



BOULDER BIRD CLUB NEWSLETTER

<http://www.boulderbirdclub.org>

*Dedicated to the Field Observation of Birds
Since 1947*

October - December 2019

President's letter – Autumn 2019

Finally, autumn has arrived and so has Roadcreepers season. We will have later start times for Wednesday Roadcreepers (8:30 AM) and 1st Sunday (9:00 AM) starting at the beginning of October.

We had an interesting summer and some good species counts on the June (44) and July (39) 1st Sundays. There were also 44 species seen June 12 on Old South Saint Vrain Road. A July highlight was American Three-toed Woodpecker (3 of them) in the trees at the edge of the parking lot at Brainard Lake. Lagerman Reservoir was good for Least and Baird's Sandpipers and Marbled Godwit in August. And, it was nice to see a White-faced Ibis at Barr Lake in September. As of this writing I'm looking forward to our Roadrunners trip to Caribou Ranch to end our "summer" season. A BIG THANKS to all of the trip leaders this past season because your participation helps keep us all interested in enjoying the outdoors and, especially, the birds.

Hopefully, Fall will bring in some interesting birds. Our season ending social activity will be the Holiday Party in December (see details below) where we will announce the winner of the 2019 Species Seer Trophy.

The Boulder Bird Club is asking for anyone interested in taking the Executive Board Officer position of Membership Coordinator to let me or any other board member know. Nancy Ries Morrison has been fulfilling this position for the past several years and is stepping aside effective Dec. 15. Nancy has been a member since 2011 and has worked extremely hard for the club. I, personally, will appreciate your interest in becoming our new Membership Coordinator.

Enjoy the change of season and fall birding.

Sharon Norfleet
BBC President

Sunday Dec 8, 2019 5pm Holiday Party

Please come to our annual holiday party held at Lonny Frye's home at 1644 Pine Street in downtown Boulder. We will provide libations and some delicious delicacies to accompany any dish you would like to bring along to pass. Meet up with old members and greet new members and talk about some of the great birding moments of the past year. Good time to decide how to assist the Christmas Bird Count the very next week if you are thinking about it. Park in the neighborhood or just west 1/2 block on 17th in the parking lot and come in and join the fun!

All are most welcome.

Questions? contact Lonny @ 303 931 9131



BBC Officers and Coordinators

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Boulder Bird Club Officer Opening Membership Coordinator

Please consider joining the BBC Board as the new Membership Coordinator. This position is responsible for receiving annual renewal forms and dues of members, recording membership data and maintaining email and/or address list of members. The term is for two years.

Fall Field Trip Schedule

Wednesday Oct 2, 2019

Road Creepers

From now until mid-April, the Boulder Bird Club will meet at the later time of **8:30 am** on Wednesday mornings. To carpool, arrive *before* 8:30 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 you are coming from South Boulder Road, drive past the Rec Center and turn left into the last parking lot west of the tennis courts.

No formal trips are planned, we'll make an informal consensus agreement that morning where we'll go birding.

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 East Boulder Rec Center parking lot by 11:00 am, then we head to Big Daddy's Bagels in the Meadows Shopping Center for coffee.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Eileen Baker, Windsor

Teresa & Leonard Gehring, Boulder

Donna Sichko, Boulder

Sunday, October 6, 2019

FIRST SUNDAY BIRDING AT WALDEN WILDLIFE HABITAT

9:00 am to around 11:00 am

Leader: Paula Hansley

First Sunday at Walden Ponds. Meet at the Cottonwood Marsh parking lot (at the end of the Walden Ponds Road, off 75th just south of Jay) at 9 am. Dress for whatever the weather may be. Bring binoculars, a scope and a bird book if you'd like, something to drink, and a snack if you think you'll get hungry. Everyone welcome.

Sunday, November 3, 2019
FIRST SUNDAY BIRDING AT WALDEN
WILDLIFE HABITAT

9:00am to around 11:00 am

Leaders: Gary Baxley and Sharon Norfleet
First Sunday at Walden Ponds. Meet at the Cottonwood Marsh parking lot (at the end of the Walden Ponds Road, off 75th just south of Jay) at 9 am. Dress for whatever the weather may be. Bring binoculars, a scope and a bird book if you'd like, something to drink, and a snack if you think you'll get hungry. Everyone welcome.

