



BOULDER BIRD CLUB NEWSLETTER

<http://www.boulderbirdclub.org>

Dedicated to the Field Observation of Birds

Since 1947

July – Sept. 2019

President's letter – Summer 2019

Welcome to Summer! Let's hope it will be as exciting as our past spring. Spring found club birders bundling up, wearing rain gear at times, but carrying an enthusiasm (if not umbrellas) for birding in all things weather. It was an unusually cool spring and very different from our recent past years. Our Annual Spring Meeting fit perfectly with "Where the Weather Takes Us" brilliantly presented by Bryan Guarente. Certainly, it gave me the tools to seek and take advantage of where birds can be found in various weather patterns using wind maps. It was an interesting and educational experience for all who attended. Check out <https://earth.nullschool.net>.

As many of you, I am enjoying watching the bird activity in my backyard. The House Wren is in and out of the nest box so I'm looking for fledglings soon. A family of Black-billed Magpies showed up and the adults did their best hanging from the spinning suet feeder successfully getting chunks of food.

Last year we had seen approximately 15 days of 90 degrees by now! But wildlife knows these

variables and adapts. That is why it is interesting every year along the birding trail.

Summer should find us walking from shade to shade seeking the sometimes quiet of growing birds fattening up in the lush spring growth for future migration. Food sources should be abundant for the birds.

Check out all the Summer bird walks led by dedicated members. In the middle of those scheduled walks we'll have the Annual Summer Picnic with great food, and enjoy a relaxing time visiting with birding friends following a bird walk at Walden Ponds.

Spring brought out good attendance on a number of our Roadrunner trips. I'd like to warmly welcome our new members and look forward to enjoying time together with all of you in the outdoors this summer.

Sharon Norfleet
BBC President



Red-breasted Merganser, April 24, 2019
Barr Lake, Adams County
©Peter Ridgeway

Welcome, new BBC members!

Teri Ficken, Longmont
Kay & Ray Clark, Longmont
Cathy Comstock, Boulder
Annyce Mayer, Boulder

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Savannah Sparrow, Cherryvale Rd. 6/5/19
©Jane Baryames

Wednesday, July 3, 2019

HEIL VALLEY RANCH

7:30 am to 11:00 am

leaders: Sharon Norfleet and Gary Baxley
720-273-5689 gary_baxley@yahoo.com
Bring binoculars, a scope if you'd like,
something to drink, and a snack if you think
you'll get hungry. Everyone welcome.

Butterfly Adventure and Count Thursday, July 4, 2019

You are invited to participate in the 36th annual
Butterfly Count at Cal-Wood Education Center,
Jamestown area.

Meet at 7:30 in the Safeway parking lot, Boulder,
just south of Iris and west of 28th Street to carpool.
Leave at 7:45 to drive to the Geier Meadow. Return
by 4 p.m. Or meet at the Geier Meadow (on the
county road 87, before Cal-Wood) at 8:30 am.
Begin looking for butterflies in the Meadow.
At 10:30 divide into several smaller groups to go
into Cal-Wood.

Experienced naturalists will lead the participants to
several areas:

1. Meadow just inside the gate, then to Homestead
cabin
2. High Point and Solitude Overlook return by trail
3. Upper pond to lower pond and return by road
4. Mica Mine and lower riparian Creekside. Carpool
and return by Cal-Wood road
5. Button Rock Preserve (7 miles west of Lyons.
Meet in the BR parking lot. by 8:15 am. Contact
Lynn and Gene Monroe 303-823-0345 for details.

About 3:30 meet on Calvert Lodge porch to
tabulate the results. Lemonade provided.
Bring hat, sunscreen, long-sleeved shirt, sturdy
shoes, binoculars, butterfly book, water, lunch.
Children are most welcome with supervising adult.
Our results added to 400+ counts in U.S. \$3 is
collected for the North American Butterfly
Association.

Information and RSVP: Jan Chu
2chuhouse2@gmail.com or 303-494-3198



Northwestern Fritillary

Sunday, July 7, 2019
FIRST SUNDAY BIRDING AT WALDEN
WILDLIFE HABITAT

8:00 am to around 11:00 am

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

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 10, 2019
GOLDEN GATE CANYON STATE PARK
7:30 am to 1:00 pm

Leader: Emil Yappert 303-834-0911
eyappert@gmail.com

Emil will lead the group in Golden Canyon State Park (entrance fee). We will look for nesting sapsuckers. Also, we will look for warblers, flycatchers and any other birds we can find. Bring a lunch to enjoy at Bootleg Bottom. We will assemble at the Visitors Center at about 8:15 AM. Meet at East Boulder Rec at 7:30 to carpool. If you have a state parks pass it would be nice if you could carpool.

Wednesday, July 17, 2019
TENDER FOOT TRAIL/FLAGSTAFF
MOUNTAIN

7:30 am to 11:00 am

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

Jane will lead the group through the ponderosa pine forest to observe the bird populations. Maybe we will see a lost Pinyon Jay? Meet at East Boulder Rec at 7:30 to carpool. Everyone is welcome. Bring water and a hat.

