Broomfield Bird Club, October Newsletter

Hello, Broomfield Bird Club members!

You won't want to miss our **fall meeting**, set for **1:30 – 3:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 8,** at Broomfield Library. We'll be learning something new about a familiar bird species, the **Barn Swallow.**

We've probably all seen Barn Swallows flying over fields and ponds, often gliding so swiftly it's hard to get a good look at them. And many of us are familiar with the cup-shaped nests these birds build under bridges, in barns, or maybe beneath the eaves of your home.

But did you know that Barn Swallows are the most abundant and widespread swallow species in the world? Or that Barn Swallows have been nesting on human-built structures for thousands of years? Or that the species' numbers are declining rapidly in some parts of the United States?

Our speaker, **Dr. Rebecca Safran**, has plenty to tell us about "Barn Swallows and Humans: The Rise and Fall of Coexistence in a Changing World." An award-winning researcher, she's a professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at the University of Colorado Boulder.

In addition to the program, we'll offer light refreshments, door prizes, and a chance to visit with club members you may not have seen for a while. **All members and prospective members are welcome**; pay your $20 dues at the meeting and you'll be covered for all of 2027. The library at 3 Community Park Road offers ample free parking, and the second-floor meeting room is accessible by elevator.

Please make a note in your calendar. We're looking forward to seeing you!

NOVEMBER BIRD WALKS

Fall is a delightful time to enjoy the outdoors – and to spot the resident and newly-arrived winter birds of our area. We limit the size of our group to provide a quality experience for everyone; members are given preference if a walk fills up.

- **8 a.m. Friday, Nov. 13: East Boulder Trail at White Rocks**
  An easy 2.5-mile walk on the White Rocks trail will take us through a variety of habitats: creekside riparian, grassland and pasture, shallow ponds and marshes. Walk leader Pete Ruprecht will help us watch for wintering waterfowl, raptors, winter songbirds, and the "surprise" birds that often turn up in this area.

- **7:30 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 22: Winter Birds of Stearns**
  Winter birds are the focus of this leisurely walk around Stearns Lake and Carolyn Holmberg Preserve with walk leader Chris Petrizzo. We'll watch for ducks and geese (and possibly swans) on the lake, raptors (including the resident Bald Eagles and Great-Horned Owls) in the trees, and various sparrows, horned larks, and other songbirds in the fields.

Registration is required for all bird walks. See details and sign up here for these November walks.

BOARD MEMBERS WANTED

Broomfield Bird Club is looking for two committed, enthusiastic, and collaborative members to serve on its board of directors beginning in 2027. Board members meet once a month to organize club activities. They also interact with current and prospective members, other organizations, and the community.

Interested? You can read full position descriptions in Article VI of our by-laws. Please email club president Christine Kindl (ckindl@gmail.com) ASAP with questions or to request a self-nomination form; put "BBC Board" in the subject line. We'll meet with candidates in the coming weeks, and a ratification vote will be held at our annual meeting in early 2027.

BEFORE YOU GO …

Avid birder, photographer, and Broomfield Open Space and Trails technician Brian Genge has led local walks for our bird club. But they only hint at the intense birding adventures he's organized in Colorado, across the country, and around the world.

Brian's recent online talk, "The Birder's Itinerary," gives us a glimpse of his recent excursions, offers tips for organizing a birding trip, explains how to leverage digital tools such as eBird, and highlights birding vocabulary. The photos alone are worth a look!

You can visit the Open Space Speaker Series page to see a recording of Brian's talk and other presentations in this ongoing series.

Here's hoping we'll see you at the fall meeting – and happy birding!

Christine Kindl
President, Broomfield Bird Club