



# On The Wing

Volume 36, Number 5

Boulder County Audubon Society Newsletter

May-Aug 2007

## BCAS 4th Tuesday Program Series

continuing our SCFD-supported program series (see page 2)

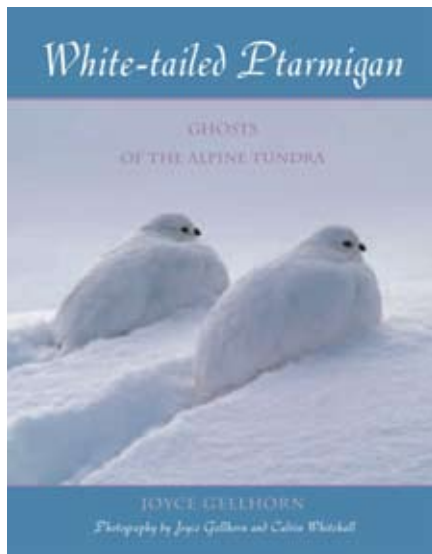
**May 22, 7:30 p.m.**

### **Ghost Birds of the Alpine Tundra**

*Joyce Gellhorn and Calvin Whitehall*

White-tailed ptarmigan, camouflaged to blend into their surroundings, are the only birds capable of survival in harsh, alpine environments throughout the year. The program follows ptarmigan and shows their unique adaptations including their diet, courtship displays, nesting, and rearing their young. The ptarmigan is one of the few birds that molts three times per year. Because this species lives exclusively in cold regions, it may serve as a barometer to the health of our planet in terms of climate change.

**Joyce Gellhorn**, a mountain ecologist, cross-country skier from November until June, backpacks from June until October, and travels wherever there are mountains to explore. She has been photographing Colorado's high country for over 30 years and has taught biology, botany, ecology, and natural history classes in Colorado, Wyoming, and Alaska to high school and college students as well as outdoor seminars for adults. Presently she teaches alpine ecology at the University of Colorado's Mountain Research Station, the Gore Range Natural Science School, and the Boulder County Nature Association. She holds a Ph.D. in botany from the University of Colorado with a specialty in plant ecology.



**Calvin Whitehall** specializes in photographing wildflowers, ptarmigan, and abstracts in nature. He has displayed his work at Barnes & Noble Bookstore, the National Center for Atmospheric Research, and the Louisville Center for the Arts, where his photograph of a ptarmigan peeking out of the snow was judged "Best of Show."

**June 26, 7:30 p.m.**

### **Legend of the Lost Locust: Lessons and legacies**

*Jeffrey Lockwood*

The Second Report of the US Entomological Commission includes an account of a swarm of the Rocky Mountain locust, *Melanoplus spretus*, that constitutes evidence of the largest aggregation of animal life in recorded history. The swarm of 1875 was estimated to have been 1,800 miles long and 110 miles wide. It would have included in excess of three trillion insects, with an aggregate weight equivalent to three million bison. A more typical swarm would have consumed perhaps 50 tons of vegetation per day, transporting the associated nutrients throughout the region. But, if it is difficult to envisage such a mass of life, it is even more challenging to grasp that less than 30 years after the "perfect swarm" passed over the Great Plains, the Rocky Mountain locust disappeared. What could have driven such a staggeringly abundant species to extinction?

This extinction, the most spectacular "success" in the history of economic entomology (the only complete elimination of an agricultural pest species), was not the result of large-scale environmental change. There was no shift in climate or ecology across the West to account for this unprecedented event. Rather than a sweeping alteration of conditions, a remarkably focused and utterly coincidental event that no scientist had even suspected until recent times transformed the sanctuaries of the locust. The insect that once caused a biological eclipse of the sun across vast areas disappeared in just a few years at the hands of humans who had no clue as to the consequences of their activities. The lessons that we can derive from this have profound implications for our current ecological situation.

See page 3 for Jeffrey Lockwood's background.

