

DEC 2004 / JAN 2005

ptarmigan

Volume 36 Issue 4



Fort Collins Audubon Society

The mission of FCAS is to promote the appreciation, conservation and restoration of ecosystems — focusing on birds and other wildlife — through education, participation, stewardship and advocacy.

ANNUAL POTLUCK THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2004

In keeping with tradition, the December meeting is our annual Potluck and Slide Show to take place at the Foothills Unitarian Church. Additional details are inside this issue.

ANNUAL MEETING THURSDAY, JANUARY 13, 2005

DIGISCOPING THE WORLD

Join us on January 13, 2005, as chapter member Roy Halpin introduces us to nature photography through the lens of a telescope. Roy, a resident of Fort Collins, CO, has been an optics specialist since 1980, having worked for five optics companies directly or as a sales representative.

Currently, Roy is working for an international sport optics company in market research, specializing in optical product development. Roy became active in birding in 1992, and is a pioneer in the art of DigiScoping where pictures are taken through a telescope, using a digital camera. Roy is or has been an active member of CFO, FOS, AOS, Florida



Audubon, CBC, and is a Century Club Member of ABA. Roy has also assisted FCAS with its bird inventory surveys at Fossil Creek Reservoir.

Roy's work has taken him around the world and provided him the opportunity to do nature photography in a variety of national and international settings. Please join us for an interesting and informative evening of nature photography presented by a DigiScoping expert.

Additional details of the Annual Meeting are inside this issue.

FORT COLLINS AUDUBON SOCIETY PROGRAMS AND FIELD TRIPS ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.
Visit our website at www.fortnet.org/Audubon



DEC/JAN/FEB FIELD TRIPS

All field trips are free of charge and open to the public, regardless of experience level. Attendees should dress appropriately for the weather. Bring snacks, water and binoculars and/or spotting scopes if you have them. Carpooling is encouraged. A \$2.00 (unless otherwise specified) contribution per passenger to the driver is suggested. Visit <http://www.fortnet.org/Audubon> for more information. Contact the leader for the field trip in which you are interested or Field Trips Coordinator, Gary Lefko at 970-897-2454 or lefkogt@greatpikespeakbirdingtrail.org.

12/4/2004 Saturday – Bobcat Ridge Natural Area Bird Survey. Leader: Cole Wild at birdingwild1@yahoo.com or 970-310-3735. Fort Collin's newest natural area, Bobcat Ridge Natural Area, is projected to be open in 2006. Fort Collins Audubon performs a monthly bird census for the city. All levels welcomed. **Participation limited.** Please contact leader for signup and trip details.

12/5/2004 Sunday - Fall Waterfowl. Leader: Nick Komar at quetzal65@comcast.net. We'll visit northern Colorado waterfowl hotspots. All levels welcomed. **Participation limited.** Please contact leader for signup and trip details.

12/11/2004 Saturday - Fort Collins Area. Leaders: Gary Lefko at lefkogt@greatpikespeakbirdingtrail.org or call 970-897-2454 and John Tumasonis at j.electus@att.net. Help us welcome the Boulder Audubon Society as we showcase "Fort Fun" birding. All levels welcomed. Please contact leader for signup and trip details.

12/18/2001 Saturday - Fort Collins Christmas Bird Count (CBC). Contact Cynthia Melcher at birdswords@yahoo.com, at 970-226-9470 (work) or at 970-484-8373 (home).

12/19/2001 Sunday - 12/19/2004 - Evergreen CBC. Contact: Mel Schulman at 303-838-4704

12/26/2004 Sunday - Rawhide CBC. Contact Ron Ryder at ronr@lamar.colostate.edu.

01/01/2005 Saturday - Cheyenne CBC. Contact Barb Gorges, at 307-634-0463 or bgorges2@juno.com.

01/02/2005 Sunday - Loveland CBC. Please contact Nick Komar at quetzal65@comcast.net or 970-416-7427 (h).

01/08/2005 Saturday - Bobcat Ridge Natural Area Bird Survey. Leader: Cole Wild at birdingwild1@yahoo.com or 970-310-3735. Fort Collin's newest natural area, Bobcat Ridge Natural Area, is projected to be open in 2006. Fort Collins Audubon performs a monthly bird census for the city. All levels welcomed. **Participation limited.** Please contact leader for signup and trip details.