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

9:00am to around 11:00am

Leader: Iris Sherman-Boemker
First Sunday at Walden Ponds. Meet at the Cottonwood Marsh parking lot (at the end of the Walden Ponds Road, off 75th just south of Jay) at 9 am. Dress for whatever the weather may be. Bring binoculars, a scope and a bird book if you'd like, something to drink, and a snack if you think you'll get hungry. Everyone welcome.

Boulder Bird Club member Barbara Brown is not only a skilled birder but an expert in embroidery. For a very reasonable fee, she will embroider a hat or shirt for you with the official Boulder Bird Club logo:

Hats and T-shirts: \$10 each
Any item you bring to her: \$5
Safari hats with 50+uv: \$18
She can get polos or button-down.
If anyone would want to choose their own items from the website she uses:
www.alphabroder.com

Contact Barbara directly if you would like to place an order: 303-440-4775, or myembstitch@gmail.com



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Sage Thrasher – Rabbit Mountain – 8 21 2019

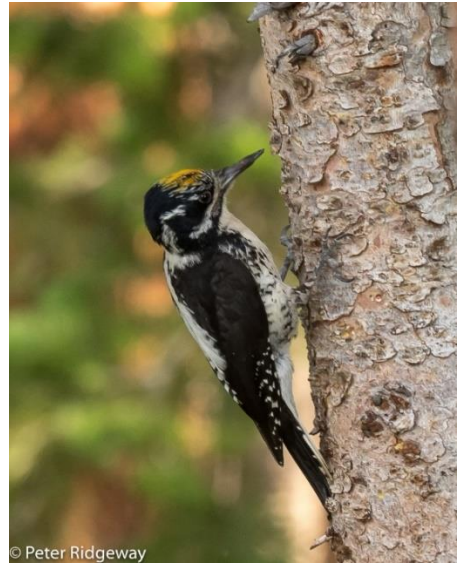
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BBC scoping Lagerman, 8-28-19

©Nancy Morrison

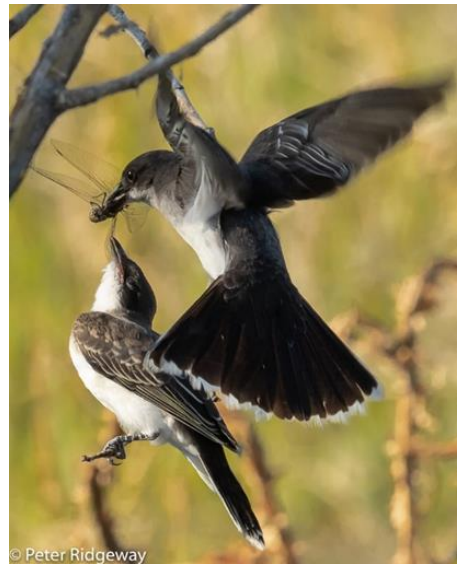
Lauryn Benedict, Associate Professor & Associate Director of the School of Biological Sciences in the college of Natural and Health Sciences at the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley, wrote an article in the June 2019 edition of Birding magazine on the effects of playback (“To Play or Not to Play?: What science can tell us about the use of playback in birding”). There’s a lot of debate about the pros and cons of using playback, and she addresses that: Does playback change bird behavior? Does it stress birds? Does it impact a bird’s survival or nesting success? Is using playback the easy way out? Here’s part of her summary: “In my scientific role, I favor the use of playback. We have learned much about the personal communications of birds by using this technique. As a birder, though, I prefer not to use playback. For me, it isn’t a moral issue. I recognize that birders can use playback ethically and I support anyone’s choice to do so. Instead, it’s because when I go birding, I just want to see what happens in the natural state of the world. My field experiments are always tightly controlled with a clear process to follow and specific observations to collect. On birding excursions, I want the opposite of that. I want to imagine I’m not a player in the avian dramas that unfold in front of me. I want to spend whatever time it takes to observe whatever I can. Often, I see the most exciting and intimate details by making myself inconspicuous. And then I ponder those observations, I go read the literature, and I develop my next, better playback experiment.”



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Three-toed Woodpecker - Brainard Lake
7 31 2019 ©Peter Ridgeway



Great Blue Heron – Stearns Lake – 6 26 2019
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Eastern Kingbirds – Pella Crossing 7 24 2019
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