#### **Refreshments and Socializing before the meetings at 7 PM Program at 7:30**

Meetings are held at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Boulder, 5001 Pennsylvania Ave. (west off 55th St. between Arapahoe and Baseline)

## Spring and Summer Field Trips

**Thursday, May 10th, 6:00-10:00 a.m.:** Breeding Bird Survey on Shanahan Ridge. Every one is invited to join Betty Naughton and Steve Jones on this early morning hike which also serves as a workshop for eco-stewards and Colorado Breeding Bird Atlas volunteers. Meet at 6a.m. at Steve Jones's house: 3543 Smuggler Way (turn right off Greenbriar, 5 blocks past Fairview High School, and drive all the way to the end of Smuggler Way). Return around 10 a.m. [stevejones@earthlink.net](mailto:stevejones@earthlink.net) 303-494-2468.

**Saturday, May 12: International Migratory Bird Day at Walden Ponds.** Dawn chorus walk begins at 5:30a.m. Other walks and general events are 7:30 - 11:30a.m. Birds have long been indicators of environmental change, sounding the alarm about the impacts of pesticides, polluted water, and the loss of native forest. While IMBD continues to promote the joy of birds, it will also tackle a challenging, yet pertinent topic in 2007—climate change. Join us to examine these changes and explore how they might impact our local birds. Please carpool to Walden Ponds as there is limited parking.

**Sunday May 20, 8:00a.m.-1:00p.m.:** Parks and Hills of Lyons, a Boulder Bird Club and Boulder County Audubon field trip. Look for nesting species such as bluebirds, swallows, house wrens, and warblers, as well as hawks, dippers, jays and nuthatches. Davis has wheelchair access at his house. Meet at 8a.m. at the Lyons Park N Ride at 4th and Main Streets. Bring water and snacks. Leader: Ray Davis 303-823-5332.

**Saturday June 16th, 8:00a.m.-2:00p.m.:** Rocky Mountain Nat'l Park. Upper Beaver Meadows. Join Wayne & Dianna Johnston for this annual trip to observe breeding birds of montane woodlands and aspen groves. We will take a leisurely hike on the Upper Beaver Meadows trail looking for primary and secondary cavity nesting species. Meet at the Beaver Meadows Visitor Center at 8:00a.m. Park pass needed, bring lunch. [wjohnston@att.net](mailto:wjohnston@att.net) or 303-682-5662.

**Thursday-Friday, June 21-22:** Breeding Bird and Butterfly Survey in Coulson Gulch. Donn & Cathy Cook and Steve Jones will lead this half-day trip in beautiful Coulson Gulch, west of Lyons. A Thursday evening overnight camping option is available. Call Steve (303-494-2468) for directions and more information.

**Saturday July 7th, 7:00a.m.-1p.m.:** Golden Gate State Park. Join Paula Hansley on a summer trip to Golden Gate Park to see a variety of birds, including hummingbirds, woodpeckers, flycatchers and many others. Meet at 7:00a.m. to carpool at the intersection of highway 93 and the east side of Marshall Road. 720-890-2628.

**Saturday July 21, 7:30-11:00a.m.:** Birds & Butterflies of upper Gregory and Long Canyons. Jan Chu (butterflies) and Steve Jones (birds) will lead this two mile hike. Expect to see lots of fritillaries, hairstreaks, and swallowtails: along with an assortment of nesting songbirds. Meet at 7:30a.m. at the Realization Point parking area, approximately 4 miles up Flagstaff Mountain Road opposite the Flagstaff Summit turnoff.

**Saturday, August 11, 7-10 a.m.:** Coal Creek Riparian Renaissance Project birding walk. For the past 10 years, Boulder County Audubon has been working with Boulder OSMP and the Terra Foundation to study effects of cattle exclusion and habitat restoration on bird populations in the Coal Creek riparian corridor. This two-mile walk will take us inside the enclosure, where thriving shrub growth has led to increases in numbers of nesting songbirds. If conditions are not too dry, we should see blue-gray gnatcatchers, eastern kingbirds, horned larks, gray catbirds, blue grosbeaks, and perhaps sage thrashers. Limited to 15 participants. Contact Steve Jones (303-494-2468; [stephen.jones@earthlink.net](mailto:stephen.jones@earthlink.net)) to reserve a place.