01/15/2005 Saturday - Birding for Beginners. Leader: Beth Dillon at 970-490-2610. 8:30 - 11:00 a.m. All levels welcomed. Limit 8 participants. Please contact leader for signup and trip details.

01/22/2005 Saturday - Boulder Audubon Welcomes Fort Collins Audubon for Boulder County "Hotspots" Tour. Look for raptors, waterfowl and passerines in and around the Boulder area. Everyone is welcome. Some short hikes along with driving tour. Bring lunch, snacks, and very warm clothes. Meet Scott Carpenter at 9:30 a.m. - go to about 3:30 p.m. Contact Gary Lefko at lefkogt@greatpikespeakbirdingtrail.org or 970-897-2454.

01/23/2005 Sunday - Fossil Creek Reservoir Bird Survey. Leader: Nick Komar at quetzal65@comcast.net. Fort Collins Audubon performs a monthly bird census for the county. All levels welcomed. **Participation limited.** Please contact leader for signup and trip details.

02/05/2005 Saturday - Birding Larimer County Open Lands. Contact Gary Lefko at 970-897-2454 or lefkogt@greatpikespeakbirdingtrail.org.

CONSERVATION CORNER—Carol Fiore, Chair

It isn't too late to get your suggestion in for an organization name change. The deadline is the December 9 meeting, so call or email me with your suggestion. The winner will be announced at the January annual meeting.

There will not be a meeting of the Conservation Committee in December. Please call me if you are interested in attending the January meeting. The date has not been set, but it will not be held before the annual meeting, as we have been doing previously. We'd love to have you join us and give your opinion about our current projects: the Glade Reservoir, rules about peregrine chick take for falconers, the Roadless Rule, possible campaigns from the Citizens for Arapahoe and Roosevelt (CFAR), and the Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER – Bill Miller

UPCOMING BYLAWS REVISIONS:

At our Annual Meeting in January we are going to ask those Audubon members present to approve some changes to our chapter bylaws. The proposed changes are made necessary for the following reasons:

- Our chapter is now offering memberships in both the chapter as well as in National Audubon Society. The appropriate wording needs to be added to the bylaws.
- We are proposing to change the chapter name to reflect the more regional makeup of our membership. For further information see the *Conservation Corner* in this issue.
- We will be replacing the *Publicity Committee* with a *Public Relations Committee* with an expanded role that will include the former functions of the *Publicity Committee*.

Because the proposed changes are too voluminous they are not being published in the Ptarmigan, but will be available for viewing at the December Potluck meeting and again at the Annual Meeting in January.

POTLUCK AND SLIDE SHOW - December 9th

In keeping with tradition the December meeting is a potluck and slide show, to take place at the Foothills Unitarian Church. You, our members, provide the program. Please limit yourself to no more than 15 images (35-mm slides or Power Point) for the sake of time. Prints of your favorite pictures can also be passed around while the lights are still on. Images do not have to be bird-related. Spare slide trays will be made available, or you can bring your own Kodak Carousel-compatible tray.

The church is located at 1815 Yorktown Ave, one block north of W. Drake Ave and one block west of Constitution Ave. Please bring a supper or dessert item (deli items acceptable) with four-to-eight servings and any necessary serving utensils. Plates, silverware, beverage containers and drinks will be provided. Serving of food will begin at 6:30 PM and the slide show will begin at 7:00 PM. Hope to see many of you there.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT – December 18th

This year, the Fort Collins CBC will take place on December 18th; owling will take place on the evening of the 17th for any hardy souls willing to do that. If you wish to participate in the Fort Collins CBC, please contact Cynthia Melcher, preferably by email at birdswords@yahoo.com. If you can't email, call her at 226-9470 (work) or 484-8373 (home). There will be no pre-count meeting this year. We will assume past team leaders will be again this year--please let Cynthia know if you are willing. CBC data forms, etc. will be emailed to team leaders. All participants, please contact Cynthia no later than **DECEMBER 11th!** Location and time for the after-count potluck supper will be announced via e-mail to all participants.