Wednesday, July 24, 2019
PELLA CROSSING

7:30 am to 11:00 am

Leader: Kevin Clark 303-906-7593
kclark1029@hotmail.com

Kevin will lead the group through varied habitats with numerous bird species from sandpipers to swallows.

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 31, 2019
BRAINARD LAKE RECREATION AREA
7:30 am – 11:00 am+

leaders: Sharon Norfleet and Gary Baxley 720-273-5689 gary_baxley@yahoo.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 Engelmann 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 carpool. Bring water, a snack and hat.



Broad-tailed Hummingbird, Meyers Gulch, 5/29/2019 ©Jane Baryames



Swainson's Hawk, Walden Ponds, 5/5/19
©Bruce Raup

Sunday, August 4, 2019
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: Jean Morgan 303-666-4149

missjeanbee322@gmail.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.

Wednesday, August 14, 2019
DAVIS HUMMINGBIRD FEEDERS and
LYONS AREA BIRDING

7:30 am – 11:00 am+

Meet at East Boulder Rec Center at 7:30 am for carpooling (strongly encouraged), or at Davis' house 938 Colard Lane, Lyons, CO at 8:15 am. On Davis's deck, we will see dozens of hummingbirds of 4 species, along with many Foothills birds (we've seen Pinyon Jays on some of our past trips). Then we'll do some birding in the Lyons area. Our trip will end around 1:00 pm. Questions? Call Davis at 303-823-5332 or Nancy at 303-396-2412.

Wednesday, August 21, 2019
RABBIT MOUNTAIN

7:30 am – 11:00 am

Leader: Jane Baryames 303-910-0293

janeb1952@gmail.com

Jane will lead the group on a hike at Rabbit Mountain outside of Lyons. We will look for Green-tailed Towhees, Spotted Towhees and rattlesnakes. Bring a snack, water, hat and **wear hiking boots**. Meet at East Boulder Rec at 7:30 to carpool.

Wednesday, August 28, 2019
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 Loloff Reservoir. 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.



Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Walden Ponds May 5, 2019 ©Bruce Raup

Wednesday, August 7, 2019
CU RESEARCH PARK BOULDER CREEK
7:30 am – 11:00 am

Leader: Iris Sherman 303-817-9838

irisshermanb@gmail.com

Iris will lead the group in the CU Research park area to look for early migrating water birds and maybe some early passerines. Meet at East Boulder Rec at 7:30 to carpool. Everyone is welcome.

Sunday, September 1, 2019
FIRST SUNDAY BIRDING AT WALDEN
WILDLIFE HABITAT

8:00 am to around 11:00 am

Leader: Iris Sherman 303-817-9838
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, September 4, 2019
Lower Big Blue Stem Trail off South
Broadway

7:30 am – 11:00 am

Leader: Lars Buur 303-585-0346
imbuur@gmail.com

Walk near south boulder creek through grasslands at the edge of the ponderosa pine forest. Meet at the East Boulder Rec center at 7:30 to carpool.

Wednesday September 11, 2019
Barr Lake State Park

7:30 am – 11:00 am

Leader: Martin Gerra 303-931-7291
mgerra3@yahoo.com

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 carpool with members who have State Park Passes. Plan on chipping in for carpooling.

Wednesday, September 18, 2019
Boulder Valley Ranch

7:30 am – 11:00 am

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

Explore Boulder Valley Ranch and look for migrating birds in this varying habitat. Meet at East Boulder Rec at 7:30 AM to carpool.

Wednesday, September 25, 2019
Caribou Ranch

7:30 am – 11:00 am

leaders: Tony and Claire Delany
303-494-8190 acdelany@live.com
For our last Roadrunners trip of the summer, Tony and Claire 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 25th). Meet at East Boulder Rec at 7:30 am to carpool, or at the Caribou Ranch parking lot at 8:00 am.

Note: Due to road work on Boulder Canyon Drive, we will be able to go up the canyon in the morning but will have to return via Left Hand Canyon.



Pied-billed Grebe, Barr Lake, 4/24/19
©Peter Ridgeway



Yellow-rumped Warbler, Barr Lake, 4/24/19
©Peter Ridgeway

Did you know?

Every year, the Boulder Bird Club Board allocates donations to various associations related to birds. Last December, the BBC Board made donations to the following:

- Cal-Wood Education Center
- Bird Conservancy of the Rockies
- e-bird Cornell
- Colorado Avian Research and Rehabilitation Institute

We welcome any other suggestions for a Boulder Bird Club donation at year's end. Send your ideas to Nancy Ries Morrison bbclubmembership@gmail.com

To carpool, arrive before 7:30 am and park at the East Boulder Rec Center parking lot which is located after you make the turn around the curve coming in on 55th Street from Baseline, just west of the tennis courts.

If your coming from South Boulder Road, drive past the Rec Center and turn left into the last parking lot west of the tennis courts.



Western Meadowlark, Stearns Lake, 3/27/19
©Jane Baryames



Road Runners at Meyers Gulch 5/29/19
©Nancy Morrison



© Peter Ridgeway

Osprey, Barr Lake, 4/24/19
©Peter Ridgeway



Road Runners at Meyers Gulch 5/29/19
©Nancy Morrison