**Saturday Aug 18th, 8:00a.m.-Noon:** Walden Ponds. Leader: Ted Floyd Meet at Cottonwood Marsh parking lot. This is a great time of year to see early migrants. Check cobirds for a special pre dawn meeting. [tfloyd@aba.org](mailto:tfloyd@aba.org)

### Boulder County Audubon Society

#### — Officers —

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Web Site

Amy Schlotthauer (303)402-0905

Christmas Bird Count Coordinator

Bill Schmoker (303)702-9589

Wildlife Inventory

Alex and Gillian Brown (303)494-3042

### On the Wing © 2006 Boulder County Audubon Society

*On the Wing* is published five times annually: Sept, Nov, Jan, March, and May.

#### Next issue:

Deadline for materials for the Sept 2007 issue is Sat, Aug 18.

Email address for submissions:

[otw@boulderaudubon.org](mailto:otw@boulderaudubon.org)

Color pictures in the Web  
version of *On the Wing*:  
[www.boulderaudubon.org](http://www.boulderaudubon.org)

**Jeffrey Lockwood** (June 26 program) earned his Ph.D. in entomology from Louisiana State University. In his 20 years as a Professor of Entomology at the University of Wyoming, he authored over 100 scientific and scholarly papers and received nearly \$3 million in funding for his work on the ecology and management of grasshoppers and locusts. Three years ago, he metamorphosed into a Professor of Natural Sciences & Humanities and was recently transferred to the department of philosophy and the MFA program in creative writing. He has published two collections of essays through Skinner House: *Grasshopper Dreaming: Reflections on Loving and Killing* (2002); *Prairie Soul: Finding Grace in the Earth Beneath My Feet* (2004). His collection of meditations, *A Guest of the World*, was published last May. Dr. Lockwood's popular science/history book, *Locust: The Devastating Rise and Mysterious Disappearance of the Insect that Shaped the American Frontier* (Basic/ Perseus, 2004) received critical acclaim. His writing has been selected for inclusion in this year's *Best American Science & Nature Writing*. Dr. Lockwood has served on the Board of the Rocky Mountain Land Library and the Editorial Boards of the *Journal of Insect Conservation* and the *Journal of Agricultural and Environmental Ethics*. His name has been inscribed on the Southern Poverty Law Center's Wall of Tolerance in recognition of his work following the murder of Matthew Shepard.

## Future Programs

### *Sustaining and Restoring Native Ecosystems in the Southern Rocky Mountain Region*

We have obtained a grant from the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District of Colorado to present this series of talks running through March 2008. Please join us in this exploration of concern and understanding on topics that are both broad and specialized, so that you may experience the joy of falling in love with the place you live and the community we have.



*Tentative schedule for fall and winter programs:*

**Sept 25:** Rick Knight, CSU: *Wildlife Habitat Fragmentation*

**Oct 23:** Tom Veblen: *Fire History of the Front Range.*

**Nov 27:** Heather Swanson, Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks: *Restoring degraded bird habitats on Boulder's Open Space.*

*Other speakers:*

Carron Meaney (*Status and future of Preble's jumping mouse*), Alexander Cruz (*cowbird nest parasitism in forest ecosystems*).

## BCNA Summer Classes

### Birds of Montane Forests

Paula Hansley and Steve Jones

Explore the fascinating relationships among mountain birds and ecosystems in Front Range forests. Sharpen your audio skills while learning to recognize the songs and calls of songbirds in their breeding habitats.

Thursday, June 14, 6:30-9 p.m., indoor class

Saturday, June 16, 6-11 a.m., Walker Ranch

Saturday, June 30, 6 a.m.- noon, Golden Gate Canyon State Park

Tuition: \$85 (\$75 for BCNA members). To register contact Steve at 303-494-2468, or [Stephen.jones@earthlink.net](mailto:Stephen.jones@earthlink.net)

### Dazzling Dragonflies and Damselflies of Boulder County

Scott Severs

Colorful and dashing are just a few of the ways to describe dragonflies and damselflies. We will look at their dual lifestyles, their amazing flying abilities, and their roles in nature, while observing these jewel-like insects close-up in the field.

Wednesday, July 11, 6:30-9:30 p.m., indoor class

Sunday, July 15, 8 a.m.-1 p.m., field class

Tuition: \$45 (\$35 BCNA members). To register contact Scott at 303-684-6430, or [rostrhamus@aol.com](mailto:rostrhamus@aol.com)

### Flowers of the Alpine Tundra

Joyce Gellhorn

Explore Colorado's alpine tundra, the land of spectacular scenery above the trees. Learn about the unique adaptations of plants living in an area of environmental extremes and a short growing season.

