**ROCKY MOUNTAIN ARSENAL NATIONAL**  
**WILDLIFE REFUGE**

Leader: Diane Carter (303)-427-3371  
[Deecar7@gmail.com](mailto:Deecar7@gmail.com)

This year we will meet at the visitors' center at the Arsenal and bird the lakes and trails on the Arsenal. Then we will drive the wildlife loop. Meet at East Boulder Rec Center at 8:30 am for carpooling. Meet at the Arsenal at 9:00 am. Scopes are helpful on this trip.

**NOTE:** Be sure to enter the park from 64th Ave which turns into Prairie Parkway. Some Google maps take you to the old visitors' center which no longer exists.

**Sunday March 3, 2019**  
**FIRST SUNDAY BIRDING AT WALDEN**  
**WILDLIFE HABITAT 9:00 am to around**  
**11:30 am**

Leader: Pat Heller (303)-819-6745  
[pat\\_heller@msn.com](mailto:pat_heller@msn.com)

With luck, there will be some open water filled with ducks beginning to think about heading north. Meet at the Cottonwood Marsh parking lot (at the end of the Walden Ponds Road, off 75th just south of Jay). Bring binoculars, clothes to match the weather, something to drink and a snack if you think you'll get hungry. Everyone welcome.

**Wednesday morning Road**  
**Creepers**

We will meet each Wednesday morning this winter through April 10th at 8:30 am at the northwest corner of the parking lot of the East Boulder Recreation Center (5660 Sioux Drive, Boulder). We'll decide where to go, organize carpools, and try to leave by 8:35 am, so please be on time. The trips are not strenuous and usually involve strolling on trails while looking for birds and other items of natural history interest. New birders are welcome!

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 Meadowood Shopping Center for coffee (if it's really cold, we'll go to Big Daddy's earlier).

*NOTE: We've got some hearty members in the group, so the weather has to be pretty bad for our trips to be cancelled. A couple of people almost always show up, as long as we're not having a blizzard. If in doubt, call leader or check our [www.boulderbirdclub.org](http://www.boulderbirdclub.org) site at Yahoo Groups.*

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The 77th Annual Boulder Audubon Christmas count was held on Sunday, December 16th. The initial count total was 101 species. This year's unusually nice weather seemed to allow birds which would normally have moved down into lower elevations to stay in the foothills instead of gathering at feeders in the city. Bushtits, which had been seen on only 1/3rd of previous counts, were seen at several places this year. But cold winter species like Rough-legged Hawks, Northern Shrikes and Bohemian Waxwings were notably absent. The shutdown of the Boulder power plant means that Valmont Reservoir is no long the ice-free water bird magnet it used to be, reducing the species count by several birds.

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© Peter Ridgeway

*Long-billed Dowitcher, 10/17/2018, Twin Lakes, ©Peter Ridgeway*



© Peter Ridgeway

*Sora, 10/24/18, Sombrero Marsh, Oct. 24, 2018, ©Peter Ridgeway*



© Peter Ridgeway

*Red-breasted Nuthatch, Caribou Ranch, 9/5/2018, ©Peter Ridgeway*



*Vermillion Flycatcher, 10/3/2018, Walden Ponds, ©Jane Baryames*



*Common Raven, 10/31/2018, Boulder Reservoir, ©Jane Baryames*

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