

**January 2009**  
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A summary compiled by Ted Floyd of the contents of the journal *Colorado Birds*, published by Colorado Field Ornithologists (CFO).

**VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: THE LAWS OF BIRDING**

by JIM BEATTY

pp. 4-6

Exhortation to behave ethically while we are out birding, with special emphasis on abiding by the principles set forth in the American Birding Association's "Code of Birding Ethics."

**CFO BOARD MINUTES: MEETING OF 8 NOVEMBER 2008**

by ALLISON HILF

pp. 6-8

Minutes of the quarterly meeting of the CFO board, held in Alamosa, Colorado; business included possible upcoming changes to the bylaws and to the society's insurance policy, plans for increasing membership in the society, and preparation for the 2009 convention in the San Luis Valley.

**ACROSS THE BOARD: MARK PETERSON**

by BILL SCHMOKER

pp. 8-10

The life and times of Mark Peterson, one of Colorado's most active and talented birders; as a CFO board member, Mark has served as Director of Conventions, led field trips, and moderated the popular COBirds e-mail list.

**CFO FIELD TRIPS: FALL 2008**

by JIM BEATTY

pp. 10-13

Recap of outings to far-eastern Colorado in the fall of 2008, highlighted by at least 16 species of sparrows (including 3 or 4 species in the genus *Ammodramus*), Sprague's Pipit, Sedge Wren, and various eastern species at the western limits of their ranges.



**BOOK REVIEW: THREE COLORADO ROAD ATLASES**

by ROGER LINFIELD

pp. 14-17

Review of three road atlases of likely interest to Colorado birders (DeLorme's "Colorado Atlas and Gazetteer," 2009; Benchmark Maps' "Colorado Road and Recreation Atlas," 2007; and Mapsco's "The Roads of Colorado," 2007).

**NOTES ON THE SECOND GUNNISON SAGE-GROUSE SUMMIT**

by MAUREEN BRIGGS

pp. 18-23

Report on the 2nd Gunnison Sage-Grouse Summit, held 14-15 May 2008 in Montrose, Colorado, sponsored by the Colorado Division of Wildlife, Utah State University Extension, The Nature Conservancy, and other partners; major agenda items included status vis-a-vis the Endangered Species Act, disturbances at lek sites, and future research priorities.

**GUNNISON SAGE-GROUSE: MISSING SPECIMENS, MISSED OPPORTUNITIES**

by RICHARD G. BEIDLEMAN

pp. 23-25

Account of the collecting on 4 September 1853 of 2 sage-grouse that were within the range of Gunnison Sage-Grouse and outside the range of Greater Sage-Grouse; these specimens, now lost, predate the 10 May 1993 holotype of Gunnison Sage-Grouse by nearly 140 years.

**A FIFTEEN-YEAR BREEDING BIRD CENSUS OF A COTTONWOOD GROVE AND HERONRY BEFORE, DURING, AND AFTER FLOODING BY A RESERVOIR**

by HUGH KINGERY

pp. 26-45

Summary of the changes in the birdlife of a cottonwood grove at Chatfield State Park, Jefferson County during the period 1971-1986; using survey techniques of the Breeding Bird Census, this long-term study documented substantial changes in the breeding populations of ducks, herons, and songbirds that breed in lowland riparian habitats in Colorado.

**LAMAR'S SNOW GOOSE FESTIVAL**

by JUDI OGLE

pp. 45-49

A history of the High Plains Snow Goose Festival, based in Lamar, Prowers County; as the festival has grown over the years, the Lamar community has taken ownership of this popular annual event, and additional growth for the festival is anticipated.

The 49TH REPORT OF THE CBRC

by LAWRENCE S. SEMO and DOUGLAS W. FAULKNER

pp. 50-65

Evaluation during the summer and fall of 2008 by the Colorado Bird Records Committee of 109 reports submitted by 36 observers documenting 63 occurrences of 39 species; highlights include Common Black-Hawk (5th state record), Harris's Hawk (4th record), Louisiana Waterthrush (5th), Painted Redstart (5th), and Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow (3rd).

THE HUNGRY BIRDER: LAMAR

by JUDI OGLE

pp. 66-68

The low-down on eating options for birders in Lamar, including Thai Spicy Basil (a retrofitted Carl's Jr.), Green Garden (Chinese), Mission Villanueva (Mexican), Carami's (MexItaliMerican), Hickory House (early breakfast), The Perk (a coffee house), BJ's (the best local burger joint), Chez W. DuVall's (reasonably priced upscale dining).

NEWS FROM THE FIELD: SUMMER 2008 (JUNE-JULY)

by ANDREW SPENCER

pp. 69-78

Highlights include Least Bittern, Tricolored Heron, Black Vulture, Laughing Gull, Blue-throated Hummingbird, Magnificent Hummingbird (4 reports), Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Prairie Warbler (nest-building), Scarlet Tanager, and Eastern Meadowlark.

IN THE SCOPE: BROWN-CAPPED ROSY-FINCH

by TONY LEUKERING

pp. 79-81

Discussion and photographs of aberrant Brown-capped Rosy-Finches with crown patterns approaching that of Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch, an aberration that appears to be restricted to adult males; in identifying rosy-finches, observers should be aware of the challenges involved in age determination and in assessing winter plumage aspect.