Thursday, July 12, 6:30-9:30 p.m., indoor class

Saturday, July 14, 8 a.m.-3p.m., field class

Tuition: \$50 (\$40 for BCNA members). To register contact Joyce at (303) 442-8123, or [jgellhorn@sprynet.com](mailto:jgellhorn@sprynet.com)

### Microphotography: Butterflies, Beetles, & Beyond

Steve Jones

There's a whole new world waiting out there in the grass. Take spectacular photos of butterflies, dragonflies, spiders, and smaller creatures, and in the process, learn intimate details about their lives.

Thursday, August 23, 7-9 p.m., indoor class

Saturday, August 25, 7 a.m.- noon, South Boulder Creek and Gregory Canyon

Tuition: \$50 (\$45 for BCNA members). To register call Steve at 303-494-2468, or [Stephen.jones@earthlink.net](mailto:Stephen.jones@earthlink.net)

*More classes, page 4*

**BOULDER COUNTY WILDLIFE INVENTORY, DECEMBER 2006 - JANUARY 2007**

Gillian and Alex Brown, 4560 Darley Avenue, Boulder, CO 80305.

December 2006 and January 2007 were very snowy months. Most of the water in the county was frozen, leaving Valmont Reservoir, which is artificially heated by the power station, a haven for water birds. The Boulder Christmas bird count (BCBC) always ensures good coverage in December, and several field trips to Valmont Reservoir meant that the birds there were well reported. In particular, Valmont supported an enormous number of gulls. Apparently most of them spend overnight there but forage in the east of the county at such places as the Erie landfill during the day. Altogether nine species of gull were reported, with the most unusual being an Iceland Gull (last reported in 2000) and a Glaucous-winged Gull (last reported in 2004). It should be added that there is always a potential for hybrid gulls, but these, as far as anyone could tell, appeared to be pure bred. Ring-billed Gulls numbered in the thousands with a few hundred Herring Gulls. In addition there were at least six California Gulls, four Thayer's Gulls, four Lesser Black-backed Gulls, three Great Black-backed Gulls and two Glaucous Gulls.

Both Pacific Loon and Yellow-billed Loon were seen in the early part of December, although the latter bird was injured and subsequently died. As well as the now expected Double-crested Cormorants, Valmont Reservoir was also host to at least four Black-crowned Night Herons. Along with a few Western Grebes, a single Clark's Grebe was found on Valmont. The pond at the Presbyterian Church on 63rd Street, near Sawhill Ponds, had a great selection of ducks and geese. Out-of-season birds included a Greater Yellowlegs at Walden Ponds seen in December.

The feeders at the Fawnbrook Inn in Allenspark again attracted a selection of mountain birds including all three species of Rosy Finch. A few Evening Grosbeaks were seen in the mountains in January, having not been seen in December. Pine Siskins were reported in very low numbers; only three were reported on the Boulder Christmas Bird Count. Similarly, numbers of Cassin's Finches were very low. All three types of bluebirds (Mountain, Western and Eastern) were seen in December and appeared to be wintering in the county.

A Golden-crowned Sparrow was seen on the Longmont Christmas Bird Count right in the north of the county near Rabbit Mountain. This unusual species was last seen in 2001 and stayed long enough to be viewed by several observers. Chihuahan Raven is a notoriously difficult bird to identify where its range overlaps with Common Raven. In January a few birds were positively identified as Chihuahan Ravens; many more were questioned as possible. In December a Lapland Longspur was seen in the north-east corner of the county after a gap of more than a year; this is an area of the county that is habitually under-reported. A Varied Thrush that visited an East Boulder yard was an exciting winter sighting.