ANNUAL MEETING – January 13, 2005

It is Annual Meeting time again. The schedule for the evening is as follows:

6:30 PM – Silent Auction and light refreshments

- 7:15 PM – Call to order
- Bylaws Election
 - Presentation of President's Service Awards
 - Election of Chapter officers – see article below
 - Announcement of Chapter Committee appointments

7:50 PM – Introduction of Roy Halpin, guest speaker and presenter

Some door prizes will be available. We are still accepting donated items for the Silent Auction fundraiser. If you have items of reasonable quality that you wish to donate please contact Bill Miller at 5mcorp@verinet.com or at (970) 493-7693.

ELECTIONS AND SLATE OF CANDIDATES AND APPOINTEES:

Once more we are pleased to announce that we have a full slate of candidates for the elected and appointed positions called for in our Bylaws. Because there is only one name for each elected position the slate will be adopted by unanimous acclamation, unless there are any nominations from the floor at the Annual Meeting. The slate is as follows:

Elected Positions:

President (2-yr term) - Joel Hurmence; Vice President - Phil Friedman; Secretary - Scott Cobble; Treasurer - John Waddell; Directors - Beth Dillon, Nick Komar, Ron Harden, Heman Adams, Ruth Grant and Sue Riffe.

Appointed Positions:

Conservation - Carol Fiore; Membership - Kate Bolster; Education - Lynne Hull; Finance – John Waddell; Programs - Jackie Boss; Field Trips - Gary Lefko; Publications - Joe Martin; Public Relations - Diann Johnston; Hospitality - Sue Miller

Persons who have agreed to serve in Ad Hoc Positions:

AoC Delegate - Bill Miller; Birdathon Coordinator - Phil Friedman; Webmaster - Joel Hurmence; Historian – Bill Miller; Volunteer Coordinator - vacant

GOOD SAMARITAN RIDE SERVICE:

We have members who are not comfortable with driving themselves at night but would still enjoy attending our FCAS programs. If you would be willing to bring someone to our meetings who otherwise wouldn't attend, or are someone who would appreciate a ride, please contact Bill Miller at 5mcorp@verinet.com or at (970) 493-7693. If you would like to coordinate this effort please let me know.



Fort Collins Audubon Society
 PO Box 271968
 Fort Collins, CO 80527-1968

NON PROFIT
 ORGANIZATION
 US Postage PAID
 Fort Collins, CO
 Permit Number 184

FCAS CHAPTER CONTACTS

President: Bill Miller
 970-493-7693
5mcorp@verinet.com

Conservation: Carol Fiore
 970-461-8760
rockyzoo@earthlink.net

Membership: Kate Bolster
 970-377-9281
katebolster@netscape.net

Field Trips: Gary Lefko
 970-897-2454
lefkogt@greatpikespeakbirdingtrail.org

Birdathon: Phil Friedman
 970-493-2959
phifri@frii.com

Address Changes: John Waddell
 970-226-5917
jwaddell@lamar.colostate.edu

Audubon Society Membership Application

Support FCAS by paying your National Audubon Society (NAS) and/or Chapter (FCAS) dues through your chapter:

- ف New Member (NAS & FCAS) \$20
 (Receive *Audubon* magazine and *Ptarmigan*)
- ف Renewing Member (NAS & FCAS) \$35
 (Receive *Audubon* magazine and *Ptarmigan*)
- ف FCAS Chapter Member only \$15
 (Receive *Ptarmigan* only)
- ف FCAS may share my name with NAS

ف Additional donation to FCAS of: \$ _____
 Total enclosed: \$ _____

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____
 Zip: _____ Tel. No.: _____
 E-mail address: _____

ف I prefer to receive the *Ptarmigan* via the FCAS website, www.fortnet.org/Audubon. Please e-mail me when posted.

Please make your check payable to FCAS and send along with this form to:

FCAS
 PO Box 271968
 Fort Collins, CO 80527-1968

FORT COLLINS AUDUBON SOCIETY PROGRAMS AND FIELD TRIPS ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.
 Visit our website at www.fortnet.org/Audubon