Altogether 121 bird species were reported in December and 101 species in January. These are respectable totals but break no records. For the full listing of sighted species go to [www.boulderaudubon.org/inventory.htm](http://www.boulderaudubon.org/inventory.htm)

**CONTRIBUTORS TO THE INVENTORY**

Alan Bell, Andy Boyce, Steve Bouricius, Alex & Gillian Brown, Bruce Clifford, Todd Deininger, Gene Ellis, Bob Evans, Ted Floyd, Steve Frye, Peter Gent, Paula Hansley, Jack Harlan, Thomas Heinrich, Ann Hicks, Steve Jones, Bill Kaempfer, Ellen Klaver, Nick Komar, Steve Larson, Sharon Leahy, Tony Leukering, Bill Maynard, Gene and Lynn Monroe, Sue A Olmsted, Paul Oppler, Mark Peterson, Suzi and Myron Plooster, M. Resch, Sue Riffe, Peter Ruprecht, Ira Sanders, Bill Schmoker, Scott Severs, Debra Sparr, Andrew Spencer, Bob Spencer, Walter Szeliga, Richard Trinkner, John Tumasonis, John Vanderpoel, David J. Waltman, Tom Wilberding, Cole Wild, Wild Bird Center.

**More BCNA Classes****Quaking Aspen and Bugling Elk**

Joyce Gellhorn

In autumn, aspen trees turn gold and elk begin their rutting season. Learn how elk interact with aspen. Visit Rocky Mountain National Park to explore aspen groves in different stages of coloration and to observe elk courtship behavior.

Monday, September 24, 7-9 p.m., indoor class

Tuesday, September 25, 2:30-9 p.m., field class

Tuition: \$60 (\$50 for BCNA members). To register Call Joyce at 303-442-8123, or e-mail her at [jgellhorn@sprynet.com](mailto:jgellhorn@sprynet.com)

**Raptor Ecology**

Steve Jones, Sue Cass, and Jim McKee

Improve your raptor identification skills while observing wintering eagles, hawks, and falcons on the plains of Boulder County.

December 6 and 8. Tuition: \$55 (\$50 BCNA members). To register call Steve at 303-494-2468, or e-mail [stephen.jones@earthlink.net](mailto:stephen.jones@earthlink.net)

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## 2006: An Overview of the Boulder County Wildlife Inventory

2006 had the second highest number of bird species observed since the wildlife inventory began in 1979. November 2006 was a record month with 125 bird species. However, most months could not rival 2002. Only one species was new for the wildlife inventory: Swallow-tailed Kite is a very rare spring and summer vagrant. Shorebird migration was particularly good for variety of species, as was the number of gulls and terns present on the county's lakes. Two birds which have not been seen since 2004 are Lewis' Woodpecker and Hooded Warbler; both have in the past bred in the county. Altogether 302 avian, 30 mammalian, 8 reptilian and 3 amphibian species were reported to the Boulder County Wildlife Inventory.

### Reported in 2005 but not in 2006

Least Bittern  
 Little Blue Heron  
 White-winged Scoter  
 Red Phalarope  
 Yellow-billed Cuckoo  
 Scissor-tailed Flycatcher  
 Bewick's Wren  
 Veery  
 Wood Thrush  
 White-eyed Vireo  
 Yellow-throated Vireo  
 Philadelphia Vireo  
 Golden-winged Warbler  
 Magnolia Warbler  
 Black-throated Green Warbler  
 American Redstart  
 Painted Bunting  
 Field Sparrow  
 Sage Sparrow  
 Baltimore Oriole  
 Orchard Oriole  
 Scott's Oriole  
 Common Redpoll

### Species reported in 2006 but not in 2005

Yellow-billed Loon  
 Brown Pelican  
 Cattle Egret  
 Yellow-crowned Night Heron  
 Long-tailed Duck  
 Swallow-tailed Kite  
 Gyrfalcon  
 Northern Bobwhite  
 Whimbrel  
 Ruddy Turnstone  
 Sanderling  
 Western Sandpiper  
 White-rumped Sandpiper  
 Pectoral Sandpiper  
 Stilt Sandpiper  
 Iceland Gull  
 Glaucous-winged Gull  
 Arctic Tern  
 Least Tern  
 Caspian Tern  
 Short-eared Owl  
 Eastern Phoebe  
 Carolina Wren  
 Brown Thrasher  
 Curve-billed Thrasher  
 Cassin's Vireo  
 Blue-winged Warbler  
 Chestnut-sided Warbler  
 Black-throated Blue Warbler  
 Palm Warbler  
 Black-and-White Warbler  
 Worm-eating Warbler  
 Canada Warbler  
 Eastern Towhee  
 Black-throated Sparrow  
 Golden-crowned Sparrow  
 Harris Sparrow  
 Dickcissel  
 Lapland Longspur

## Month-by-Month Avian Species Totals

Year	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
January	100	100	90	90	96	89	98	103	108	122	99
February	88	90	75	97	86	91	89	95	106	112	98
March	107	112	90	120	96	97	115	100	116	105	118
April	137	146	151	137	134	155	170	150	136	159	154
May	207	208	205	221	199	203	243	211	214	201	218
June	139	144	171	164	164	153	159	155	168	161	147
July	124	147	167	150	153	132	173	113	147	137	152
August	125	152	147	139	166	125	177	111	144	152	156
September	150	166	157	165	178	146	172	145	175	154	166
October	110	127	129	118	139	124	149	102	107	141	126
November	103	97	113	101	114	118	112	113	111	105	125
December	111	102	111	114	116	118	125	115	122	123	121
<b>Year Total</b>	<b>264</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>275</b>	<b>286</b>	<b>279</b>	<b>276</b>	<b>308</b>	<b>290</b>	<b>298</b>	<b>286</b>	<b>302</b>



## Nature's World: SCREECHING STARLINGS

As the dark days of winter yield to spring, bird voices fill the air. The most obvious at that time of year are the whistling and screeching calls of European starlings. Named for their native land and for the sparkling dots - "little stars" - that freckle their iridescent breeding plumage, starlings are easily recognized. About the size of bluebirds, they are all-black—but for those stellar dots—and plump, with yellow beaks and stubby tails. They look like winged cigars in flight, and they are rarely solitary.

They are also vocal: unlike most native birds, European starlings call and sing through all but the coldest spells of winter. That's partly because they are colonial, and flocking birds like starlings keep track of their group with their voices, and partly because starlings breed almost all-year round.

Male European starlings begin strutting their stuff in late winter. These relatives of mynahs are master imitators and their courtship songs include an astonishing array of noises: beak clattering, loud whistles and screeches, and songs and calls borrowed from other bird species.

I've searched for a red-tailed hawk before realizing that its characteristic "ki-year!" scream actually issued from a starling throat. I've been fooled by a starling's rendition of a killdeer's plaintive call, a house finch warbling, and a spot-on imitation of a blue jay alarm call, among others. Unlike mockingbirds and their melodic warbled solos that incorporate a wide variety of songs and sounds, starling mimicry is imbedded in the avian equivalent of atonal modern music: a dissonant array of mechanical noises.

These masters of discordance arrived in North America more than a century ago, brought by a group dedicated to establishing on this continent all of the bird species mentioned by William Shakespeare. (The same group is also responsible for the introduction of the ubiquitous and unmelodious house sparrow.)

Since the group released 60 birds in New York's Central Park in 1890, the North American population of starlings has ballooned to about 200 million, including an estimated 500,000 in Colorado.

That may be great news for Shakespearean bird fanciers, but it is terrible news for cavity-dwelling native species: European starlings are aggressive competitors for scarce nest holes. Since starlings spread across the continent, populations of cavity-nesting natives, from bluebirds and woodpeckers to flycatchers and ducks have declined.

So aggressive are starlings that researchers have watched them ejecting competing birds from nest holes. One pair of northern flickers, large woodpeckers, drilled and lost five nest holes to starlings before they nested in the sixth.

European starlings owe their success to the habitat we have created for them. These stubby-winged birds feed on grubs that live in the soil of grasslands cropped close by grazing animals or mowed by machines.

Starlings stride across this short turf, thrusting their specially-hinged beaks into the ground in search of succulent insect larvae. Reverse-muscling means the beak stays closed as the bird stabs it into the soil, and pops open to trap the buried food.

When extensive areas of mowed lawns combine with urban forests and their abundant tree-cavities, the resulting habitat creates a starling paradise more horrible than anything imagined by Alfred Hitchcock: winter roosts where European starlings number in the tens or hundreds of thousands, their odorous droppings fouling houses, yards, and cars.

These adaptable birds also turn to eating grain around farms and feedlots in winter, joining blackbirds to form noisy and damaging flocks.

As long as we continue to prefer landscaping of well-groomed lawns and large shade trees, we're stuck with European starlings, for we've created their ideal habitat. Until we allow our yards and landscaping to go more native, their screeching and whistling flocks are here to stay like so many avian familiars.

Copyright 2007 Susan J. Tweit. This article first appeared in the *Mountain Mail* newspaper, where Ms. Tweit writes a weekly column. She also writes regularly for *Audubon Magazine*. See <http://susanjtweit.com/Susansite/home.html>.



*European Starlings — Bill Schmoker*

### Bluebirds and Starlings

BCAS volunteers have started another season of monitoring nestboxes for bluebirds and other species at Walker Ranch. This is our local contribution to a successful nationwide recovery program begun in the 1970s. People realized then that bluebirds were suffering population losses from a shortage of nest sites, in large part due to competition with starlings. The nest boxes used for bluebirds are designed with entry holes that are too small for starlings. Tens of thousands of boxes across the country are responsible for a recovery as dramatic as the much better publicized recovery of the Peregrine Falcon.

### Annual Elections

Each year at the May Chapter meeting, we hold elections to select the officers and board members for the coming fiscal year (July-June).

As is typical, the election is uncontested this year. We are always seeking people with interest in the board or committees. Currently, there are two vacant board positions. Board meetings are open; the schedule is subject to change. Contact any board member (see page 2) for the time and location of the next meeting.

This year, we are also asked to vote for the Southwest Regional Representative to the board of the National Audubon Society. The southwest region includes the states AZ, CO, NM, OK, and TX. The single candidate is seeking reelection to the National board. He is a Tucson resident and has been president of the Tucson Audubon Society. Here is the core of his statement:

*"For the last two years I have served on the conservation committee of the national board. This is for me the core work of National Audubon, and I have been glad to take on issues like global warming, as well as pushing for more regional ones like preserving riparian areas. I've also served on subcommittees such as real estate and corporate donations policy. At the same time, I have pressed the board for help and communication with the chapters.*

*Being largely retired, I happily shifted some of my continuing legal education from immigration law to the Endangered Species Act, habitat conservation planning, water law and non-profit organizations. I was listed in Best Lawyers in America, and years ago I was a seasonal ranger at Yellowstone National Park, a Peace Corps volunteer in Bolivia, and a legal aid lawyer on an Indian reservation."*

### GROCERY COUPONS SUPPORT BCAS

Every time you buy food (or wine or beer), you could be supporting this chapter and its goals of backyard habitat creation, school-room programs for kids, and protection of important bird areas in our own county.

Cards and certificates are used exactly like cash. You are whisked through the check-out line as though you were handing over greenbacks. Every \$100 you spend puts \$5 or \$10 into the BCAS piggybank for our local chapter needs at no cost to you.

Our friendly coupon sales contacts :  
Maureen Lawry, tel. 303 499 3833, Bev Sears, tel. 303 499 4751, or Linda Andes-Georges, tel. 303 772 3239

Coupons are always available at chapter meetings, the fourth Tues. of each month. Bring your checkbook!

If you would like to receive your coupons or cards through the mail, we will double-enclose them and post them after receiving your check. A number of people are now doing this regularly. Use the adjacent order form.

### Election Ballot: 2007-08 Fiscal Year

*President*

Steve Jones

*Vice President*

Bob Turner

*Secretary*

Joan Dawson

*Treasurer*

Richard Stromp

*At-large Board Members*

Mary Balzer

Linda Cooper

Deb Henson

George Oetzel

Penni Parr

Neal Thielen

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*Southwest Regional Representative to  
National Audubon Board of Directors*

Roger C Wolf

*Ballots may be mailed to BCAS, PO Box 2081, Boulder, CO 80306 in time to be received before the chapter meeting on May 22, or you may vote in person at the meeting.*

### GROCERY OR LIQUOR COUPON ORDER FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

King Sooper: # at \$25 \_\_\_\_\_ ; # at \$100 \_\_\_\_\_

Wild Oats: # at \$100 \_\_\_\_\_

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Boulder County Audubon Society

*On The Wing*



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